

Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 9, 2024
United Church of Christ - Neillsville
Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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PRELUDE Meditation from *"Thais"* Jules Massenet
arr. Edward Broughton Karen Mohr

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Inspired by Psalm 138*)

Give thanks to the Lord with your whole heart -

We sing God's praises!

Give thanks for God's loyal love and faithfulness -

God's name and word is greater than everything else!

In times of trouble, when all seems hopeless, we cry
out to God.

And the Lord encourages us with inner strength.

When we feel lost and alone, we look for God.

And God finds us and brings us home.

When life is filled with joy and blessing, we dance and
praise God.

And God dances and rejoices with us.

God's faithful love lasts forever!

Thanks be to God!

HYMN *"In Christ There is No East or West"*
#394 NCH

**1 In Christ there is no East or West,
in Christ no South or North;
But one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
God's service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.**

**3 In Christ is neither Jew nor Greek,
and neither slave nor free;
For men and women live in God,
and all are kin to me.**

**4 In Christ now meet both East and West,
in Christ meet South and North;
One joyous, true community
throughout the whole wide earth.**

OPENING PRAYER (All)

Oh, Holy One your love indeed endures forever. We
pray for the presence of the Holy Spirit this day as we
worship together in beloved community, the realm of
your Love. Be with us in our singing and praising as
we share the Word together in Jesus' Name. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (All)

Dear God, the creator of all things based on love. You
created us in your image of love and there have been
times we have fallen short of that love, not only to
you but to each other and all of creation. I ask for
your forgiveness and from you, present today, my
siblings, sisters and brothers in Christ. I thank you for
the comforting strength and compassion of the Holy
Spirit to do better in bringing love and grace and all I
do. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

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 words such as
"The peace of Christ be with you, and the response:
"And also with you".

RESPONSE: *"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"*

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIRST LESSON

1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20

⁴Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, ⁵and said to him, “You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations.” ⁶But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, “Give us a king to govern us.” Samuel prayed to the Lord, ⁷and the Lord said to Samuel, “Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. ⁸Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. ⁹Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them.” ¹⁰So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king. ¹¹He said, “These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots;

¹⁶He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. ¹⁷He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves. ¹⁸And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the Lord will not answer you in that day.” ¹⁹But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said, “No! but we are determined to have a king over us, ²⁰so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles.”

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

¹³But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—“I believed, and so I spoke”—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. ¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. ⁵For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 3:20-35

²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸“Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— ³⁰for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” ³³And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

SERMON “Crazy Kin” Pastor Julie

HYMN “Who is My Mother, Who is My Brother?”
Words: Shirley Erena Murray; Music: Jack Schrader

**1 Who is my mother, who is my brother?
All those who gather round Jesus Christ:
Spirit-blown people born from the gospel
Sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.**

**2 Differently abled, differently labeled
Widen the circle round Jesus Christ,
Crutches and stigmas, cultures’ enigmas
All come together round Jesus Christ.**

**3 Love will relate us - color or status
Can’t segregate us, round Jesus Christ:
Family failings, human derailings -
All are accepted, round Jesus Christ.**

4 Bound by one vision, met for one mission
We claim each other, round Jesus Christ.
Here is my mother, here is my brother,
Kindred in Spirit, through Jesus Christ.

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
Doxology

Praise God the Source of life and birth.
Praise God the Word, who came to earth.
Praise God the Spirit, holy flame.
All glory, honor to God's name! Amen

Prayer of Dedication

Eternal God, Jesus teaches us that a house
divided cannot stand. Together, we offer
ourselves and our gifts, that they may be
used to extend your grace to others for your
glory, through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

HYMN "Help Us Accept Each Other"

#388 NCH Fred Kaan

1 Help us accept each other
as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother,
each person to embrace.
Be present, God, among us,
and bring us to believe
We are ourselves accepted
and meant to love and live.

2 Teach us, O God, your lessons,
as in our daily life
we struggle to be human
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may become.

3 Let your acceptance change us,
so that we may be moved
in living situations
to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance
until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness,
and laughter's healing art.

4 God, for today's encounters
with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance,
for righteous, and bread,
bring us new eyes for seeing,
new hands for holding on;
renew us with your Spirit;
God! Free us, make us one!

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

JOYS AND CONCERNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO BROADCAST

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

This week's radio broadcast
is sponsored anonymously
by "a faithful listener".

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, June 9, 2024
<https://youtube.com/live/rvFYu-hqn3g>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, June 9th -

- 9 AM Deacon Host – Wayne Voss
- Greeter(s) – Jenny Erickson, Carole Romens
- Usher(s) – Kevin Erickson, Cris Hediger

Tuesday, June 11th -

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

Wednesday, June 12th -

- 1 PM – Stewardship Meeting

Thursday, June 13th -

- 1:30 PM – Circle of Friends Meeting

Coffee fellowship after worship -

Sign up on back bulletin board

June 9 – Doris Bakker
June 16 –
June 23 –
June 30 -

We need people to sign up



9:00 AM now
thru Labor Day weekend



*Whoever does the
will of God is my
brother and sister
and mother.*

Mark 3:35, NRSV

JUNE 16, 2024

FARM TO TABLE GIVEAWAY

10:00-10:15 A.M.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST - NEILLSVILLE

515 WEST 2ND STREET

SUMMER SERVICES 9:00 A.M.

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