

Reign of Christ - November 26, 2023

Last Sunday in the Church Year

United Church of Christ, Neillsville

Pastor James Mohr

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PRELUDE "Now Thank We All Our God"

Diane Bish, Siegfried Karg-Elert
Karen Mohr

**3 Christ Jesus cannot fail,
to rule both earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell
Are to the Savior given.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Worship with
gladness and singing!

**Many: God is Creator, Sustainer, Keeper, and
Shepherd. Bless God's name.**

One: Enjoy the presence of God! Give thanks and
praise!

Many: God is Sovereign and Holy. Bless God's name.

One: Know that God reigns! God's community is
forming!

**Many: God is Healer, Redeemer, Restorer, and Friend.
Bless God's name!**

HYMN "Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing"

#303 NCH (vs. 1-3) Charles Wesley

**1 Rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your Sovereign God adore!
For Christ has robbed death's sting,
And triumphs evermore.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**2 Our Savior Jesus reigns,
The God of truth and love;
The Lamb who purged our stains,
is crowned with power above.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

INVOCATION (ALL)

**God who cares. We flourish in your compassion. You
search for us and find us. You, Holy One, surround us
with the power of your abundant love and utmost
care. Be present among us as we praise your name,
bring our burdens, and give thanks for all that you are
and all that you do. Amen.**

HYMN "Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing"

#303 NCH (v. 4) Charles Wesley

**4 Rejoice in glorious hope,
for Christ the Judge shall come,
And take the faithful up
To their eternal home.
We soon shall hear
A heavenly voice
Above the trumpet's sound, "Rejoice!"**

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE (ALL)

**Sovereign God, transform us in your image. Your reign
is just and righteous. We go our own way and live
according to our own will. Make us your ambassadors.
Let us represent you through words and actions. May
we release our need for anything that creates a barrier
to loving you and our neighbor. May we know and
bear witness that we are all neighbors. Amen.**

WORDS OF GRACE (PASTOR)

Beloved, you are loved unconditionally by the
Everlasting One. God's nation is yours to embrace and
enter with full citizenship. Know that every move
toward God transforms you. Every confession of God's
sovereignty fortifies. Every moment in the presence of
God restores you.

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."*

PRAISE RESPONSE "Halleluja"

#236 NCH

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

I will save my flock

¹¹For thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

¹²As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.

¹³And I will bring them out from the people, and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land, and feed them upon the mountains of Israel by the rivers, and in all the inhabited places of the country.

¹⁴I will feed them in a good pasture, and upon the high mountains of Israel shall their fold be: there shall they lie in a good fold, and in a fat pasture shall they feed upon the mountains of Israel.

¹⁵I will feed my flock, and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord God.

¹⁶I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick: but I will destroy the fat and the strong; I will feed them with judgment.

²⁰Therefore thus saith the Lord God unto them; Behold, I, even I, will judge between the fat cattle and between the lean cattle.

²¹Because ye have thrust with side and with shoulder, and pushed all the diseased with your horns, till ye have scattered them abroad;

²²Therefore will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey; and I will judge between cattle and cattle.

²³And I will set up one shepherd over them, and he shall feed them, even my servant David; he shall feed them, and he shall be their shepherd.

²⁴And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David a prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 25:31-46

Sheep and Goats

The Judgement of the Nations

³¹ 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

SERMON "A Mixed Breed" Pastor Jim

RESPONSE TO THE WORD (All) UCC Statement of Faith
#885 NCH - Doxological version

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 "Jesus Shall Reign"
#300 NCH (v. 1- 4) Isaac Watts

1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run,
God's realm stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2 Through Christ shall endless prayer be made,
borne by the spirit's ceaseless aid;
Like sweet perfume new hymns shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

3 People and realms of every tongue
dwell on God's love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their earliest prayers in Jesus' name.

4 Blessings abound where'er Christ reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

MORNING PRAYERS

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

Offertory Sentence

Scriptural Sentence: Philippians 2:4-5

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to
the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you
that was in Christ Jesus.

Offertory

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.
Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"
#304 NCH Edward Perronet

1 All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown Christ servant of all.
Attend the Savior's sovereign claim,
and crown Christ servant of all!

2 Adorn, O martyred saints of old,
the coronation hall;
Extol the wounded One foretold,
and crown Christ bearer of all!

Extol the wounded One foretold,
and crown Christ bearer of all!

3 All heirs of Israel's chosen race,
Now ransomed from the fall;
Proclaim the wonders of God's grace,
And crown Christ healer of all.
Proclaim the wonders of God's grace,
And crown Christ healer of all.

4 Before the cross, with heaven's throng,
We on our knees shall fall;
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown Christ savior of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown Christ savior of all.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

PRAISE RESPONSE "Lead Us from Death to Life"

#581 NCH Marty Haugen Satish Kumar

Lead us from death to life,
From falsehood to truth,
From despair to hope,
From fear to trust.
Lead us from hate to love,
From war to peace;
let peace fill our hearts,
Let peace fill our world,
Let peace fill our universe.

POSTLUDE

JOYS AND CONCERNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO BROADCAST

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

This week's radio broadcast
is given anonymously in memory of
Michael and Paul Quicker

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.

YouTube link for Sunday, November 26, 2023
<https://youtube.com/live/prM4H9Yp2BQ>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, November 28th –

- 1 PM – Marge Goetsch Bible Study –
*every week at Donita Follen's home,
1209 Bruley Street thru November

Coffee fellowship after worship -
Sign up now on the back bulletin board for
hosting future weeks.
Nov 26 - Carole Romens
Dec 3 – Kathy & Howie Mathis
Dec 10 – Barb Petkovsek
Dec 17 – Christian Ed.
Dec 24 – no morning service



Come
Decorate for
Christmas

Decorate the Church for Christmas

Sunday, November 26th after worship
We are looking for a team of able-bodied
(4-5) people to assist with assembly of the
sanctuary tree. This is a big job so if some of you strong
individuals could help we would much appreciate it. We
will also need help in other areas to decorate the church.

A special Congregational Meeting
will be held on Sunday, December 10th
following worship to review 2024
Budget and Election of Committees