

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 9, 2023
United Church of Christ, Neillsville
Pastor Sue Vornholt

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PRELUDE *“Prelude in Classic Style” Gordon Young*
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

Merciful God,

We come before You with praise and thanksgiving!

Through Jesus Christ,

you have lavished on us every spiritual blessing

we could possibly imagine!

Before the world was created,

you already knew us and loved us.

You adopted us as your own children,

and redeemed us through the blood of Christ.

Even more, you have made us your heirs,

**and have given us your own Spirit as a sign and
guarantee.**

How we praise you!

**Open our hearts and minds to your presence
among us here.**

**May our worship this morning bring you honor
and glory,**

for you alone are worthy of our praise. Amen.

HYMN *“This Is The Day”*
#84 NCH Les Garrett

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

**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.**

**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.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We read in Ephesians that we were chosen by God
before the foundation of the world
to be holy and blameless before God in love.
Such a privilege...
Such a responsibility....
God chose us...to be holy and blameless.
We do try, but being holy all the time is not easy.
Forgive us Lord, when we fail.
We read that we are destined for adoption as God's
children through Jesus Christ...
Such a privilege...
Such a responsibility....
Our identity as members of God's family should be
apparent to others...
That means being recognizable as Christians through
our words and deeds.
Forgive us Lord, when we fail
We also read that we were marked with the seal of the
Holy Spirit
which is the guarantee of our inheritance as God's
own people...
Such a privilege...
Such a wonderful privilege,
knowing that the burden of living up to such an
inheritance
has been taken off our shoulders
because of the grace which has been lavished upon us.
For God also promised that in Jesus
we have been forgiven according to the riches of his
grace.
May we always be aware of the tremendous privilege
which has been bestowed upon us by God
and may our response to such blessings
be to live as grace-full and joy-full followers of Jesus,
our Lord and our Savior. Amen

WORDS OF GRACE (PASTOR)

Hear again the good news:
Because of the riches of God's grace:
in Jesus we have redemption through his blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses—
all gifts of God's generous and amazing grace. Thanks
be to God!

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

Psalm 145:8-14

⁸The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and
abounding in steadfast love.

⁹The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all
that he has made.

¹⁰All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and
all your faithful shall bless you.

¹¹They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and
tell of your power,

¹²to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and
the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your
dominion endures throughout all generations.

The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all
his deeds.

¹⁴The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all
who are bowed down.

Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing
in the heavenly *places* in Christ, ⁴ just as He chose us in
Him before the foundation of the world, that we
should be holy and without blame before Him in
love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by
Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure
of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by
which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

⁷ In Him we have redemption through His blood, the
forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His
grace ⁸ which He made to abound toward us in all
wisdom and prudence, ⁹ having made known to us the
mystery of His will, according to His good
pleasure which He purposed in Himself, ¹⁰ that in the
dispensation of the fullness of the times He might
gather together in one all things in Christ, both which
are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.

¹¹ In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, ¹² that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

¹³ In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

SERMON *“Count Your Many Blessings”*
Pastor Sue Vornholt

HYMN *“All Things Bright and Beautiful”*
#31 NCH Cecil F. Alexander

Refrain:

**All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
our dear God made them all.**

**1 Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
and made their tiny wings. [Refrain]**

**2 The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky. [Refrain]**

**3 The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
God made them everyone. [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 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 *“Go My Children, with My Blessing”*
#82 NCH Jaroslav J. Vajda

**Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing—you are my own.**

**Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you;
here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.**

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

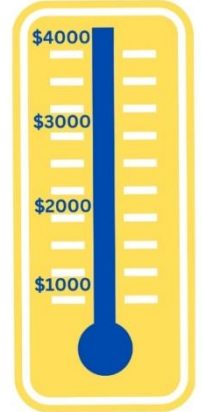
RADIO BROADCAST

11 AM Sunday radio broadcast on WCCN
98.5FM and 1370AM

This week's radio broadcast is sponsored anonymously by a UCC member in memory of Darlene Celar-Mueller



\$4000
Our goal has been reached thanks to a very caring church family.



Youtube link for Sunday, July 9, 2023

<https://youtube.com/live/ymXQ6hyYRoE?feature=share>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, July 11th –
1 PM – Bible Study – 510 W 14th Street
*every week at Marge Goetsch's home

Thursday, July 13th –
1:30 PM – Circle of Friends Meeting

MEAL GIVEAWAY
JULY 16, 2023
UCC-NEILLSVILLE
515 WEST SECOND STREET 10:00-10:15 AM

Hosting Coffee Fellowship



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