

**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 4, 2022**

United Church of Christ, Neillsville

Pastor Gary Wilner

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**PRELUDE**

*"Sing to the Lord"* Lani Smith

Deon Spangler

**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!!"*

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION** (Unison)

Most Gracious God, we greet you once again.  
We have come together because we need to  
be reminded of your love and your  
expectations for our living. Restore our  
vision so that when we gaze at the familiar it  
is transformed into something richer and  
more beautiful than we could have imagined.  
In our praying and through your presence,  
deepen our devotion to you and to the  
worldwide community of Christs' followers  
known as the church. Amen

**SONG** *"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"*

#495 NCH Jane Parker Huber

**1 Called as partners in Christ's service,  
Called to ministries of grace,  
We respond with deep commitment  
fresh new lines of faith to trace.**

**May we learn the art of sharing,  
side by side and friend with friend,  
Equal partners in our caring  
To fulfill God's chosen end.**

**2 Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,  
Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
Let us follow never faltering,  
Reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer,  
All God's people, young and old,  
Blending human skills together  
Gracious gifts from God unfold.**

**3 Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,  
In a small or global sense,  
Help us bear each other's burdens,  
Breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision,  
Words of challenge, said with care,  
Bring new power and strength for action,  
Make us colleagues, free and fair.**

**4 So God grant us for tomorrow  
Ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow  
With a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living,  
Our compassion to increase,  
Messengers of faith, thus giving  
Hope and confidence and peace.**

**READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES**

**Hebrew Testament Psalm 138**

**Mark 3:20-35**

Readers - Mike Perkl and Deb Perkl

The Hebrew Testament lesson this morning is  
Psalm 138 Mike Perkl

I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart;  
before the "gods" I will sing your praise.

I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your unfailing love and your faithfulness, for you have so exalted your solemn decree that it surpasses your fame. When I called, you answered me; you greatly emboldened me.

May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord, when they hear what you have decreed. May they sing of the ways of the Lord, for the glory of the Lord is great.

Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly; though lofty, he sees them from afar. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life. You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes; with your right hand you save me. The Lord will vindicate me; your love, Lord, endures forever— do not abandon the works of your hands.

And then in Mark Chapter 3 verses 20-35

Deb Perkl

Jesus is Accused by His Family and by Teachers of the Law

Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."

So, Jesus called them over to him and began to speak to them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come. In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house. Truly I tell you, people can be forgiven all their sins and every slander they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; they are guilty of an eternal sin."

He said this because they were saying, "He has an impure spirit."

Then Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. Standing outside, they sent someone in to call him. A crowd was sitting around him, and they told him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you."

"Who are my mother and my brothers?" he asked.

Then he looked at those seated in a circle around him and said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

### **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 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**

**MESSAGE** *"Did You See That Coming?"*

Pastor Gary

**SONG** "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"  
#498 NCH Tom Colvin

**Refrain:**

**Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.**

**1 Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
silently washes their feet,  
Jesu, you acted as servant to them. [Refrain]**

**2 Neighbors are rich and poor,  
varied in color and race,  
neighbors are near and far away. [Refrain]**

**3 These are the ones we should serve,  
these are the ones we should love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you. [Refrain]**

4 Loving puts us on our knees,  
showing our faith by our deeds,  
serving the neighbors we have from you. [Refrain]

5 Kneel at the feet of our friends,  
silently washing their feet,  
this is the way we should live with you. [Refrain]

#### SERVICE OF GIVING AND SHARING

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Generous God, take our gifts this and every day  
and use them so that we may be part of your  
great work in this world. Through our giving,  
bring justice and love closer to all, not just in our  
community but in the world beyond these walls.  
Strengthen our church and the whole United  
Church of Christ so that we grow together each  
day into a powerful voice for healing and peace.  
Amen.

#### THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### COMMUNION HYMN

*"As We Gather at the Table"*

Music by Steven and Kelly Brumm

1 As we gather at your Table,  
As we listen to your Word,  
Help us know, O God, your presence:  
Let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story  
Till we claim it as our own;  
Teach us through this holy banquet  
How to make Love's vict'ry known.

2 Turn our worship into witness  
In the sacrament of life;  
Send us forth to love and serve you,  
Bringing peace where there is strife.  
Give us, Christ, your great compassion  
To forgive as you forgave;  
May we still behold your image  
In the world you died to save.

3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon  
Other guests to share that feast  
Where triumphant Love will welcome

Those who had been last and least.  
There no more will envy blind us  
Nor will pride our peace destroy,  
As we join with saints and angels  
To repeat the sounding joy.

#### Come Gather Around the Table of Our God in Prayer (Unison)

Praise to you Devine Creator. Thank you for the  
gift of life, the beauty of nature, and your  
steadfast loving kindness.

Praise to you Divine Redeemer. Thank you for  
sharing our human existence, from birth  
through death to everlasting life you have  
shown us a way worth emulating, bringing  
healing and hope to those most in need.

Praise to you Divine sustainer. Thank you for the  
vision to see beyond the immediate. A calm in  
the midst of storm. The strength to build an  
ever-expanding community and the courage to  
bring about any change necessary within our  
lives. Amen

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION/REMEMBRANCE

#### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

#### PARTAKING OF THE BREAD AND CUP TOGETHER

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#### CLOSING HYMN *"Let There Be Peace on Earth"*

Sy Miller Jill Jackson

Let There be peace on earth,  
and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth,  
the peace that was meant to be.  
With God as our Father, brothers all are we.  
Let me walk with my brother  
in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me;  
let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take,  
let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment, in peace eternally!  
Let there be peace on earth,  
and let it begin with me.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** Deon Spangler  
(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  
Karen Northup in loving memory  
of her parents,  
Harry & Ruby Ambelang's  
68<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

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**Tuesday, September 6th** –  
9 AM Circle of Friends Card Making

1 PM Bible Study Class held at  
Marge Goetsch's home at 510 W 14<sup>th</sup> St.  
Bring your bible.

**Thursday, September 8th** –  
1:30 PM Circle of Friends Meeting

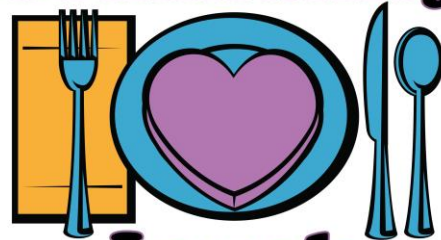


REMINDER - STARTING NEXT  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>  
Worship will begin at 10 AM



*Serve*  
**THE LIVING GOD!**  
HEBREWS 9:14, NIV

**Free  
Community**



**Lunch**

**September 18, 2022**  
**11:15 am-12:30 pm**  
**United Church of Christ**  
**Fellowship Hall**  
**Takeouts**  
**will be available**