

**Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Communion - September 3, 2023**  
United Church of Christ - Neillsville  
Pastor Sue Vornholt

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**PRELUDE**      *"Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken"*  
Franz Haydn      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**

L: We gather as a community of compassion and hope.

P: **Jesus calls us to care for each other tenderly and  
willingly.**

L: By this caring and sharing we will be known as  
followers of Jesus.

P: **By our example others may be led to lives of  
peace.**

L: Lord, open our hearts and minds this day to your  
word.

P: **Teach us to serve you with all our gifts and talents.  
Amen.**

**HYMN**      *"I Woke Up This Morning"*

**#85 NCH**      Arr. Jeffrey Radford

**1 Woke up this mornin' with my mind, stayed on  
Jesus.**

**Woke up this mornin' with my mind, stayed on  
Jesus.**

**Woke up this mornin' with my mind, stayed on  
Jesus.**

**Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.**

**2 Walkin' and talkin' with my mind, stayed on  
Jesus.**

**Walkin' and talkin' with my mind, stayed on Jesus.**

**Walkin' and talkin' with my mind, stayed on Jesus.**

**Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.**

**OPENING PRAYER** (All)

Lord of summer sunshine and autumn harvest, be with  
us this day as we gather to encounter your word and  
your way for us. Remind us that we can place our trust  
in your eternal love. Enable us to be more effective in  
our witness to that love by word and deed. Guide our  
steps and pick us up when we falter. Dust us off and  
place us on the pathways of grace and service. These  
things we pray in Jesus' name. AMEN

**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."

**PRAISE RESPONSE** (sung twice)

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE**

**Psalm 105:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make  
known his deeds among the peoples. <sup>2</sup>Sing to him, sing  
praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.

<sup>3</sup>Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who  
seek the Lord rejoice. <sup>4</sup>Seek the Lord and his strength;  
seek his presence continually.

<sup>5</sup>Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,  
<sup>6</sup>O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

### **Romans 12:9-21**

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. <sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

### **Matthew 16:21-28**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."  
<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? <sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of

his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

### **MESSAGE** "What Is the Shape of Your Cross?"

Pastor Sue

### **HYMN** "Let Us Break Bread Together"

#330 NCH

David Hurd

**1 Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees.**

**Refrain:**

**When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
My God, have mercy on me.**

**2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]**

**3 Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]**

### **COMMUNION PRAYER**

God be with you

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to God**

Let us give thanks to God most high.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation and the gift of life... With the faithful in every place and time,

**we praise with joy in your holy name.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION** (Pastor)

Please join me in the prayer Jesus 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**

### **COMMUNION INVITATION**

### INVITATION TO GENEROSITY (Pastor)

As God has blessed our lives with abundant love and gifts, let us bring our tithes and offerings to this place, seeking to help others, to offer comfort and hope. Let us receive our morning offering.

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING (All)

Lord of all mercy and compassion, bless these gifts lovingly offered and all the people here. Help us to use these gifts for ministries of hope through our church and into our community, nation and world. AMEN

### CLOSING HYMN "God Be With You"

#81 NCH Jeremiah E. 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]

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

Hosting Coffee Fellowship  
will start again on  
September 10th



September 10 – JoAnn Voss

September 17 – Free Community Picnic

September 24-

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

### 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 Rosie Repinski in celebration of Jim Repinski's 86<sup>th</sup> birthday.

YouTube link for September 3rd, 2023  
[https://youtube.com/live/YiC1\\_8u2l4k](https://youtube.com/live/YiC1_8u2l4k)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, September 5th –  
- 1 PM – Bible Study – to be determined

Wednesday, September 6th –  
- 1 PM – Stewardship Meeting

### \*\*\*Christian Education Update\*\*\*

On **Sunday, September 10**, immediately following the church service, UCC will give an update on plans to combine confirmation and church school with Calvary Lutheran for the 2023-24 school year. All parents, members and friends are welcome.

### Free Community Picnic



September 17, 2023

11:15 am - 12:00 Noon

United Church of Christ-Neillsville

515 West 2nd Street

Fellowship Hall

Take-Outs will be available