

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
July 3, 2022
United Church of Christ, Neillsville
Pastor Gary Wilner

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PRELUDE

"America the Beautiful"

Katherine Lee Bates Samuel A. Ward
Pianist Ashley Volovsek

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*"No Matter Who You are,
or Where You are on
Life's Journey,
You are Welcome Here!!"*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Come, let us come into the House of the Holy One with song and dance.

We have come to worship our God, the Creator of heaven and earth, seas and rivers, and all that dwells within.

The Lord of the Dance beckons us to join in this time of celebration and joy...

That we might know that we are gathered in God's holy place.

We join the psalmist with songs of the glory of the God of Hosts.

We seek to know God's faithfulness and wisdom.

All: Let us enter God's rhythm of life and follow in the ways of the Word. God will bring us home where dancing and joy will never end!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy God, we confess that too often we have not been open to the rhythms of life you offer to us. We let ourselves be put off your pace and allow ourselves to wander off into our own songs.

Too often the melodies of the world confuse us. We have led ourselves and others to paths that are not according to your loving pace and direction.

Help us pay attention with all of our senses. Make our dancing faithful; help us take the risks that are part of letting you lead.

Pull us back into your rhythms. Clean our hearts, purify our hands and steady our feet that we might know and share your blessings. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name"
#304 NCH Edward Perronet
John Rippon

**1 All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Christ servant of all.
Attend the Savior's sovereign claim,
And crown Christ servant of all.**

**2 Adorn, O martyred saints of old,
The coronation hall;
Extol the wounded One foretold,
And crown Christ bearer of all.
Extol the wounded One foretold,
And crown Christ bearer of all.**

**3 All heirs of Israel's chosen race,
Now ransomed from the fall,
Proclaim the wonders of God's grace,
And crown Christ healer of all.
Proclaim the wonders of God's grace,
And crown Christ healer of all.**

**4 Before the cross, with heaven's throng
we on our knees shall fall;
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown Christ savior of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown Christ savior of all.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER,
THE LORDS PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be
thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be
done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this
day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For
Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the
glory, forever. Amen**

READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES INTRO
Hebrew Scriptures: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Reader Mike Perkl

6 David again brought together all the able young men of Israel—thirty thousand.² He and all his men went to Baalah in Judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the Name, the name of the Lord Almighty, who is enthroned between the cherubim on the ark.³ They set the ark of God on a new cart and brought it from the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab, were guiding the new cart⁴ with the ark of God on it and Ahio was walking in front of it.⁵ David and all Israel were celebrating with all their might before the Lord, with castanets, harps, lyres, timbrels, sistrums and cymbals.

¹² Now King David was told, "The Lord has blessed the household of Obed-Edom and everything he has, because of the ark of God."

So David went to bring up the ark of God from the house of Obed-Edom to the City of David with rejoicing.¹³ When those who were carrying the ark of the Lord had taken six steps, he sacrificed a bull and a fattened calf.¹⁴ Wearing a linen ephod, David was dancing before the Lord with all his might,¹⁵ while he and all Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of trumpets.¹⁶ As the ark of the Lord was entering the City of David, Michal daughter of Saul watched from a window. And when she saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord, she despised him in her heart.¹⁷ They brought the ark of the Lord and set it in its place inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings before the Lord.¹⁸ After he had finished sacrificing the burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord Almighty.¹⁹ Then he gave a loaf of bread, a cake of dates and a cake of raisins to each person in the whole crowd of Israelites, both men and women. And all the people went to their homes.

HYMN *"Come Thou Fount"* Video

New Testament: Ephesians 1:3-14
Good News Translation

Spiritual Blessings in Christ

³ Let us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! For in our union with Christ he has blessed us by giving us every spiritual blessing in the heavenly world.⁴ Even before the world was made, God had already chosen us to be his through our union with Christ, so that we would be holy and without fault before him. Because of his love⁵ God^[a] had already decided that through Jesus Christ he would make us his children—this was his pleasure and purpose.⁶ Let us praise God for his glorious grace, for the free gift he gave us in his dear Son!⁷ For by the blood of Christ^[b] we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. How great is the grace of God,⁸ which he gave to us in such large measure!

In all his wisdom and insight ⁹ God did what he had purposed, and made known to us the secret plan he had already decided to complete by means of Christ. ¹⁰ This plan, which God will complete when the time is right, is to bring all creation together, everything in heaven and on earth, with Christ as head.

¹¹ All things are done according to God's plan and decision; and God chose us to be his own people in union with Christ because of his own purpose, based on what he had decided from the very beginning. ¹² Let us, then, who were the first to hope in Christ, praise God's glory!

¹³ And you also became God's people when you heard the true message, the Good News that brought you salvation. You believed in Christ, and God put his stamp of ownership on you by giving you the Holy Spirit he had promised. ¹⁴ The Spirit is the guarantee that we shall receive what God has promised his people, and this assures us that God will give complete freedom to those who are his. Let us praise his glory!

This ends today's lessons from the Holy Scriptures.

SERMON *"God Is Our Joy!"*
Pastor Gary Wilner

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR GIFTS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Beloved Jesus, you surprise us by naming us your friends. Your dance of faithfulness and life, open before us a way of unexpected justice, mutuality and joy.. Take our gifts and bless them and let them serve your people at home and throughout the world, ALL of us, your cherished friends. Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN *"Come as You Are"*
Led by Kelly and Steven Brumm

**Come as you are
Come as you are
Wherever you come from,**

**whoever you are
There's room at the table
For all who are hungry
There's a place that's
Prepared just for you
Come as you are
And welcome to you**

**Come as you are
Come as you are
Leave all of your troubles
And all of your fears
There's room at the table
For all of God's children
There's always a place
For you here
Come as you are
Join the fellowship here**

**Come as you are
Come as you are
We're brothers and sisters
All part of God's plan
There's room at the table
Let's all come together
Partake in God's love
Hand in hand
Come as you are
Child, woman and man**

**Come as you are
Come as you are
Wherever you come from
Whoever you are
There's room at the table
For all who are hungry
There's a place that's
prepared just for you
Come as you are
And welcome to you
Come as you are
And welcome to you
Come as you are
And welcome to you**

**SERVICE AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION
SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

PARTING HYMN

"In Christ There is No East or West"

#394 NCH

John Oxenham Laurence Hull Stookey

**1 In Christ there is no East or West,
in Christ no South or North;
But one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
God's service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.**

**3 In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek,
and neither slave nor free;
For men and women live in God,
and all are kin to me.**

**4 In Christ now meet both East and West,
in Christ meet South and North;
One joyous, true community
throughout the whole wide earth.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

(You are invited to stay seated for Postlude)

JOYS AND CONCERNS



WELCOME

We welcome you to our service of worship!
We are glad that you have joined us
in-person, through the internet or on the radio.
We pray that you will hear God's call,
seek to follow Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO BROADCAST

**11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN
98.5FM and 1370AM**

**This week's radio broadcast is
sponsored by an anonymous donor.**

- **Tuesday, July 5th
9 am – Card Making**

