

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**June 23, 2024**  
United Church of Christ - Neillsville  
Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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**PRELUDE**

Deon Spangler

**RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

God alone laid the foundations of the earth.

**The morning stars sang together and all the heavenly  
beings shouted for joy.**

From the midst of the whirlwind, God speaks with  
power.

**We have seen the deeds of the Lord.**

God commands and raises the stormy wind  
and also makes the storm be still.

**We ourselves have seen the wondrous deeds of the  
Lord!**

**HYMN** *"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"* Isaac Watts  
#12 NCH

**1 I sing the mighty power of God  
that made the mountains rise,  
That spread the flowing seas abroad,  
and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.**

**2 I sing the goodness of our God  
that filled the earth with food;  
God formed the creatures with a word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Oh, how your wonders are displayed,  
where'er I turn my eye:  
If I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky!**

**3 On earth there's not a plant or flower  
but makes your glories known.  
The clouds arise and spread their showers  
by order from your throne.**

**All life is but a gift from you  
and ever in your care;  
Wherever people gather, you,  
O God, are present there.**

**OPENING PRAYER** (All)

**Mighty God, who speaks a word of peace to calm  
our troubled sea;**

**Caring God, who nudges us away from fear and  
toward faith;**

**Ever-present God, who fills us with awe but also  
raises many questions without easy answers;**

**Open our eyes to see you in our boat—today,  
Strengthen our hearts for the challenges that lie  
ahead,**

**Open our ears this hour to hear the word you  
speak.**

**This we pray, In Jesus' name. AMEN**

**PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

(All)

**God of love and power, we listen to the stories of  
miracles and doubt that these things can happen  
today. We look at the waves of misfortune,  
distress, misery, distrust, and anger and wonder  
how we can still those waves. We feel the  
pressures of power and fear flooding into our  
lives, threatening to drown us and wonder where  
you are. Forgive us for the littleness of our faith.  
Forgive us for our doubts. Help us to place our  
trust in you, Lord Jesus. Help us to fix our eyes on  
you and on the ministries to which you have called  
us. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**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:** *“Be Still and Know”*

**#743 NCH**

**Be still and know that I am God.**

**Be still and know that I am God.**

**Be still and know that I am God.**

## **CHILDREN’S TIME**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

#### **OLD TESTAMENT**

##### **Job 38:1-11 (NLT) The Lord Challenges Job**

38 Then the Lord answered Job from the whirlwind:

<sup>2</sup> “Who is this that questions my wisdom  
with such ignorant words?

<sup>3</sup> Brace yourself like a man,  
because I have some questions for you,  
and you must answer them.

<sup>4</sup> “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the  
earth?

Tell me, if you know so much.

<sup>5</sup> Who determined its dimensions  
and stretched out the surveying line?

<sup>6</sup> What supports its foundations,  
and who laid its cornerstone

<sup>7</sup> as the morning stars sang together  
and all the angels[a] shouted for joy?

<sup>8</sup> “Who kept the sea inside its boundaries  
as it burst from the womb,

<sup>9</sup> and as I clothed it with clouds  
and wrapped it in thick darkness?

<sup>10</sup> For I locked it behind barred gates,  
limiting its shores.

<sup>11</sup> I said, ‘This far and no farther will you come.  
Here your proud waves must stop!’

##### **Psalms 107:1-3, 23-32 (NLT)**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!  
His faithful love endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> Has the Lord redeemed you? Then speak out!  
Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.

<sup>3</sup> For he has gathered the exiles from many lands,  
from east and west,  
from north and south.

<sup>23</sup> Some went off to sea in ships,  
plying the trade routes of the world.

<sup>24</sup> They, too, observed the Lord’s power in action,  
his impressive works on the deepest seas.

<sup>25</sup> He spoke, and the winds rose,  
stirring up the waves.

<sup>26</sup> Their ships were tossed to the heavens  
and plunged again to the depths;  
the sailors cringed in terror.

<sup>27</sup> They reeled and staggered like drunkards  
and were at their wits’ end.

<sup>28</sup> “Lord, help!” they cried in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress.

<sup>29</sup> He calmed the storm to a whisper  
and stilled the waves.

