

**“Thank You Sunday”**  
**Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**November 10, 2024**  
United Church of Christ - Neillsville  
Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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**RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

**PRELUDE**

Holly Pisors

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, take your rest this day  
**Lord, free us from the stresses we have endured this week.**

Come, put your minds at ease.

**Lord, ease the burdens and frustrations of our lives.**  
Come. For this is the house of the Lord. It is here that you will find peace.

**Praise and thanks be to God for giving us sanctuary!**

**OPENING PRAYER** (All)

**Lord, we have come to you this day bringing all that we have, our lives, our hopes and dreams, our fears and sorrows. We place these before you in faith and hope, knowing that no matter what has happened you are with us and blessing us. Open our hearts to receive your words and your spirit, that we may find healing and comfort. Open our lives to the wondrous possibilities for service and joy that you offer to us. Amen.**

**HYMN** *“God Whose Giving Knows No Ending”*

**#565 NCH (vs 1-3)** Robert Edwards

**1 God, whose giving knows no ending,  
From your rich and endless store:  
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,  
Costly cross, grave's shattered door,  
Gifted by you, we turn to you,  
Off'ring up ourselves in praise;  
Thankful song shall rise forever,  
Gracious donor of our days.**

**2 Skills and time are ours for serving,  
That your will on earth be done:**

**All at peace in health and freedom,  
Races joined, the Church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor,  
Lest we strive for self alone;  
Born with talents, make us servants  
Fit to answer at your throne.**

**3 Treasure, too, you have entrusted,  
Gain through pow'rs Your grace conferred;  
Ours to use for home and kindred,  
And to spread the gospel Word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing,  
As we heed Christ's ageless call,  
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,  
Honoring you by loving all.**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

As forgiven and reconciled children of God, let us share with one another signs of peace and love.

One: The Peace of God be with you.

**Many: And also 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:** *“In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful”*

#448 WR

**In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,  
In the Lord I will rejoice!  
Look to God, do not be afraid.  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near;  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.**

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

M.E. Sjolin

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**HYMN** *“How Can I Say Thanks”* Andrae' Crouch

**#14 NCH**

**How can I say thanks for the things  
you have done for me?  
Things so undeserved, yet you gave  
to prove your love for me;**

**The voices of a million angels  
could not express my gratitude.  
All that I am and ever hope to be,  
I owe it all to you.**

**To God be the glory, to God be the glory,  
To God be the glory for the things you have done.  
With your blood you have saved me;  
With your pow'r you have raised me;  
To God be the glory for the things you have done.**

**Just let me live my life - let it be pleasing unto you;  
And if I gain any praise, let it go to glorify you.  
With your blood you have saved me;  
With your pow'r you have raised me;  
To God be the glory for the things you have done.**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

#### **OLD TESTAMENT      1 Kings 17:8-16 (CEB)**

<sup>8</sup>The Lord's word came to Elijah: <sup>9</sup>Get up and go to Zarephath near Sidon and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to take care of you. <sup>10</sup>Elijah left and went to Zarephath. As he came to the town gate, he saw a widow collecting sticks. He called out to her, "Please get a little water for me in this cup so I can drink." <sup>11</sup>She went to get some water. He then said to her, "Please get me a piece of bread."

<sup>12</sup>"As surely as the Lord your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any food; only a handful of flour in a jar and a bit of oil in a bottle. Look at me. I'm collecting two sticks so that I can make some food for myself and my son. We'll eat the last of the food and then die."

<sup>13</sup>Elijah said to her, "Don't be afraid! Go and do what you said. Only make a little loaf of bread for me first. Then bring it to me. You can make something for yourself and your son after that. <sup>14</sup>This is what Israel's God, the Lord, says: The jar of flour won't decrease and the bottle of oil won't run out until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth." <sup>15</sup>The widow went and did what Elijah said. So the widow, Elijah, and the widow's household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup>The jar of flour didn't decrease nor did the bottle of oil run out, just as the Lord spoke through Elijah.

#### **NEW TESTAMENT      Mark 12:38-44 (CEB)**

<sup>38</sup>As he was teaching, he said, "Watch out for the legal experts. They like to walk around in long robes. They want to be greeted with honor in the markets. <sup>39</sup>They long for places of honor in the synagogues and at banquets. <sup>40</sup>They are the ones who cheat widows out

of their homes, and to show off they say long prayers. They will be judged most harshly."

