

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

July 28, 2024

United Church of Christ - Neillsville

Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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RINGING OF THE CARILLON

PRELUDE "Just As I Am" Dale Wood
Karen Mohr

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rejoice, folks, Jesus is in our midst.
Feed us, Jesus, and fill us with hope.
Be glad, friends, Jesus has bread and fish to spare.
**Free us, Jesus, from the pursuit of food
that does not satisfy.**
Sing for joy, people of God; God gathers up the pieces
of our lives, that nothing may be lost.
Thanks be to God!

OPENING PRAYER (All)

**God of our hopes and dreams, we are empty, and
long to be filled; we are hungry, and long to be fed;
we are lost, and long to be found. Gather us into
your love, and pick up the pieces of our lives, just as
Jesus gathered up the fragments of the five loaves
and two fish that remained after feeding the five
thousand. Call us anew to eat our fill and to find our
true nourishment in Jesus, the bread of heaven.
Amen.**

HYMN "Break Now the Bread of Life"
#321 NCH Mary A. Lathbury

**1 Break now the bread of life, Savior, to me,
as you once broke the loaves beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord;
my spirit yearns for you, O Living Word.**

**2 Bless now the truth, dear Christ, to me, to me,
as you once blessed the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, all shackles fall,
and I shall find my peace, my all in all.**

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION

**You know how we are, Lord. We say that we will
take time to refresh our spirits and our souls and
then we quickly crowd our lives with activities to the
point of exhaustion. We turn to you for feeding and
nurture, asking you to give us something to sustain
us through our times. We even are willing to tell you
what we have, but when we look closely, we
discover that we bring so little to you. Take what we
have, our gifts and our needs. Heal and forgive us
when we boldly disobey your word. Remind us that
you have given to us all that we need to serve you in
this world. The world abounds with your miracles of
love and hope. Open our eyes to see them and our
hearts to know that these are from you and not of
our own making. Heal and restore us to your
everlasting love. In Jesus' Name, we pray. 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: "Sanctuary"

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
Pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT 2 Kings 4:42-44 (NLT)

⁴² One day a man from Baal-shalishah brought the
man of God a sack of fresh grain and twenty loaves of
barley bread made from the first grain of his harvest.
Elisha said, "Give it to the people so they can eat."

⁴³ "What?" his servant exclaimed. "Feed a hundred
people with only this?"

But Elisha repeated, "Give it to the people so they can eat, for this is what the Lord says: Everyone will eat, and there will even be some left over!"⁴⁴ And when they gave it to the people, there was plenty for all and some left over, just as the Lord had promised.

OLD TESTAMENT **Psalm 145:10-18 (NLT)**

- ¹⁰ All of your works will thank you, Lord,
and your faithful followers will praise you.
- ¹¹ They will speak of the glory of your kingdom;
they will give examples of your power.
- ¹² They will tell about your mighty deeds
and about the majesty and glory of your reign.
- ¹³ For your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom.
You rule throughout all generations.
The Lord always keeps his promises;
he is gracious in all he does.
- ¹⁴ The Lord helps the fallen
and lifts those bent beneath their loads.
- ¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you in hope;
you give them their food as they need it.
- ¹⁶ When you open your hand,
you satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living
thing.
- ¹⁷ The Lord is righteous in everything he does;
he is filled with kindness.
- ¹⁸ The Lord is close to all who call on him,
yes, to all who call on him in truth.

NEW TESTAMENT **Ephesians 3:14-21 (NLT)**

Paul's Prayer for Spiritual Growth

- ¹⁴ When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father,¹⁵ the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth.¹⁶ I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.¹⁷ Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong.¹⁸ And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is.¹⁹ May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.
- ²⁰ Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.²¹ Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

HYMN "Spirit Song"

Words and Music: John Wimber

**1 O let the Son of God enfold you
with his Spirit and his love.
Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul.
O let him have the things that hold you,
and his Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.**

Refrain:

**Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.
Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.**

**2 O come and sing this song with gladness as
your hearts are filled with joy.
Lift your hands in sweet surrender to his name.
O give him all your tears and sadness;
give him all your years of pain,
and you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.**

