

**Second Sunday after Epiphany**  
**January 19, 2025**  
United Church of Christ - Neillsville  
Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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**RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

**PRELUDE** Prelude & Fugato on "Crusader's Hymn"  
Gordon Young Karen Mohr

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

How can we keep still this day?

**There is joy in this place!**

God's steadfast love extends to everyone.

**God reaches out to us all in forgiveness and  
compassion.**

Thanks to God for all the wonderful blessings we  
have received.

**Let us celebrate God's joyful love for and with us!  
AMEN.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

Lord, open our hearts to the surprising ways in  
which you offer to us your love and your presence.  
Help us to truly believe in the wondrous ways that  
you work in our lives. Give us hearts and spirits for  
service to you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. **AMEN.**

**HYMN** "Jesus, Come, For We Invite You"  
#669 W&R

**1 Jesus, come, for we invite you,  
Guest and master, friend and Lord;  
Now, as once at Cana's wedding,  
Speak, and let us hear your word:  
Lead us through our need or doubting,  
Hope be born and joy restored.**

**2 Jesus, come! Transform our pleasures,  
Guide us into paths unknown;  
Bring your gifts, command your servants,  
Let us trust in you alone:  
Though your hand may work in secret,  
All shall see what you have done.**

**3 Jesus, come in new creation,  
Heav'n brought near by pow'r divine;  
Give your unexpected glory,  
Changing water into wine:  
Rouse the faith of your disciples -  
Come, our first and greatest Sign!**

**4 Jesus, come! Surprise our dullness;  
Make us willing to receive  
More than we can yet imagine,  
All the best you have to give:  
Let us find your hidden riches,  
Taste your love, believe, and live!**

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION**

Lord, we need a miracle today. We are tired of the  
hurts of this world. We are discouraged in the face  
of injustice, war, poverty, and indifference. Help us  
to really understand the miraculous ways in which  
you have already worked in our lives and will  
continue to work as we journey in faith. Bring to us  
the Light of Joy, and let it flood through our whole  
beings, that we may be transformed into people of  
joyful service and faith. In Jesus' Name, we pray.  
**AMEN.**

**WORDS OF GRACE** *Psalm 36:5-10*

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

As forgiven and blessed 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:** "*Arise, Your Light is Come*"  
#164 NCH verse 1

**Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;  
Show forth the glory of your God  
which shines on you today!**

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

#### **NEW TESTAMENT 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (NLT)**

##### *Spiritual Gifts*

<sup>1</sup>Now, dear brothers and sisters, regarding your question about the special abilities the Spirit gives us. I don't want you to misunderstand this. <sup>2</sup>You know that when you were still pagans, you were led astray and swept along in worshiping speechless idols. <sup>3</sup>So I want you to know that no one speaking by the Spirit of God will curse Jesus, and no one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>4</sup>There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. <sup>5</sup>There are different kinds of service, but we serve the same Lord. <sup>6</sup>God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

<sup>7</sup>A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. <sup>8</sup>To one person the Spirit gives the ability to give wise advice; to another the same Spirit gives a message of special knowledge. <sup>9</sup>The same Spirit gives great faith to another, and to someone else the one Spirit gives the gift of healing. <sup>10</sup>He gives one person the power to perform miracles, and another the ability to prophesy. He gives someone else the ability to discern whether a message is from the Spirit of God or from another spirit. Still another person is given the ability to speak in unknown languages, while another is given the ability to interpret what is being said. <sup>11</sup>It is the one and only Spirit who distributes all these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have.

#### **NEW TESTAMENT John 2:1-11**

##### *The Wedding at Cana*

<sup>1</sup>The next day there was a wedding celebration in the village of Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, <sup>2</sup>and Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration. <sup>3</sup>The wine supply ran out during the festivities, so Jesus' mother told him, "They have no more wine."

<sup>4</sup>"Dear woman, that's not our problem," Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."

