

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 2023

United Church of Christ - Neillsville

Pastor Sue Vornholt

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PRELUDE "Assurance" John Ness Beck
Karen Mohr

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

God of life, once more you have called us together for
worship.

We have come to be refreshed.

We have come to be reminded of whose we are.

**We have come to explore who and how you are
calling us to be in the world.**

God of light, in this time together, open our eyes, our
hearts and our very beings to see, hear and feel how
you are active in our midst. God of love, who call us to
live love, may the time we spend listening for your
still, small voice awaken us an awareness of how we
can put love into action, how we can care for all our
relationships. Amen

HYMN "I Woke Up This Morning"

#85 NCH Les Garrett

**1 I woke up this morning with my mind
stayed on Jesus,
Woke up this morning with my mind
stayed on Jesus,**

**woke up this morning with my mind
stayed on Jesus,
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.**

**2 Singing and praying with my mind
stayed on Jesus,
Singing and praying with my mind
stayed on Jesus,
Singing and praying with my mind
stayed on Jesus,
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of courage and strength, we are waiting to
receive your loving energy in the empty corners of our
hearts. It is your power working through us that can
do more than we can ever. Ask or imagine. It is your
enlivening breath moving through us that enables us
to overcome anxieties, fears, doubts, and misgivings.

**We have days when we resist your movement and
message. We seek you in stillness but forget you in
busyness. We yearn for fullness but miss you in
emptiness. We welcome you in joy but reject you in
sorrow. We rejoice in the harvest but struggle with
the planting.**

You are a God who accepts the uniqueness and beauty
of every individual. You love us as we are while you
yearn for us to extend this kind of love to those who
challenge our compassion and our patience. Your love
within us will give as we ought.

**Nudge us and encourage us to accept those people
who are alien to our love. May your song of kindness
and patience be sung through us. Fill our attitude
toward others with notes of understanding and
nonjudgement. 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 TIME

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Barb Shoemaker

Philippians 4:1-9

4Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

SERMON "Joy in Excess" Pastor Sue

HYMN "Joyful, Joyful We Adore You"

#4 NCH Henry van Dyke

**1 Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, God of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the storms of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.**

**2 All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
teach us what our praise should be.**

**3 You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blessed,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother,
all who love belong to you;
Teach us how to love each other,
by that love our joy renew.**

**4 Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
Boundless love is reigning o'er us,
reconciling race and clan.
Ever singing, move we forward,
faithful in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us onward
in the triumph song of life.**

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)

As God has so richly blessed us, let us return a portion of these blessings to God, asking that these gifts may be used in service to others through the ministries and mission of this church. Let us receive our morning offering.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING (All)

God of abundance and joy, we thank you for the many blessings you have poured on our lives. Receive these gifts, lovingly given, and bless them in your service.
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

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**

YouTube link for October 15, 2023

<https://youtube.com/live/Mav9OPBL54k>

This week's radio broadcast
is sponsored by
Byrl & Sharon Buddenhagen
in celebration of
their **60th** wedding anniversary
and
Kevin & Jody Buddenhagen's
19th wedding anniversary.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, October 16th –
- 9 AM – making cards

Tuesday, October 17th –
- 1 PM – Marge Goetsch Bible Study –
*every week at Donita Follen's home
1209 Bruley Street
- 5 PM – Trustees Meeting

Wednesday, October 18th –
- 5 PM – Council Meeting

Thursday, October 12th –
- 1 PM - Circle of Friends Fall Picnic



**Hosting Coffee
Fellowship
after worship**
Sign up sheet on
back bulletin board

- Oct 15 - Barb Petkovsek
- Oct 22 – Stewardship Comm.
- Oct 29 – JoAnn Voss
- Nov 5 –
- Nov 12 –
- Nov 19 –

TODAY



Meal Giveaway

UCC NEILLSVILLE
515 WEST SECOND STREET
October 15, 2023
11:00 -11:15 AM



REMINDER for
the HOLIDAY FAIR

Please bring your
"clean" items,

housewares, art,
decorations, etc. in for the
"New to You Treasures"
sale at the Holiday Fair.



"New to You Treasures"