Refrain

NEW TESTAMENT **John 6:1-21 (NLT)**

Jesus Feeds Five Thousand

- ⁶ After this, Jesus crossed over to the far side of the Sea of Galilee, also known as the Sea of Tiberias.² A huge crowd kept following him wherever he went, because they saw his miraculous signs as he healed the sick.³ Then Jesus climbed a hill and sat down with his disciples around him.⁴ (It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover celebration.)⁵ Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, "Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?"⁶ He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do.
- ⁷ Philip replied, "Even if we worked for months, we wouldn't have enough money to feed them!"
- ⁸ Then Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up.⁹ "There's a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?"
- ¹⁰ "Tell everyone to sit down," Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.)¹¹ Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted.¹² After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, "Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted."¹³ So they picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves.

¹⁴ When the people saw him do this miraculous sign, they exclaimed, "Surely, he is the Prophet we have been expecting!" ¹⁵ When Jesus saw that they were ready to force him to be their king, he slipped away into the hills by himself.

Jesus Walks on Water

¹⁶ That evening Jesus' disciples went down to the shore to wait for him. ¹⁷ But as darkness fell and Jesus still hadn't come back, they got into the boat and headed across the lake toward Capernaum. ¹⁸ Soon a gale swept down upon them, and the sea grew very rough. ¹⁹ They had rowed three or four miles when suddenly they saw Jesus walking on the water toward the boat. They were terrified, ²⁰ but he called out to them, "Don't be afraid. I am here!" ²¹ Then they were eager to let him in the boat, and immediately they arrived at their destination!

SERMON "Baskets Overflowing" Pastor Julie

HYMN "Where is Bread?" Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
NETTLETON 8.7.8.7 D ("Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing")

"Where is bread?" the great crowd murmured —
Thousands strong, yet all in need.
"Where is bread?" your people wondered,
Faced with such a crowd to feed.
Who, Lord Jesus, could have guessed it?
One small boy brought food to share.
Taking what he gave, you blessed it;
All were fed, with much to spare.

Where is bread? We know their yearning;
Every day, we wish for more.
God, in time, we're slowly learning:
All we own can make us poor.
Our possessions can possess us,
Leaving hunger deep inside.
Christ our Bread, come now and bless us;
At your feast, we're satisfied.

"Where is bread?" the call is rising;
Millions cry who must be fed.
God, your answer seems surprising:
"You, my Church, you give them bread."
Bread to fill each hungry spirit,
Bread for hungry stomachs, too!
Give us bread and help us share it.
Richly blest, may we serve you.

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 "Theme of the Blessed Spirit"

C.W. Van Gluck

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 (All)

**God of abundant love, in you, nothing is lost.
Gather our offerings, as Jesus gathered up the baskets of leftover food.
Gather our efforts, as Jesus gathered the hopes of the people who looked for a true king.
Gather our service, as Jesus gathered people to God's heavenly banquet.
Bless the offerings we have gathered,
that nothing may be lost. Amen.**

HYMN "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

#347 NCH vs. 1 and 3 Fred Kaan

**1 Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy.
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

Refrain:

**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again;
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share.
God (Emmanuel) everywhere! [Refrain]**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO BROADCAST

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



This week's radio broadcast is sponsored by
Ellie Keller and Doris Bakker
remembering Jenni Peterson
on her birthday and praying
that she comes back home to us.

Coffee fellowship after worship -
Sign up on back bulletin board

July 28 - Sharon Buddenhagen
Aug 4 - Donita & Phil Follen
Aug 11 - FAIR SERVICE -separate sheet for signup
Aug 18 -
Aug 25 -

We need people to sign up

WELCOME

We welcome you to our service of worship!
We are glad that you have joined us on site,
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, July 28, 2024
<https://youtube.com/live/2iQbCnalQgw>



AUGUST
NEWSLETTER

Please submit your
articles or news to
the office by
Tues., July 30th

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, July 28th -

- **9 AM** Deacon Host - Byrl Buddenhagen
Greeter(s) - Wendy Sigurdson & grandkids
Usher(s) - Kirk & Nancy Rodman
PowerPoint - Barb Petkovsek

Bonnie Weyer