<sup>5</sup>But his mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

<sup>6</sup>Standing nearby were six stone water jars, used for Jewish ceremonial washing. Each could hold twenty to thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup>Jesus told the servants, "Fill the jars with water." When the jars had been filled, <sup>8</sup>he said, "Now dip some out, and take it to the master of ceremonies." So the servants followed his instructions.

<sup>9</sup>When the master of ceremonies tasted the water that was now wine, not knowing where it had come from (though, of course, the servants knew), he called the bridegroom over. <sup>10</sup>"A host always serves the best wine first," he said. "Then, when everyone has had a lot to drink, he brings out the less expensive wine. But you have kept the best until now!"

<sup>11</sup>This miraculous sign at Cana in Galilee was the first time Jesus revealed his glory. And his disciples believed in him.

**SERMON** "Celebrating Gifts" Pastor Julie

**HYMN** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

**#495 NCH**

Jane Parker Huber

**1 Called as partners in Christ's service,  
Called to ministries of grace,  
We respond with deep commitment  
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing,  
Side by side and friend with friend,  
Equal partners in our caring  
To fulfill God's chosen end.**

**2 Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,  
Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer,  
All God's people, young and old,  
Blending human skills together  
Gracious gifts from God unfold.**

**3 Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,  
In a small or global sense,  
Help us bear each other's burdens,  
Breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision,  
Words of challenge, said with care,  
Bring new power and strength for action,  
Make us colleagues, free and fair.**

4 So God grant us for tomorrow  
Ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow  
With a claim that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living,  
Our compassion to increase,  
Messengers of faith, thus giving  
Hope and confidence and peace.

#### 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 Chorale from "The Organ Symphony"  
Camille Saint-Saëns

##### 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

Holy One, may our gifts declare your glory and benefit the common good. Receive them with our gratitude for your generosity and the opportunity to participate in your kin-dom on earth. Amen.

##### HYMN "Blessed Be the Tie that Binds"

#393 NCH (vs 1-3) John Fawcett

1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in  
Christian love;  
The sharing of a common life is like to that above.

2 Before our God we come and pour our ardent  
prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts  
and our cares.

3 We share each other's woes, each other's burdens  
bear,  
And often for each other flows a sympathizing tear.

#### JOYS AND CONCERNS

##### HYMN "Blessed Be the Tie that Binds"

#393 NCH vs 4

4 When we are called to part it gives us inward  
pain,  
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to  
meet again.

#### BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE

Karen Mohr

#### 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 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, January 19, 2025

[https://youtube.com/live/vigy2xZ\\_eHg](https://youtube.com/live/vigy2xZ_eHg)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Sunday, January 19th –

- **10 AM** Deacon Host – JoAnn Wren
- Greeter(s) – Linda Stalsberg, Carla Marty
- Usher(s) – Hap Eddy, Roger Carl
- PowerPoint – Barb Petkovsek

- **5:30 PM** – Confirmation Class

### Tuesday, January 21st –

- **1 PM** Bible Study
- **5:30 PM** – Trustees Meeting

### Wednesday, January 22nd -

- **5 PM** JAM at Calvary

### Coffee fellowship after worship -

Sign up on back bulletin board

Jan 19 – Wendy Sigurdson

Jan 26 – Rodman's

Feb 2 –

Feb 9 – Susie & Russ Karl

We need people to sign up



Please make plans to attend **Sunday Worship Service on January 26<sup>th</sup>** for **SPECIAL MUSIC by the Clark County Male Chorus**. They will be making a stop here in Neillsville to perform at several area churches that morning.

We will once again be collecting soup for the local food pantry.

We are challenged by the Calvary Lutheran Church and St. Mary's Catholic Church to see who can bring in the most cans.

**Please bring in before Super Bowl Sunday – February 9<sup>th</sup>**



*Meal  
Giveaway*

*January 19, 2025*

*UCC - Neillsville*

*515 West Second Street*

*10:45-11:00 AM*



If you plan to apply for a church camp scholarship from the Marian Ray Fund, applications are due **March 1, 2025**.