

## Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

July 6, 2025

United Church of Christ - Neillsville

Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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**PRELUDE** *"God of Our Fathers"* National Hymn  
Deon Spangler

### **RINGING OF THE CARILLON**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Don't you know? Haven't you heard?

**God created all things and summons everyone by name.**

Don't you know? Haven't you heard?

**No one – nothing – can compare to God's glory.**

Don't you know? Haven't you heard?

**The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the creator of the ends of the earth,  
and never grows tired or weary.**

Don't you know? Haven't you heard?

**Those who hope in the Lord  
will renew their strength forever and ever.**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

**Holy God, You are the First and the Last, our Redeemer and our Rock, the One and only God. We have gathered together to worship You, to offer You our praise and thanksgiving; to once again affirm that You are our God, and that we are Your people. Open our eyes and hearts to Your presence among us. Through Your Word and Spirit, challenge us to greater faithfulness and obedience, so that we may be the bearers of Your image, bringing glory to Your name. Amen.**

**HYMN** *"Creator God, We Sing"* Carlos Rosas  
#39 NCH

**1 Creator God we sing,  
a hymn of joy we're making;  
our grateful love we bring,  
as the new day's light is breaking,**

**God made the sea and land;  
the sun and stars came rolling  
from God's own loving hand,  
their Creator's love extolling.**

**Refrain:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Creator God we sing: Alleluia!**

**2 Creator God we sing,  
your power and wisdom blessing;  
our hope and wonder bring,  
admiration now expressing.  
The universe maintains  
that God In might is dwelling;  
and we, in humble strains,  
of God's beauty here are telling [Refrain]**

### **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:** *"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"*  
#489 W&R Ken Medema

**Lord, listen to your children praying:**

**Lord, send your Spirit in this place.**

**Lord, listen to your children praying:**

**Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

### **CHILDREN'S TIME**

#### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**OLD TESTAMENT** Psalm 33:1-9, 13-15, 20-22

<sup>1</sup>Let the godly sing for joy to the Lord; it is fitting for the pure to praise him. <sup>2</sup>Praise the Lord with melodies on the lyre; make music for him on the ten-stringed harp. <sup>3</sup>Sing a new song of praise to him; play skillfully on the harp, and sing with joy.

<sup>4</sup> For the word of the Lord holds true, and we can trust everything he does. <sup>5</sup> He loves whatever is just and good; the unfailing love of the Lord fills the earth.

<sup>6</sup> The Lord merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He breathed the word, and all the stars were born. <sup>7</sup> He assigned the sea its boundaries and locked the oceans in vast reservoirs.

<sup>8</sup> Let the whole world fear the Lord, and let everyone stand in awe of him. <sup>9</sup> For when he spoke, the world began! It appeared at his command.

<sup>13</sup> The Lord looks down from heaven and sees the whole human race. <sup>14</sup> From his throne he observes all who live on the earth. <sup>15</sup> He made their hearts, so he understands everything they do.

<sup>20</sup> We put our hope in the Lord. He is our help and our shield. <sup>21</sup> In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. <sup>22</sup> Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone.

#### **OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 43:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> But now, O Jacob, listen to the Lord who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, “Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

<sup>2</sup> When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you.

<sup>3</sup> For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I gave Egypt as a ransom for your freedom; I gave Ethiopia and Seba in your place.

<sup>4</sup> Others were given in exchange for you. I traded their lives for yours because you are precious to me. You are honored, and I love you.

<sup>5</sup> “Do not be afraid, for I am with you. I will gather you and your children from east and west.

<sup>6</sup> I will say to the north and south, ‘Bring my sons and daughters back to Israel from the distant corners of the earth.

<sup>7</sup> Bring all who claim me as their God, for I have made them for my glory. It was I who created them.”

#### **HYMN “Surely No One Can Be Safer”**

**#487 NCH (vs. 1-2)** Lina Sandell

**1 Surely no one can be safer  
than God’s children held in favor,  
Not the stars so brightly burning,  
not the birds to nests returning.**

**2 With the flock God is abiding,  
heaven’s plenty all providing,  
Rich in mercy, never sparing,  
like a father, gently caring.**

#### **NEW TESTAMENT Luke 11:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As he finished, one of his disciples came to him and said, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.”

<sup>2</sup> Jesus said, “This is how you should pray: “Father, may your name be kept holy. May your Kingdom come soon.

<sup>3</sup> Give us each day the food we need,

<sup>4</sup> and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And don’t let us yield to temptation.”

<sup>5</sup> Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: “Suppose you went to a friend’s house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, <sup>6</sup> ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’ <sup>7</sup> And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can’t help you.’ <sup>8</sup> But I tell you this—though he won’t do it for friendship’s sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence.

<sup>9</sup> “And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> “You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? <sup>12</sup> Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! <sup>13</sup> So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.”

