

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 12, 2023
United Church of Christ, Neillsville
Pastor Sue Vornholt

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PRELUDE "On Oh, Perfect Love" Gordon Young
Karen Mohr

RINGING OF THE CARILLON
OUR SHARED LIFE AND SERVICE
(Announcements)

We thank God for these opportunities for
fellowship and service. **Thanks be to God!**

GREETING
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of
God, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit be with you
all. **And also with you.**

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 29)
**O lilies of the field, we of all colors and all
varieties,
GOD calls us to hear the Word.**

**We have been planted in faith,
So we turn our faces to you, O GOD.
O, people of the plains, the cities, and the
mountains,
we of all colors, theologies, and life choices,
we are God's field.**

**Come into God's sanctuary with joy! You have
cultivated us, O GOD.
Let us vine and blossom
And bear the fruit of your integrity.**

**O, we of mustard seeds and wheat,
we of little faith and great, we come.
And bear the fruit of your integrity.
We come to the Living Waters,
to the Sun of love and light.
We will drink of your ways, O GOD,
and we will sow your seeds.**

**O, all who are of the world,
come and see what GOD has grown.
We come to worship you.
We stand in the sunshine of your living word.
We prosper in your paths, O GOD,
as the lilies of your field.**

HYMN
"This is the Day" Les Garrett
#84 NCH

**1 This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made, that our God has made;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that our God has made,
We will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day,
that our God has made.**

**2 This is the day, this is the day
Jesus rose again, Jesus rose again;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day Jesus rose again,
We will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day
Jesus rose again.**

**3 This is the day, this is the day
When the Spirit came, when the Spirit came;
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day when the Spirit came,
We will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day
When the Spirit came.**

OPENING PRAYER
God of grace and majesty, we exalt you
Creator of all living things,
you live with us today,
shining like the February sun,
and promising tomorrow and tomorrow
and tomorrow.

The crocus tells us you are near and snow-drops
make vows you alone can keep.
May we find you in every blooming thing
beneath the snows of our lives.
May we see you in the brightness of the morning
streaming through these windows.
May we know you in the promise of today and
today and today becoming, always becoming.

CALL TO CONFESSION (Pastor)

God has come to us in Christ, but we often live
as if it made no difference. Let us confess our
sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Righteous God, we confess with sorrow
that we often forget who has given us light,
who has made our garden grow with waters of
love.**

**We forget your living word and move off your
paths to serve our own worldly desires.**

**We leave your cultivated field to venture out
into the wilderness on our own.**

**We quarrel with one another trying to decide
“who is the greatest.”**

**We make our own faces the benchmark for all
faces.**

**Help us to remember Jesus, reconciling the
whole variegated world in himself.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Pastor)

Thank you for calling us back,
for never giving up on us when we turn aside,
for always loving us, even when we forget who
we are and who you are.

We know you, as the greatest Gardener of all,
who has promised always to replant us in
flourishing fields.

PRAISE RESPONSE

(sung twice)

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Give voice to God’s love and peace; those
around us need to hear the Good News.

All: The Peace of God be with you.

*All are invited to greet one another with such
words as “The peace of Christ be with you, and
the response: “And also with you.”*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1Corinthians 3:1-9

3 Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as
people who live by the Spirit but as people who are
still worldly—mere infants in Christ. 2 I gave you
milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for
it. Indeed, you are still not ready. 3 You are still
worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling
among you, are you not worldly? Are you not
acting like mere humans? 4 For when one says, “I
follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are
you not mere human beings? 5 What, after all, is
Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through
whom you came to believe—as the Lord has
assigned to each his task. 6 I planted the seed,
Apollos watered it, but God has been making it
grow. 7 So neither the one who plants nor the
one who waters is anything, but only God, who
makes things grow. 8 The one who plants and the
one who waters have one purpose, and they will
each be rewarded according to their own labor.
9 For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are
God’s field, God’s building.”

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

15 See, I set before you today life and
prosperity, death and destruction. 16 For I
command you today to love the Lord your God,
to walk in obedience to him, and to keep
his commands, decrees and laws; then you will
live and increase, and the Lord your God
will bless you in the land you are entering to
possess. 17 But if your heart turns away
and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn
away to bow down to other gods and
worship them, 18 I declare to you this day that
you will certainly be destroyed. You will
not live long in the land you are crossing the
Jordan to enter and possess. 19 This day I

call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live 20 and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

MESSAGE *"It Takes All Sorts"* Pastor Sue

HYMN *"God of Change and Glory"*
#177 NCH Al Carmines

**1 God of change and glory, God of time and space,
When we fear the future, give to us your grace.
In the midst of changing ways
give us still the grace to praise.**

Refrain:

**Many gifts, one Spirit,
one love known in many ways,
In our difference is blessing,
From diversity we praise
One Giver, one Word, one Spirit,
One God known in many ways,
Hallowing our days.
For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!**

**2 God of many colors, God of many signs,
You have made us different, blessing many kinds.
As the old ways disappear,
let your love cast out our fear. [Refrain]**

**3 Freshness of the morning, newness of each night,
You are still creating endless love and light,
This we see, as shadows part,
Many gifts from one great heart. [Refrain]**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: Let us pray as Christ Our Savior has taught us.

THE 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

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY (Pastor)

God has led us to this place to heal and inspire us, to gently redirect us, until we see the world as God does and love it with God's love. With our gifts, we affirm that God's generosity can make us all into a new creation by the way we give of ourselves.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

**These gifts are our fruit, O God of all fields.
Each giver has made the choice between life and death, blessings and curses.
We choose blessings. We choose life.
May God's promises be fulfilled through the harvest of God's garden in these our gifts.**

HYMN

"God Be With You"
#81 NCH Jeremiah Rankin

**1 God be with you till we meet again;
By good counsel guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**

Refrain:

**Till we meet, till we meet,
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.**

**2 God be with you till we meet again;
Wings of shelter safely hide you,
Daily manna still provide you:
God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain]**

**3 God be with you till we meet again;
When life's perils thick confound you,
Put unfailing arms around you:
God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain]**

**4 God be with you till we meet again;
Keep love's banner floating o'er you,
Smite death's threatening wave before you:
God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain]**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Karen Mohr

JOYS AND CONCERNS



Sunday, February 19th, immediately following the regular service, UCC will host its annual congregational meeting. This is one of the two planned congregational meetings.

The intent is to provide members information from each committee on past year activities as well as their plans and goals for the upcoming year. In addition, we will review committee membership and request approval.

We will provide light sacks and coffee in the narthex area. We look forward to seeing you all Sunday, FEB 19th 2023.

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**

You tube link for February 12, 2023
<https://youtu.be/iHB5p9xzREY>

**This week’s radio broadcast
is sponsored by
“a faithful listener”.**



Bring your soup cans into the narthex by **TODAY**, February 12th. All soup can donations go to our local food pantries.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, February 14th –
1 PM – Bible Study – 510 W 14th Street
*every week at Marge Goetsch’s home
4 PM – Deacons Meeting

Wednesday, February 15th –
5 PM – Church Council Meeting

Sunday, February 19th –
After Worship – Annual Meeting

