

EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2024

United Church of Christ - Neillsville

Pastor James Mohr

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20913817

PRELUDE "In Thee is Gladness"

J.S. Bach

Karen Mohr

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER ACCLAMATION

"Jesus the Lord is Risen" (#69 Taizé: Songs for Prayer)

Jesus, the Lord is risen! Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus, the Lord is risen today! Alleluia, alleluia.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Christ is risen!

All: Alleluia!

One: The stone has rolled!

All: Alleluia!

One: The tomb is empty!

All: Alleluia!

One: Dawn has broken!

All: Alleluia!

One: Christ is among us!

All: Alleluia!

HYMN "Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

#233 NCH Charles Wesley

1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2 Let the Victor's people sing, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting, Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

3 Loves redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain, forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!
God has opened paradise, Alleluia!

4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, Christ we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYER (All)

We come this day in joy, O God, to celebrate again
the wonderful miracle that you bring life out of
death. The resurrection of Jesus reminds us that
nothing – absolutely nothing – can separate us from
your love. Alleluia! Amen.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

"Jesus the Lord is Risen" (#69 Taizé: Songs for Prayer)

Jesus, the Lord is risen! Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus, the Lord is risen today! Alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (All)

O God, there are times when we are afraid; times when
we do not want to hear good news; times when we
find it too hard to believe that there is reason to hope,
to have faith, or to trust in your goodness. There are
times, too, when we refuse to believe that your love
has no limits. Forgive us! Roll away the stones from
our hearts! Open us to be Easter people, loving you
and sharing your love with all people. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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."

EASTER ACCLAMATION

"Jesus the Lord is Risen" (#69 Taizé: Songs for Prayer)

Jesus, the Lord is risen! Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus, the Lord is risen today! Alleluia, alleluia.

CHILDREN'S TIME

ANTHEM *"Christ Arose"* Robert Lowry

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

First Lesson

Acts 10:34-43

We are witnesses

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Epistle Lesson

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The grace of God

¹Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. ³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one

untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Gospel Lesson

Mark 16:1-8

Terror and amazement

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

SERMON "What Now?" Pastor Jim

HYMN *"The Day of Resurrection"*

#245 NCH

Trans. J.M. Neale

Henry T. Smart

1 The day of resurrection!

**Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God.**

**From death to life eternal,
from earth unto the sky,
our Christ has brought us over
with hymns of victory.**

**2 Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Christ who reigns eternal
in resurrection light;
We listen for the teachings
once heard so calm and plain,**

for we, too, want to follow
and raise the victor strain.

3 Now let the heavens be joyful,
let earth its song begin,
the whole world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ again has risen,
our joy that has no end.

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

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"*
Kristina Langlois

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 *"Thine Is the Glory"* Tr. R. Birch Hoyle
#139 Red UCC Hymnal

**1 Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.**

Refrain:

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.**

**2 Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb.
Lovingly He greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;**

let His church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.
[Refrain]

**3 No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life!!
Life is nought without Thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors,
through Thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above.
[Refrain]**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

One: May our faith find voice and shout,

All: Christ is risen!

One: May our souls find purpose and shout,

All: Christ is risen!

One: May our voices find faith and shout,

All: Christ is risen!

May our hearts find life and shout,

All Christ is risen!

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 Sunday, March 31, 2024
<https://youtube.com/live/oMsoUX7oJnO>

This week's radio broadcast
is sponsored by Karlene Wallace
in memory of
Dolores Johnson, Berdella Carl,
And Tammy Marty.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, March 31st – EASTER Worship

- **10 AM** Deacon – JoAnn Wren
Greeter(s) – JoAnn & Wayne Voss
Usher(s) – Larry Marshall, Cris Hediger

Monday, April 1st –

- **9 AM** Card Making

Tuesday, April 2nd –

- **1 PM – Marge Goetsch Bible Study –**
*will meet in the lounge of church

Coffee fellowship after worship

Sign up now on the back bulletin board for
hosting future weeks.

Mar 31- EASTER – no fellowship

Apr 7 – Rodman's

Apr 14 – Bonnie Shaw

Apr 21 – Mission & Outreach Comm.

Apr 28 – Susie Karl

We thank the
following for their
donation of an Easter
Lily to decorate our
Sanctuary.



- † Rev. James & Karen Mohr - in memory of
parents; Rev. George & Dorothy Mohr,
Roy & Van Nelson
- † Leslie Hemp-Buchholz – in memory of
granddaughter, Haddie Alyn Hemp
- † Howie & Kathy Mathis –
- in honor of our family past and
present
- In gratitude for Pastor Jim Mohr
- In gratitude for Pastor Sue Vornholt
“their devotion to our church during this
past year”
- † Family of Betty Opelt – in loving memory
of our mom, Betty Opelt
- † Roger Carl – in loving memory of mom,
Berdella Carl
- † Anonymous – in praise of “Jesus’ Triumph”
- † Debbie & Joe Holman – in honor of
grandchildren; Alex, Lexi, Cody
- † Kevin & Jenny Erickson – in honor of our
family
- † In memory of Rene & Joan Harder from
their children & their families

*You may take your lily home
following Easter Service.*