**SERMON “Hallowed Be Thy Name”** Pastor Julie

#### **MORNING PRAYERS**

**LORD'S PRAYER (from New Zealand Prayer Book)**  
Eternal Spirit, Earthmaker, Pain bearer, Life giver,  
Source of all that shall be. Father and Mother of us  
all. Loving God, in whom is heaven; May the  
hallowing of your name echo through the Universe!  
May the way of your justice be followed by the  
peoples of the world! May your heavenly will be  
done by all created beings! May your  
commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our  
hope and may it come on earth.

With the bread that we need for today, feed us. In  
the hurts that we absorb from one another, forgive  
us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the  
grip that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of  
the power that is love. Now and forever, now and  
forevermore. Amen.

**HYMN** "As We Gather At Your Table"

#332 NCH (vs. 1) Carl P. Daw, Jr.

1 As we gather at your table,  
as we listen to your word,  
help us know, O God, your presence;  
let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story  
till we claim it as our own;  
teach us through this holy banquet  
how to make Love's victory known.

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**Invitation to the Table**

**Confession and Assurance**

But there's so much to do. Can we really take a  
moment? If we pause now, we might lose  
momentum. And it's hard to believe this moment  
comes free of charge. What will it cost in the long  
run?... this "taking a moment?"

What will it cost you if you don't take this moment?  
So just... Pause. ... Breathe. ... Trust.

**Sung Response** "Take Time to be Holy"

#483 W&R (vs. 1) Wm. D. Longstaff

Take time to be holy, speak oft with the Lord;  
Abide in him always, and feed on his Word.  
Make friends of God's children,  
help those who are weak,  
Forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.

Giving God, we open now to you. You offer so many  
blessed moments that we pass by in our busy-ness.

And because we miss that connection with you, we  
miss so many possibilities to connect with others so  
worthy of our time. Forgiving God, we open now to  
you.

Know that God's moments await you when you say  
"yes" and take a seat at the table of God's grace.  
Know that this comes without price. Know that you  
are beloved of God. You are beloved of God. Amen!

**Sung Response** "Take Time to be Holy"

#483 W&R (vs. 2)

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;  
Spend much time in secret, with Jesus alone.  
By looking to Jesus, like him you shall be;  
Your friends in your conduct his likeness will see.

**Assurance**

You are a forgiven and freed people,  
Alleluia, Amen!

**Great Thanksgiving**

Our Loving God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us take this moment to center our hearts, lifting  
them to God.

**We take this moment and lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to The One who gives all things.

... because we need so much to remember Christ's  
offering for us, we offer ourselves and proclaim the  
mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**Sharing The Elements**

*All are welcome to partake in the Feast of our  
Lord. The table is open to all.*

**Prayer Of Thanksgiving**

Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as  
breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank  
you for your constant love for all you have made.  
We thank you for all that sustains life, and especially  
for Jesus Christ, whom you sent from your own  
being as our Savior. We thank you for this meal that  
brings us closer to you and to your vision of a world  
of peace. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for  
one another, and send us forth into the world in  
courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the  
Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. 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!

**Prayer of Dedication**

We give you thanks, Wise God, for cultivating generosity within us and alerting us to the needs around us. Use these gifts for the expansion of your will on earth and the blessing of your beloved. In your name and in hope, we give these gifts. Amen.

**HYMN** "As We Gather At Your Table"

#332 NCH (vs. 2) Carl P. Daw, Jr.

2 Turn our worship into witness  
in the sacrament of life;  
send us forth to love and serve you,  
bringing peace where there is strife.  
Give us, Christ, your great compassion  
to forgive as you forgave;  
may we still behold your image  
in the world you died to save.

**BLESSING**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**HYMN** "As We Gather At Your Table"

#332 NCH (vs. 3) Carl P. Daw, Jr.

3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon  
other guests to share that feast  
where triumphant Love will welcome  
those who had been last and least.  
There no more will envy blind us  
nor will pride our peace destroy,  
as we join with saints and angels  
to repeat the sounding joy.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** Deon Spangler

**ANNOUNCEMENTS  
RADIO BROADCAST**

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

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

YouTube link for Sunday, July 6, 2025

<https://youtube.com/live/5s4DKMBHnvU>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sunday, July 6th**

- 9:30 AM Worship

Deacon Host – Barb Shoemaker

Greeter(s) Corinne & Neil Armitage

Usher(s) – Russ Karl, Paul Schmidt

PowerPoint – Emile Miller

**Monday, July 7th**

- 9 AM Card Making

**Tuesday, July 8th**

- 9 AM Book Club will meet

at "Just Love" Coffee Café

- 1 PM Bible Study

**Thursday, July 10th**

- 1:30 PM Circle of Friends Meeting

Coffee fellowship after worship -

Sign up on back bulletin board

July 6 – Donita Follen  
July 13 – Marla Raine  
July 20 – Mathis' 😊  
July 27 – Rodman's  
We need people to sign up