

Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 11, 2023
United Church of Christ, Neillsville
Pastor Sue Vornholt

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PRELUDE "Gigue" G.P. Telemann
Deon Spangler

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Shared Life and Service

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

Come! Now is the time to worship!

Come! Now is the time to worship!

We gather today as people God calls to go and share the good news.

We gather as God's sent-out people.

We gather to listen and share God's work in our lives, our families, and our neighborhoods.

We proclaim the goodness of God's love together.

We gather to respond to God's grace as we continue on the path of discipleship.

We hear God's call and learn to say "yes" to God together.

We gather to again hear God's call to "Go!" as God commissions us to love God and neighbor in everything that we do.

We go knowing that as God's called, gathered, and sent-out people, we are not alone as we carry the weight of God's call into the world together. Amen

HYMN "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"
#403 NCH Edward Mote

1 My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness; I dare not trust this earthly frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**

**2 When shadows veil my Savior's face,
I rest upon unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]**

**3 Christ's oath and covenant and blood
support me in the rising flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
Christ then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]**

**4 When Christ shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in Love be found,
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who loves us and call us,
We confess that we are not always open to receiving your call on our lives. We make excuses. We choose not to listen. We believe that others would do it better than we can.

Forgive us for all the times we say no---or nothing at all- to your call.

We confess that we value the false certainty or our own path over the uncertainty of journeying with you and one another on the path of discipleship.

Forgive us for all the ways we choose what we think we know over joining you in the holy unknown.

We confess that we value the calls of some over others, putting the paths of some up on pedestals while not recognizing the many who answer your call as quiet, behind-the-scenes disciples.

Forgive us for neglecting the beautiful and varied calls you place on each of our lives.

Forgive us, God, and free us to joyfully bear the weight of your call on our lives as members together of the Body of Christ, redeemed and united by your love. Amen

WORDS OF GRACE (PASTOR)

Remember Friends, Our God is a God of mercy, grace and forgiveness. Amen

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.

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

Matthew 9:9-13

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. ¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

Matthew 9: 18-26

¹⁸While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. ²³When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. ²⁵But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶And the report of this spread throughout that district.

Genesis 12:1-9

¹²Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."
⁴So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother's son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the Lord appeared to Abram, and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. ⁹And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

SERMON *“Trusting the Unknown”*

Pastor Sue Vornholt

HYMN *“Jesus calls Us, O’er the Tumult”*

#172 NCH

Cecil W. Alexander

1 Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
Day by day that voice still calls us,
saying, "Christian, follow me."

2 As of old, Saint Andrew heard it
by the Galilean lake,
Turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.

3 Jesus calls us from the worship
of the treasures we adore,
From each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."

4 In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
Jesus calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."

5 Jesus calls us! By your mercies,
Savior, may we hear your call,
Give our hearts to your obedience,
serve and love you best of all.

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 is the giver of life, Christ is the Gift sent to share
our life, and the Holy Spirit the power that enables us
to continue in generosity, justice, and joy. Let us open
our hearts and our lives to God and one another.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING (All)

God of eternity and God of the next moment: we offer
our gifts today having heard your call through Jesus to
follow. Remind us again this day that being a
follower doesn't end at the offering plate. There is a
weight to this call – one that demands we not only say
“yes” to following but that we also say “no” to
thousands of things that will lead us away from the
discipleship path. Guide us that we might not wander
off that road. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *“Be Now My Vision”*

#451 NCH

Mary Byrne, Eleanor Hull

1 Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impart.
You my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

2 Be now my wisdom, be thou my true word;
ever within me, thy soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
Now and forever your child I will be.

3 Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
you my inheritance, now and always.
You and you only are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.

4 Sovereign of heaven, when victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

BENEDICTION

As you leave this gathering, hear God's call to go! Go
into the uncertainty of the journey ahead, trusting
that of this you can be certain: God is with us, and we
are sent out together. We are not alone. Thanks be to
God! Amen.

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 Glenna Rhoades & daughters in loving memory of husband & father, Herb Rhoades.



Youtube link for June 11, 2023
<https://youtu.be/IM8GLguSQXw>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Tuesday, June 13th –
1 PM – Bible Study – 510 W 14th Street
*every week at Marge Goetsch’s home**

**Wednesday, June 14th –
5 PM – Deacons Meeting**

Hosting Coffee Fellowship



IS SUSPENDED THRU THE SUMMER MONTHS – will start again in September

**JUNE 18, 2023
FARM TO TABLE GIVEAWAY**

**10:00-10:15 A.M.
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
NEILLSVILLE
515 WEST 2ND STREET
SUMMER SERVICES 9:00 A.M.**



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ALL ARE WELCOME



\$4000 is our Goal

**Our Church
Has Raised
\$3545**

