

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 18, 2022**  
United Church of Christ, Neillsville  
Pastor Gary Wilner

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**PRELUDE**

*"Caricature of a Sunday School Song"* Dale Wood  
Karen Mohr

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

-STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

-LUNCH FOLLOWING WORSHIP DOWNSTAIRS

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION (in Unison)**

O God, who is here – where each of us sit - in  
our midst; Empower us to praise you, not with  
words and actions only which come from  
outside of us, but from within us. Dwell in us  
more fully that we may sing to you with all our  
being; Fill us with a sense of your joy, that we  
might actually delight in your worship. Focus us  
upon your self-giving Love, which is above  
every love we have ever known, the source of  
all.

O God, who is here - where each of us sit - in  
our midst; Make your love real here and now,  
through Jesus Christ. Amen.

**SONG**

*"When Morning Gilds the Skies"*

*Kelly & Steven Brumm*

**When morning gilds the sky,  
our hearts awaking cry:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
in all our work and prayer  
we ask his loving care:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**To God, the Word on high,  
the hosts of angels cry:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let mortals too upraise  
their voices in hymns of praise:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Let earth's wide circle round  
in joyful notes resound:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let air and sea and sky  
from depth to height reply:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Be this, when day is past,  
of all our thoughts the last:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!  
The night becomes as day  
when from the heart we say:  
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**Blessing of the students and backpacks**

-Pastor Gary

**Remember our support**

-Stephanie Heck

**Camp pictures and commentary**

- Bonnie Weyer

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND SILENT PRAYER**  
**AND LORD'S 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 sins debts as we forgive those who sin against us. 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**  
**Reader – Susie Karl**

Our Old Testament lesson for this morning is from Nehemiah chapter 8 verses 1-3, 5-6 and 8-10

And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the LORD had given to Israel. And Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month. 3 And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. 5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people; and when he opened it all the people stood. 6 And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God; and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands; and they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. 8 And they read from the book, from the law of God, clearly; and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. 9 And Nehemi'ah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. 10 Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to him for whom nothing is

prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Our New Testament reading is 1 Corinthians chapter 12 verses 12-31

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and all were made to drink of one Spirit. 14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the organs in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single organ, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body which seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and those parts of the body which we think less honorable we invest with the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, 24 which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior part, 25 that there may be no discord in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. 27 Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. 28 And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, then healers, helpers, administrators, speakers in various kinds of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30 Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with

tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the higher gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.  
May God add understanding to this reading of the Holy Scriptures.

#### MESSAGE

*"What Part Am I – Or Does It Really Matter?"*  
Pastor Gary

**HYMN**     *"They'll Know We Are Christians"*  
Peter Scholtes

**1 We are one in the Spirit,  
we are one in the Lord,  
We are one in the Spirit,  
we are one in the Lord,  
And we pray that all unity  
may one day be restored:  
And they'll know we are Christians  
By our love, By our love,  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

**2 We will walk with each other,  
we will walk hand in hand,  
We will walk with each other,  
we will walk hand in hand,  
And together we'll spread the news  
that God is in our land:  
And they'll know we are Christians  
By our love, By our love,  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

**3 We will work with each other,  
we will work side by side,  
We will work with each other,  
we will work side by side,  
And we'll guard each one's dignity  
and save each one's pride:  
And they'll know we are Christians  
By our love, By our love,  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

**4 All praise to the Father,  
from whom all things come,  
And all praise to Christ Jesus,  
God's only Son,  
And all praise to the Spirit,  
who makes us one:**

**And they'll know we are Christians  
By our love, By our love,  
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

#### SERVICE OF GIVING AND SHARING

##### Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**May our offerings be used as seeds, planted faithfully and nurtured lovingly so that God's way may be realized anew in this church and in this world. Grant us the humility we need to plant and tend your precious garden. Amen.**

#### 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 Kirk & Nancy Rodman  
in celebration of their  
Sixtieth Wedding Anniversary.**

#### Monday, September 19th –

**9:00 AM – Circle of Friends Card Making**

#### Tuesday, September 20th –

**1 PM – Bible Study - Matthew- chapters 5,6,7  
\*every week at Marge Goetsch's - 510 W 14<sup>th</sup> St.**

**5:30 PM – Trustees Meeting**

**7:00 PM – Leadership Meeting**



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>**

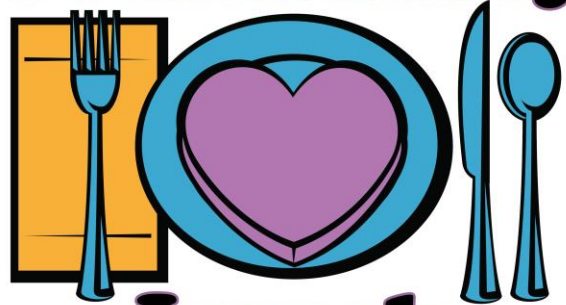
**Sunday School starts at 9 AM**  
**Blessing of backpacks at worship**  
Contact Stephanie Heck for  
more information 920-948-7783



Our deepest sympathy to Lori & Ken Wirtz and family upon the death of her mother, **Hanna Opelt**, a long-time member of our church. Visitation from noon – 2:00 pm. with funeral service to follow on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> here at our church. “Wherever a beautiful soul has been, there is a trail of beautiful memories. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.”

**TODAY**

**Free Community**



**Lunch**

**September 18, 2022**

**11:15 am-12:30 pm**

**United Church of Christ**

**Fellowship Hall**

**Takeouts  
will be available**