

Day of Pentecost

May 24, 2026

United Church of Christ - Neillsville

Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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PRELUDE "Come Down, O Love Divine" Kristina Langlois
Karen Mohr

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Spirit descends like a dove,
bringing peace to unite the world
in a just and caring community.

**The Spirit comes like a breath,
bringing life to renew the people of God.**

The Spirit spreads like fire,
bringing energy for witnessing to the love of God.
**Spirit of the living God,
come to us and transform our lives by your power.**

OPENING PRAYER

**Spirit of wind and fire, come to us this day, freeing us
from our fears. Lift us up when we have fallen. Dust
us off and set us squarely on the path to hope you
have set before us. Remind us that we are never far
from your presence. Get us ready for the great
adventure and opportunities that lie before us. Help
us to be good and willing workers for you. In Christ's
Name, we pray. AMEN.**

HYMN "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

#286 NCH James K. Manley

Refrain:

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.**

**1 You moved on the waters, you called to the
deep,**

**then you coaxed up the mountains
from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
"Awake from your slumbers
and rise on your wings." [Refrain]**

**2 You swept through the desert,
you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people
with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded
with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets
to open their eyes. [Refrain]**

**3 You sang in a stable,
you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence
when the whole world was still;
and down in the city
you called once again,
when you blew through your people
on the rush of the wind. [Refrain]**

**4 You call from tomorrow,
you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow
all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions,
our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions
your people arise. [Refrain]**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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".

HYMN RESPONSE: *“Spirit of the Living God”*

#283 NCH Daniel Iverson

**Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.**

CHILDREN’S TIME

SCRIPTURE READINGS

NEW TESTAMENT Acts 2:1-21

¹ When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. ⁴ They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

⁵ There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. ⁷ They were surprised and amazed, saying, “Look, aren’t all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? ⁸ How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!” ¹² They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, “What does this mean?” ¹³ Others jeered at them, saying, “They’re full of new wine!”

¹⁴ Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! ¹⁵ These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning! ¹⁶ Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young will see visions. Your elders will dream dreams. ¹⁸ Even upon my servants, men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. ¹⁹ I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and a cloud of smoke. ²⁰ The sun will be changed into darkness, and the moon will be changed into blood, before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes. ²¹ And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

^{3b} No one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴ There are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are different ministries and the same Lord; ⁶ and there are different activities but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. ⁷ A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good. ⁸ A word of wisdom is given by the Spirit to one person, a word of knowledge to another according to the same Spirit, ⁹ faith to still another by the same Spirit, gifts of healing to another in the one Spirit, ¹⁰ performance of miracles to another, prophecy to another, the ability to tell spirits apart to another, different kinds of tongues to another, and the interpretation of the tongues to another. ¹¹ All these things are produced by the one and same Spirit who gives what he wants to each person.

¹² Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many. ¹³ We were all baptized by one Spirit into one body, whether Jew or Greek, or slave or free, and we all were given one Spirit to drink.

SERMON “For the Common Good” Pastor Julie

HYMN “Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

#293 NCH Doris Akers

**1 There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.**

Refrain:

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in
praise.

Without a doubt we'll know
that we have been revived
When we shall leave this place.

2 There are blessings you cannot receive
Till you know that Spirit's fullness and believe;
You're the one to profit when you say,
"I am going to stay with Jesus all the way."
[Refrain]

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 *"Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling" Kristina Langlois*

Doxology *Tune: Old 100th ("Praise God from
Whom All Blessings Flow")*

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

Lord of wind and fire, of hope and mercy, we ask
that you bless these gifts today. We praise you for
them and ask that you cause them to be put to
work for your kingdom. In Christ's name, we pray.
AMEN.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

*Harold Arndt
Kevin Christiansen
Kirk Rodman
Nancy Rodman
Earnest Ruegsegger
Emily Steinbach*

Invitation

Questions of the Candidates

Affirmation of Faith

Do you believe in God?

I believe in God.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Address

Question About Participation

Welcome and Reception

We welcome you with joy in the common life of this
church. We promise you our friendship and prayers
as we share the hopes and labors of the church of
Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we
continue to grow together in God's knowledge and
love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Greeting of Christian Love

HYMN *"Go, My Children, With My Blessing"*

#82 NCH (vs 1) Jaroslav J. Vajda

1 Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever,
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

BLESSING

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, May 24, 2026

https://youtube.com/live/h_YhJJIO-ZI

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Sunday, May 24th

- 9:30 AM Worship

Deacon – JoAnn Wren
Greeters – Phil & Donita Follen
Ushers – Mike & Debbie Perkl
Power Point – Janice Miller
AV – Stephanie Heck

FYI - (for those who are scheduled for PowerPoint/AV it is suggested that you arrive 30 minutes prior to the church service to get the laptop turned on, allow for any updates, get screen down and start running the announcements).

Following Sunday, May 31st

Deacon – Wayne Voss
Greeters – Linda Stalsberg, Carla Marty
Ushers – Ken Shoemaker, Bob Petkovsek
Power Point – Janice Miller
AV – Lydia Schumacher

Tuesday, May 26th

-1:00 PM – Bible Study

Coffee fellowship after worship -

Sign up on back bulletin board

May 24 – Doris Bakker & Ellie Golembiewski
May 31 – Weyer / Hamm
June 7 – Mathis'
June 14 – Circle of Friends
June 21 -
We need people to sign up

SHARING OUR BLESSINGS AND BURDENS

As we are gathered together as children of God, we are called to share our blessings and joys and our concerns, our deepest fears, sadnesses, griefs and needs so that we may bear one another up and support each other in prayer and Christian love.

HYMN "Go, My Children, With My Blessing"

#82 NCH (vs. 2) Jaroslav J. Vajda

**2 Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you,
Here with tender comfort stilled you;
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.**

COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION

You are the hands and feet of God in this community.

You are called to soothe suffering,
to live with compassion,
to build up God's loving peace.

So as you leave this place, how will you live?

**We go from this place of worship
to share the gifts we have been given.**

**We go from this time of worship
to build up the Body of Christ.**

**We go from this holy space
to carry the Holy to the world around us.**

Go in love, go in peace, go with God.
Amen.

POSTLUDE Karen Mohr

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.

Please have any articles for the
June newsletter into the office
by 10 AM on Tues. May 26th.