<sup>30</sup> What a blessing was that stillness  
as he brought them safely into harbor!

<sup>31</sup> Let them praise the Lord for his great love  
and for the wonderful things he has done for them.

<sup>32</sup> Let them exalt him publicly before the congregation  
and before the leaders of the nation.

**RESPONSE:** *“Be Still and Know”*

**#743 NCH**

**Be still and know that I am God.**

**Be still and know that I am God.**

**Be still and know that I am God.**

#### **GOSPEL LESSON**

##### **Mark 4:35-41 (NLT) Jesus Calms the Storm**

<sup>35</sup> As evening came, Jesus said to his disciples,  
“Let’s cross to the other side of the lake.” <sup>36</sup> So they  
took Jesus in the boat and started out, leaving the  
crowds behind (although other boats followed). <sup>37</sup>  
But soon a fierce storm came up. High waves were  
breaking into the boat, and it began to fill with  
water.

<sup>38</sup> Jesus was sleeping at the back of the boat with  
his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him up,  
shouting, “Teacher, don’t you care that we’re  
going to drown?”

<sup>39</sup> When Jesus woke up, he rebuked the wind and  
said to the waves, “Silence! Be still!” Suddenly the  
wind stopped, and there was a great calm. <sup>40</sup> Then  
he asked them, “Why are you afraid? Do you still  
have no faith?”

<sup>41</sup> The disciples were absolutely terrified. “Who is  
this man?” they asked each other. “Even the wind  
and waves obey him!”

**SERMON** “Peace! Be Still!” Pastor Julie

**HYMN** *“Be Still, My Soul”* Katharina von Schlegel

**#488 NCH**

**1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side;  
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to your God to order and provide;  
in every change God faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: your best eternal friend  
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

**2 Be still, my soul: for God will undertake to guide in future days as in the past. Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know how Jesus' power ruled them long ago.**

**3 Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall be with God whom we adore, with disappointment, no grief nor fear, sorrow replaced with joy forevermore. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

## 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

**We return to you, O God, the gifts you have given, that this money and our lives might bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

### HYMN "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me"

**#441 NCH** Lyrics: Edward Hopper  
Tune: PILOT John E. Gould

1 Jesus, Savior, pilot me  
over life's tempestuous sea;  
Unknown waves before me roll,  
hiding rock and treacherous shoal;  
Chart and compass ever be;  
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

2 As a mother stills her child,  
you can hush the ocean wild;  
Boisterous waves obey your will  
when you say to them, "Be still."

Wondrous sovereign of the sea,  
Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

3 When at last I near the shore,  
and the fearful breakers roar,  
Keeping me from peaceful rest,  
then, while leaning on your breast,  
May I hear your words so true,  
"Fear not, I will pilot you."

## COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

### POSTLUDE

### JOYS AND CONCERNS



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **RADIO BROADCAST**

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

**This week's radio broadcast is  
in honor of Clarence & Anita Miller  
sponsored by their children.**

## 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 23, 2024  
<https://youtube.com/live/LKhqjmYSoUY>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Sunday, June 16th – Worship**

**- 9 AM** Deacon Host – Karlene Wallace  
Greeter(s) – Steve & Leslie Buchholz  
Usher(s) – Paul Vine, Kelley Burch

### **Tuesday, June 25th -**

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

### **Coffee fellowship after worship -**

Sign up on back bulletin board

June 23 – Bob & Barb Petkovsek  
June 30 - Mathis'  
July 7 -

We need people to sign up

### **Installation for Pastor Julie Ruegsegger**

**July 21, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at UCC-Neillsville**

A special worship service will be held in our sanctuary on Sunday, July 21, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. to formally install Julie Ruegsegger as Pastor of the United Church of Christ in Neillsville. Installation confirms and celebrates the covenantal relationship among the Northwest Association, the local church and the pastor. Installation is a sign that these covenantal partners are committed to share mutually in the mission of the United Church of Christ and of the ecumenical church.

All members are encouraged to attend this special worship service and celebrate this milestone in the life of the church. Clergy and representatives from the Northwest Association will be present to share in this covenant, and visitors from Pastor Julie's home church, family and friends plan to attend to support her and this church. Refreshments will be served after the service. We look forward to celebrating together!

