

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 2025

United Church of Christ - Neillsville

Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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PRELUDE *"With Trumpet And Horns"* G.W. Handel
Deon Spangler

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Psalm 103)*

Praise the Lord!

With all our hearts, we will praise God's holy name.

Praise the Lord!

Never forget the good things God has done for us.

God forgives sins and heals diseases.

God crowns us with love and tender mercies.

The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get
angry and filled with unfailing love.

Praise the Lord, all the earth!

OPENING PRAYER

**God of the Sabbath, you make this day holy. As we
gather in your name, redeem the days when our
focus wandered and draw us back to you. Let your
wisdom, justice, and compassion guide us. Slow our
pace to attend to those things that matter. Open
our understanding to the good that needs to be
done. Sustain us for the challenges we face. Make
your name known among us and through us. We
glorify and honor you in spirit and in truth, in word
and in deed, in season and out of season. Amen.**

HYMN *"Enter, Rejoice, and Come In"*

#73 NCH (vs. 1-3, 5) Louise Ruspini

1 Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Today will be a joyful day;

Enter, rejoice, and come in.

2 Open yourself to the song.

Open yourself to the song.

Today will be a joyful day;

Enter, rejoice, and come in.

3 Open your hearts, everyone.

Open your hearts, everyone.

Today will be a joyful day;

Enter, rejoice, and come in.

5 Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Enter, rejoice, and come in.

Today will be a joyful day;

Enter, rejoice, and come in.

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: *"Gloria Patri"* #759 NCH

Glory to the Creator, the Christ,

the Holy Spirit, Three-in-One;

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME *"Blessing of the Backpacks"*

Grace and peace to you, our children.

We will always give thanks for you.

We pray for you constantly because we love you.

We love you just as God loves you.

We know, children of God, that God loves you so
much.

We know that the power of God is in you.

You remind us of God's love.

Teach us to see the world as you do.

Surprise us with the wonders you see.

Show us what gifts God has given you.

And we will bless you, and protect you,

and we will always give thanks for you.

We will bless you in the name of our God.

Grace and peace to you, our children.

**Grace and peace to you who show us God's glory
shining through your faces. Amen.**

HYMN *“Jesus Loves Me”*

#327 NCH (vs. 1-2) Wm. Bradbury

**1 Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

**2 Jesus loves me! This I know,
as he loved so long ago,
Taking children on his knee,
saying, “Let them come to me.”
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 58:9b-14

^{9b} Then when you call, the Lord will answer.

‘Yes, I am here,’ he will quickly reply.

“Remove the heavy yoke of oppression.

Stop pointing your finger and spreading vicious rumors!

¹⁰ Feed the hungry,
and help those in trouble.

Then your light will shine out from the darkness,
and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon.

¹¹ The Lord will guide you continually,
giving you water when you are dry
and restoring your strength.

You will be like a well-watered garden,
like an ever-flowing spring.

¹² Some of you will rebuild the deserted ruins of your cities.

Then you will be known as a builder of walls
and a restorer of homes.

¹³ “Keep the Sabbath day holy.

Don’t pursue your own interests on that day,
but enjoy the Sabbath
and speak of it with delight as the Lord’s holy day.
Honor the Sabbath in everything you do on that day,
and don’t follow your own desires or talk idly.

¹⁴ Then the Lord will be your delight.

I will give you great honor
and satisfy you with the inheritance I promised to
your ancestor Jacob.

I, the Lord, have spoken!”

NEW TESTAMENT Luke 13:10-17 (NLT)

¹⁰ One Sabbath day as Jesus was teaching in a synagogue, ¹¹ he saw a woman who had been crippled by an evil spirit. She had been bent double for eighteen years and was unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Dear woman, you are healed of your sickness!” ¹³ Then he touched her, and instantly she could stand straight. How she praised God!

¹⁴ But the leader in charge of the synagogue was indignant that Jesus had healed her on the Sabbath day. “There are six days of the week for working,” he said to the crowd. “Come on those days to be healed, not on the Sabbath.”

¹⁵ But the Lord replied, “You hypocrites! Each of you works on the Sabbath day! Don’t you untie your ox or your donkey from its stall on the Sabbath and lead it out for water? ¹⁶ This dear woman, a daughter of Abraham, has been held in bondage by Satan for eighteen years. Isn’t it right that she be released, even on the Sabbath?”

¹⁷ This shamed his enemies, but all the people rejoiced at the wonderful things he did.

SERMON “Sabbath Delight” Pastor Julie

HYMN *“He Touched Me”* Wm. Gaither

**1 Shackled by a heavy burden,
‘Neath a load of guilt and shame,
Then the hand of Jesus touched me,
And now I am no longer the same.**

Refrain:

**He touched me, O he touched me,
And O, the joy that floods my soul!
Something happened, and now I know,
He touched me and made me whole.**

**2 Since I met this blessed Savior,
Since he cleansed and made me whole,
I will never cease to praise him;
I’ll shout it while eternity rolls.**

Refrain:

**He touched me, O he touched me,
And O, the joy that floods my soul!
Something happened, and now I know,
He touched me and made me whole.**

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 "Jesus Loves Me" Bradbury

Doxology

"We Give You But Your Own" #785 NCH

We give you but your own,
whate'er the gift may be
All that we have is yours alone,
We give it gratefully.

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious and Generous God, receive these gifts in faith and trust. Help us to be good stewards of the resources you have given to us and bless our generosity for your glory. Amen.

HYMN "Blessed Assurance" Fanny Crosby
#473 NCH (vs 1-2)

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight!
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

BLESSING

JOYS AND CONCERNS

HYMN "Blessed Assurance" Fanny Crosby
#473 NCH (vs 3)

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blessed;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Deon Spangler

RADIO BROADCAST

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

This week's radio broadcast is
sponsored by Doris Bakker in honor
of her parents, Arnold & Elva Bakker's
wedding anniversary.

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, August 24, 2025

<https://youtube.com/live/dV9FiogoFx8>



TODAY

**Neillsville United Church of Christ
is hosting a SUNDAY FUNDAY with a
PANCAKE BRUNCH EXTRAVAGANZA
SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2025
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
514 W 2nd Street**

Our delicious menu consists of:

- pancakes
- blueberry pancakes
- potato pancakes
- French toast bakes
- muffins
- sausage

**along with all the fixings of pure maple syrup,
blueberries, strawberries, chocolate chips,
applesauce, and more.**

Free will donation! We hope to see you there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, August 24th

- 9:30 AM Worship

Deacon Host – Byrl Buddenhagen

Greeter(s) Phil & Donita Follen

Usher(s) – Mickey Marty, Joel Raine

PowerPoint – Janice Miller

Sunday, August 24th

**- 10:30 – 12:30 Pancake Brunch Extrvaganza
in fellowship hall / Free Will donation**

Tuesday, August 26th

- 1:00 PM Bible Study

Thursday, August 28th

- 5:30 PM Leadership Council Meeting

Coffee fellowship after worship -

Sign up on back bulletin board

Aug 24 – PANCAKE BRUNCH EXTRAVAGANZA

Aug 31 –

Sept 7 –

Sept 14 -

We need people to sign up



for the SEPTEMBER
NEWSLETTER. All
articles are due by
August 31st in the office.