

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

United Church of Christ, Neillsville

Pastor James Mohr

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*"No matter who you are or where you are
on life's journey, you are welcome here."*

PRELUDE "Variations on Kum Ba Yah"

John A. Behnke

Karen Mohr

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

(*Please stand at the asterisk)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Jesus the Lord is risen!

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus the Lord is risen today!

Alleluia, alleluia.

HYMN "Come, We Who Love God's Name"

#382 NCH

Isaac Watts

1 Come, we who love God's name,
and let our joys be known;
Together God's great love proclaim,
together God's great love proclaim,
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.

Refrain:

We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion.
We're marching onward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

2 Let those refuse to sing
Who never knew our God;
But we our thanks and praise will bring,
But we our thanks and praise will bring.
For love so deep and broad,
For love so deep and broad. [Refrain]

3 God's grace on earth is found,
The seeds of glory sown;
Celestial fruits on earthly ground,
Celestial fruits on earthly ground
From faith and hope have grown,
from faith and hope have grown. [Refrain]

4 The hill of Zion yields
A thousand sacred sweets
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Before we reach the heavenly fields,
Or walk the golden streets,
Or walk the golden streets. [Refrain]

5 Then let our songs abound,
And every tear be dry;
We're traveling through Emmanuel's ground,
We're traveling through Emmanuel's ground,
To greater worlds on high,
To greater worlds on high. [Refrain]

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are gathered in the presence of the risen Christ,
who remains with us forever.

**When we abide in the love of Christ, love, joy, and
peace grow.**

We are rooted in Christ's love that we may bear these
fruits together with all God's people.

**With the faithful of every race, tribe, people, and
nation we sing:**

**Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, and might
be to God for ever and ever.**

Amen.

*CALL TO CONFESSION (Pastor)

With all the signs of new life in Christ around us, we
still cling to our old ways.

Let us confess our sin to God and to one another.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (All)

When we do not accept as our sisters and brothers in Christ those who are different from us, forgive us, O God. When we oppose you by opposing those who disrupt our routines and challenge our assumptions, forgive us, God. When we willfully disobey you and lose faith in your future, forgive us, O God.

God, in your mercy, restore us to newness of life. Bind together your church universal through the coming of your Holy Spirit. Empower us to witness with courage to the presence of Jesus Christ among us. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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.”

EASTER ACCLAMATION

Jesus the Lord is risen!

Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus the Lord is risen today!

Alleluia, alleluia.

A WORD WITH THE CHILDREN

PSALTER READING

Psalm 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; ³he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

SECOND LESSON

Acts 9:36-43

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa,

the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

SERMON “*Cut From the Same Cloth*” Pastor Jim Mohr

***RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

United Church Statement of Faith (p. 885 in hymnal)

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ’s baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

HYMN "Easter People, Raise Your Voices"

Sung to the tune of #400 NCH

Easter people, raise your voices,
Sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven's choices;
Heavenly music, let it ring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.

Fear of death, can no more stop us
From our pressing here below.
For our Lord empowered us
To triumph over every foe.
Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.

Every day to us is Easter,
With its resurrection song.
When in trouble move the faster
To our God who rights the wrong.
Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power of heavenly throngs.

MORNING PRAYERS

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

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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

THE OFFERING SERVICE (Pastor)

Scriptural Sentence
Prayer of Dedication

HYMN "In the Bulb There is a Flower"

#433 NCH Natalie Sleeth

1 In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:
butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

2 There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

3 In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

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 anonymously
"In Praise of Jesus Christ"

Youtube for April 30, 2023
<https://youtu.be/3HKFbCF-hUU>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, April 30th – after worship
BAKED GOODS AUCTION – proceeds
going to parking lot resurfacing

Monday, May 1st –
9 AM – Card Making

Tuesday, May 2nd –
1 PM – Bible Study – 510 W 14th Street
*every week at Marge Goetsch's home

Hosting Coffee Fellowship

April 30- Susie Karl

May 7- Nancy & Kirk Rodman

May 14- Christian Ed

May 21- (Baccalaureate

reception & Cookout) will need help

May 28-



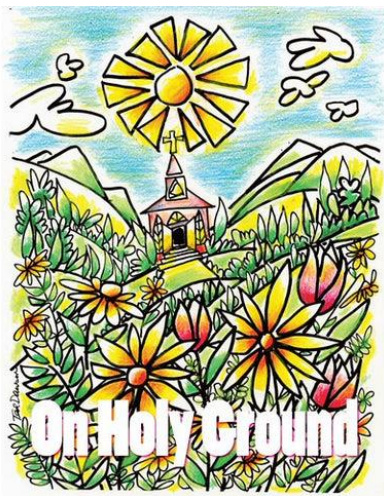
We need your help - Please sign up on bulletin board
at rear of church for hosting coffee fellowship.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

Strengthen The Church offering supports
congregations

across the UCC
Church. God calls
our congregations
to be the church in
new ways. Your
generosity will plant
new churches and
awaken new ideas
in existing churches
developing the
spiritual life in our
youth and adults.

Strengthen The Church offering is received on
Pentecost Sunday, May 28. Donations can be
made using envelopes in the pews online or using
VANCO. Thank you for your donations.



ANNOUNCEMENT OF

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – MAY 7TH

from Moderator, Paul Vine

“The Trustees have received a reasonable bid, of
approximately \$24,000, to repair and upgrade the
upper and lower church parking lots. We are
scheduling a Special Congregational meeting
immediately after the May 7th regular service. At
that time Trustee Chairperson, Hap Eddy, will review
the proposal, answer questions and request a vote”.

THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH – The Clark

County Choraliers will be visiting area

churches including
UCC. Please plan to
join us for their
musical
performance
during worship.



Sunday, April 30th –
after Worship service

Baked Goods
Auction

