

ANNUAL FAIR WORSHIP SERVICE

August 10, 2025

PRELUDE

Karen Mohr

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Chad: In a world that cries out, "Fear me!"

People: We will listen to Jesus' words, "Don't be afraid!"

Pastor Julie: In a world that wants us to hate the other...

People: We will live Jesus' call to "Love God. Love your neighbor, as you love yourself."

Pastor Chad: In a world that radicalizes...

People: We, too, will be radical. Radical with our hospitality. Radical with our hope. Radical with our love.

Pastor Julie: Then come to this place, ready to be who we are called to be.

People: Let us gather together and worship God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

ALL: Creator God, we gather together in your name. We come as a living offering, to offer you our worship and thanksgiving, our praise and our prayers. Come among us, living Lord.

Through the power of your Holy Spirit, transform our hearts and minds so that we may recognize your presence, hear your voice, know your will, and walk in your way. Amen.

GATHERING SONG: "Come, All Christians, Be Committed" #459 W&R

**1 Come, all Christians, be committed to the service of the Lord;
Make your lives for him more fitted, tune your hearts with one accord.
Come into his courts with gladness, all your sacred vows renew,
Turn away from sin and sadness, be transformed with life anew.**

**2 Of your time and talents give now, they are gifts from God above,
To be used by Christians freely to proclaim his wondrous love.
Come again to serve the Savior, tithes and offerings with you bring;
In your work, with Christ find favor, and with joy his praises sing.**

**3 Come in praise and adoration, all who on Christ's name believe;
Worship Him with consecration, grace and love you will receive.
For his grace give Christ the glory, for the Spirit and the Word,
And repeat the gospel story until all his name have heard.**

PRAYER FOR ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Pastor Julie: God of Grace, you call us to be different from the world,

People: but the world is seductive, and so we come here to be strengthened.

Pastor Chad: God of Vision, you hold before us an alternate way of life:

People: different priorities, different loyalties, different values.

Pastor Julie: But we know that the world is not only seductive but powerful,

People: and so we are drawn in to following its priorities, accepting its values, showing loyalty to its gods.

Pastor Chad: God who blesses the meek, the peacemakers, the merciful:

People: forgive us when we lose sight of these qualities, when we misunderstand their role in the world.

Pastor Julie: Rejoice and be glad! God is gracious and God offers blessings.

Pastor Chad: God calls us to life in the world, God offers us the chance to explore how to live out God's vision.

People: We are called, we are forgiven, we are blessed.

ALL: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

New Testament: Romans 12:1-2 (MSG)

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and

walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Gospel: *Matthew 19:13-15 (MSG)*

One day children were brought to Jesus in the hope that he would lay hands on them and pray over them. The disciples shooed them off. But Jesus intervened: "Let the children alone, don't prevent them from coming to me. God's kingdom is made up of people like these." After laying hands on them, he left.

MESSAGE

Pastor Julie and Pastor Chad

SONG OF THE DAY: *"Take My Life and Let It Be" #466 W&R*

**1 Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love,
At the impulse of thy love.**

**2 Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee;
Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King,
Always, only, for my King.**

**3 Take my love, my God, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Chad

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor Julie

LORD'S PRAYER (*Ecumenical Version*)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from
the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING SONG: *"I Then Shall Live" #372 W&R*

**1 I then shall live as one who's been forgiven;
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am his child, and I am not afraid.
So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive another;
The law of love I gladly will obey.**

**2 I then shall live as one who's learned compassion;
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving, too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I dar to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment,
Then I'll be there to care and follow through.**

**3 Your kingdom come around and through and in me,
Your power and glory, let them shine through me;
Your hallowed name, oh, may I bear with honor,
And may your living kingdom come in me.
The Bread of Life oh, may I share with honor,
And may you feed a hungry world through me.**

BLESSING:

Pastor Julie: Let love be genuine.

Pastor Chad: Hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good.

Pastor Julie: Love one another with deep affection,
thinking of others more highly than yourself.

Pastor Chad: Serve the Lord with zeal.

Pastor Julie: Rejoice in hope.

Pastor Chad: Be patient in suffering.

Pastor Julie: Persevere in prayer.

Pastor Chad: And may God always hear your voice.

May Christ Jesus raise you to new life;
and may the Holy Spirit nourish you for the life of love.

**ALL: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
....In the name of Christ. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Karen Mohr



***United Church of Christ—Neillsville
Pastor Julie Ruegsegger
and
Calvary Lutheran Church—Neillsville
Pastor Chad Anderson***