

Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 26, 2025
United Church of Christ - Neillsville
Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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RINGING OF THE CARILLON

PRELUDE Ashley Volovsek

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

God calls us to be builders as well.

God calls us to build our lives:

To restore broken places and continue to grow.

God calls us to build our faith:

To study the Word and ponder its interpretation.

God calls us to build our community:

To build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.

God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture:

To preach the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SPECIAL MUSIC Clark County Male Chorus

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 Ruth Duck

1 Arise, your light is come!

The Spirit's call obey;

**Show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today!**

**2 Arise, your light is come!
Fling wide the prison door;
Proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.**

**3 Arise, your light is come!
All you in sorrow born,
Bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.**

**4 Arise, your light is come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God's power will make us strong!**

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT Psalm 19

¹The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. ²Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. ³They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. ⁴Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. God has made a home in the heavens for the sun.

⁵It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding. It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race. ⁶The sun rises at one end of the heavens and follows its course to the other end. Nothing can hide from its heat.

⁷The instructions of the Lord are perfect, reviving the soul. The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. ⁸The commandments of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are clear, giving insight for living. ⁹Reverence for the Lord is pure, lasting forever. The laws of the Lord are true; each one is fair. ¹⁰They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold. They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb.

¹¹ They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them. ¹² How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults. ¹³ Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.

¹⁴ May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

NEW TESTAMENT Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴ Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power. Reports about him spread quickly through the whole region. ¹⁵ He taught regularly in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶ When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures.

¹⁷ The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, ¹⁹ and that the time of the Lord's favor has come."

²⁰ He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. ²¹ Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!"

SERMON "Speak Up" Pastor Julie

HYMN "Community of Christ"
#314 NCH Shirley Erena Murray

**1 Community of Christ, who make the Cross your own,
Live out your creed and risk your life for God alone:
The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong,
Whose children are of every race and every song.**

**2 Community of Christ, look past the church's door
And see the refugee, the hungry, and the poor.
Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street,**

Take towel and water, that you wash your neighbor's feet.

3 Community of Christ, through whom the word must sound -

Cry out for justice and for peace the whole world round:

**Disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy,
Turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.**

4 When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done,

**The climate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun;
Our currency be love and kindness our law,
Our food and faith be shared as one forever-more.**

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

God of life and of new life, bless these gifts that we have given that they may further your reign in this world. Amen.

HYMN "Christ for the World! We Sing"

#561 W & R (vs 1-3) Samuel Wolcott

**1 Christ for the world! We sing:
The world to Christ we bring with loving zeal -
The poor and them that mourn, the faint and overborne,
Sin-sick and sorrow-worn, for Christ to heal.**

**2 Christ for the world! We sing:
The world to Christ we bring with fervent prayer -
The wayward and the lost, by restless passions
tossed,
Redeemed at countless cost from dark despair.**

**3 Christ for the world! We sing:
The world to Christ we bring with one accord -
With us the work to share, with us reproach to
dare,
With us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

HYMN *“Christ for the World! We Sing”*
#561 W & R (vs 4)

**4 Christ for the world! We sing:
The world to Christ we bring with joyful song -
The newborn souls whose days, reclaimed from
error’s ways,
Inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Ashley Volovsek

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RADIO BROADCAST

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

This week’s radio broadcast is sponsored
anonymously in “Praise of Jesus Christ”.

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 26, 2025
https://youtube.com/live/WNx_d3HIRtU

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, January 26th –

- **10 AM** Deacon Host – Wayne Voss
Greeter(s) – Mathis’
Usher(s) – Deb & Mike Perkl
PowerPoint – Crispin Hediger

- **11 AM** – Confirmation Class

Tuesday, January 28th –

- **1 PM** Bible Study

Coffee fellowship after worship -

Sign up on back bulletin board

Jan 26 – Rodman’s

Feb 2 –

Feb 9 – Bonnie Shaw

Feb 16 - Susie & Russ Karl

We need people to sign up



Sunday,
March 2nd,
immediately
following the
regular service,

UCC will host its
annual congregational meeting.
The intent is to provide members with
information from each committee on past year
activities as well as their plans
and goals for the upcoming year.
In addition, we will review committee
membership and request approval.



Please make plans to attend **Sunday Worship Service on January 26th** 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.



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

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 9th**



Please have any articles submitted for the February Newsletter into the office by **Monday, January 27th**