

Reign of Christ Sunday

November 24, 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

We enter this place with thanksgiving
because we know that the Lord to whom we belong
is our Shepherd and our King

**We rejoice over the steadfast love and faithfulness of
God enduring forever—to all generations.**

Come, let us worship God with praise and joy,
and with thanksgiving in our hearts.

OPENING PRAYER OF PRAISE (All)

We come this day, rejoicing, in the presence of the
King of Kings, Jesus Christ. At his birth the angels
proclaimed his name to be Emmanuel, God with us.
Today in this place, in this time of worship, may we
truly feel the power and presence of Jesus Christ in
our lives. May our hearts and spirits be warmed and
challenged to proclaim with our lives, "Christ is
Lord!". AMEN.

HYMN "We Praise You, O God"

#420 NCH Julia C. Cory

**1 We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.**

**2 We worship you, God of our mothers and fathers;
through life's storm and tempest our guide you have
been.**

**When perils o'er take us, you never will forsake us,
and with your help, O God, in life's struggles we win.**

**3 With voices united our praises we offer,
and gladly our song of thanksgiving we raise.
Our sins now confessing, we pray for your blessing;
to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!**

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 W&R

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.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above,
**so we lift our hearts up to you, God,
in praise and thanksgiving.**

As we count our blessings, and acknowledge your
goodness,

**our hearts go out to those who do not have,
and who are in need.**

We thank you for plentiful harvests and full
refrigerators

**and ask that you supply the needs of those who are
hungry.**

We thank you for jobs that provide for our families
and supply the needs of our society,

**and pray that you would care for those who have no
work, or the dignity and purpose it brings.**

We thank you for opportunities and choices,
for meaning and challenges,

**and pray that you would give a sense of purpose
to those who feel trapped.**

We thank you for family and friends who love us and care for us
and pray that you would befriend those who are alone.

The abundance of the harvest
is a symbol of the abundance of your love in our lives.
**May we live in a spirit of gratitude to you
and generosity to our neighbor.**

Loving God, in this season and all year long,
**give us the gift of a thankful heart,
so that we may acknowledge you as the giver
of all that is good in our lives.**
Amen.

HYMN *"Give Thanks"* Henry Smith
#359 W&R

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
Let the poor say, "I am rich,
Because of what the Lord has done for us."**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
Let the poor say, "I am rich,
Because of what the Lord has done for us."
Give Thanks!**

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READINGS

NEW TESTAMENT Revelation 1:4b-8

^{4b} Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come; from the seven spirits before his throne; ⁵ and from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world.

All glory to him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by shedding his blood for us. ⁶ He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

⁷ Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven.
And everyone will see him—
even those who pierced him.
And all the nations of the world
will mourn for him.

Yes! Amen!

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. "I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One."

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 93 (Responsive)

¹ The Lord is king! He is robed in majesty.

**Indeed, the Lord is robed in majesty and armed
with strength. The world stands firm and cannot be
shaken.**

² Your throne, O Lord, has stood from time
immemorial.

You yourself are from the everlasting past.

³ The floods have risen up, O Lord.

**The floods have roared like thunder;
the floods have lifted their pounding waves.**

⁴ But mightier than the violent raging of the seas,
mightier than the breakers on the shore—
the Lord above is mightier than these!

⁵ Your royal laws cannot be changed.

Your reign, O Lord, is holy forever and ever.

NEW TESTAMENT John 18:33-38a

³³ Then Pilate went back into his headquarters and called for Jesus to be brought to him. "Are you the king of the Jews?" he asked him.

³⁴ Jesus replied, "Is this your own question, or did others tell you about me?"

³⁵ "Am I a Jew?" Pilate retorted. "Your own people and their leading priests brought you to me for trial. Why? What have you done?"

³⁶ Jesus answered, "My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But my Kingdom is not of this world."

³⁷ Pilate said, "So you are a king?"

Jesus responded, "You say I am a king. Actually, I was born and came into the world to testify to the truth. All who love the truth recognize that what I say is true."

³⁸ "What is truth?" Pilate asked.

SERMON "What Is Truth" Pastor Julie

HYMN *“Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing”*

#303 NCH (vs 1-3) Charles Wesley

1 Rejoice, give thanks and sing; your Sovereign God adore!

For Christ has robbed death’s sting and triumphs evermore.

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2 Our Savior Jesus reigns, the God of truth and love;
The Lamb who purged our stains is crowned with power above.

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

3 Christ Jesus cannot fail to rule both earth and heaven;

The keys of death and hell are to the Savior given.

Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

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

With gratitude for all the blessings you have poured into our lives, Lord Jesus, we come bringing these our gifts that they may be used in service to those in need. Bless these gifts and those who have given them, that they may truly be a blessing in your holy name. AMEN.

HYMN *God Reigns O’er All the Earth”*

#21 NCH (vs 1-3) Jane Parker Huber

1 God reigns o’er all the earth!

Green hills and valleys low,

The farms and towns in golds and browns

God’s grace and beauty show.

God reigns o’er all the earth!

Stone banks and spreading plains,

In rainbow hues - reds, yellows, blues -

Of streams and country lanes.

2 God reigns o’er human life!

Through youth and aging years,

In death, in birth, in grief, in mirth,

In all our hopes and fears.

God reigns o’er human life! Our inspiration still.

Through all our schemes, in all our dreams,

We see God’s reigning will.

3 God reigns o’er time and space!

In history’s bygone days,

Christ’s faithful folk in reverence spoke

To bring God earnest praise.

God reigns o’er time and space!

O’er galaxy and sun,

Through timeless years the cosmos hears

The heavenly music run.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

HYMN *God Reigns O’er All the Earth”*

#21 NCH (vs 4)

4 God reigns! Emmanuel!

God with us every day,

In all our past and to the last,

Our comfort and our stay.

God reigns! Emmanuel!

Let praise to Christ be sung!

God’s presence here makes all things dear,

Let joyful bells be rung!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Holly Pisors



ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO BROADCAST

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

YouTube link for Sunday, November 24, 2024

<https://youtube.com/live/eGrzqWnULGQ>

This week's radio broadcast is sponsored by Jerry Quicker in loving memory of sons, Mike & Paul Quicker.

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 24th –

- **10 AM** Deacon Host – Janice Miller
Greeter(s) – Byrl & Sharon Buddenhagen
Usher(s) – Kirk & Nancy Rodman
PowerPoint – Crispin Hediger

Monday, November 25th –

-after school –Christmas Tree decorating in Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 26th –

- 1 PM Bible Study

Coffee fellowship after worship -
Sign up on back bulletin board

Nov 24- Doris Bakker

Dec 1 – Mathis'

Dec 8 –

Dec 15 – Christian Ed

We need people to sign up

We are now taking poinsettia orders to



enjoy them earlier during the Christmas Season. They can be ordered in honor of, in memory of - the cost is \$17- red,

white, pink, salmon colors are available. – please contact the church office to place your order. **Deadline for ordering is December 5th.** Make your checks out to UCC.



for the December Newsletter by Friday, November 29th into the church office.