<sup>41</sup>Jesus sat across from the collection box for the temple treasury and observed how the crowd gave their money. Many rich people were throwing in lots of money. <sup>42</sup>One poor widow came forward and put in two small copper coins worth a penny. <sup>43</sup>Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I assure you that this poor widow has put in more than everyone who's been putting money in the treasury. <sup>44</sup>All of them are giving out of their spare change. But she from her hopeless poverty has given everything she had, even what she needed to live on."

**SERMON** "The Widow's Might"      Pastor Julie

**HYMN** "All Things Are Yours" Brian Jeffery Leech  
#687 W&R (verses 1-3)

**1 All things are yours!  
We make that true when we return our gifts to you.  
And so we give, and so we share  
In Christ's strong name expressing care.**

**2 "Give out of love," your Word commands,  
We are your head, your heart, your hands.  
Your Word you underscore with deeds  
By using us to answer needs.**

**3 O what a joy to give and then,  
Out of compassion, give again.  
You have no needs. Though that be true,  
The gifts we share are given to 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

Doxology "For the Life That You Have Given"

#684 WR      Carl P. Daw, Jr.

**For the life that you have given,  
For the love in Christ made known,**

With these fruits of time and labor,  
With these gifts that are your own:  
Here we offer, Lord, our praises;  
Heart and mind and strength we bring;  
Give us grace to love and serve you,  
Living what we pray and sing.

#### Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, we come to you in thanksgiving,  
knowing that all we are and all we have is a gift  
from you. We offer our gifts of time, talent and  
possessions to you as a true act of faith, to reflect  
our love for you and our neighbor. Amen.

#### HYMN "We Are Called"

#102 Hymns of Promise Words and Music: David Haas

##### **1 Come! Live in the light!**

Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!

We are called to be light for the kingdom,  
to live in the freedom of the city of God.

##### *Refrain:*

We are called to act with justice,

We are called to love tenderly;

We are called to serve one another,

To walk humbly with God.

##### **2 Come! Open your heart!**

Show your mercy to all those in fear!

We are called to be hope for the hopeless  
so hatred and blindness will be no more.

##### *Refrain*

##### **3 Sing! Sing a new song!**

Sing of that great day when all will be one!

God will reign, and we'll walk with each other  
as sisters and brothers united in love.

##### *Refrain*

#### JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### HYMN "We Are Called" (Refrain)

Words and Music: David Haas

##### *Refrain:*

We are called to act with justice,

We are called to love tenderly;

We are called to serve one another,

To walk humbly with God.

#### COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE



For thus says the LORD the God of Israel:

**The jar of meal  
will not be emptied  
and the jug of oil**

**will not fail ...**

1 KINGS 17:14, NRSV

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### RADIO BROADCAST

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

#### Thank You Cards

The stewardship committee encourages you to pass on the feeling of gratitude by taking a "thank you" card and use it to express thankfulness to someone you appreciate, who has done good things for you or others!! Consider sending a card to a church member, a family member, a friend, or a worker in the community.

YouTube link for Sunday, November 10, 2024

<https://youtube.com/live/8VfwEnL5KyM>

This week's radio broadcast is  
sponsored by Paul Vine & Kelley Burch  
in honor of Gordon & Faith Vine.

## 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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Sunday, November 10th –

- **10 AM** Deacon Host – Sally Sadowska  
Greeter(s) – Barb & Ken Shoemaker  
Usher(s) – Jenny & Kevin Erickson  
PowerPoint – Emile Miller

### -“Thank You” Sunday

with light lunch following worship

### Tuesday, November 12th –

- **1 PM Bible Study**

### Thursday, November 14th –

- **1:30 PM Circle of Friends Meeting**

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

Sign up on back bulletin board

|  |
|--|
| Nov 10 – Stewardship Committee (light lunch) |
| Nov 17 – Susie Karl                          |
| Nov 24-                                      |
| Dec 1 –                                      |
| Dec 8 -                                      |

We need people to sign up



**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11th  
VETERAN'S DAY**

Father, bless our veterans and all who serve  
our nation defending our freedom.

For those who bravely gave their lives,  
grant them eternal rest.

For those who are serving, give them courage.  
For those who served, we offer our gratitude.  
We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

