

All Saints' Sunday
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
November 1, 2026
United Church of Christ - Neillsville
Pastor Julie Ruegsegger

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PRELUDE Chorale Prelude on *"Come, Come Ye Saints"*
William Blanchard Karen Mohr

RINGING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 34)

One: Bless the Holy One with continuous praise.
Magnify Love and let us exalt God's many names
together!

**Many: We sought the Gracious One. God answered
and delivered.**

One: Bless the Sovereign One with boasting and
gladness.

**Many: We turn to the Glorious God who radiates joy
and safety upon us.**

One: Bless the Mighty God who encamps around us!

**Many: O taste and experience that God is good!
Praise the Holy One!**

OPENING PRAYER

**Creator of All, both living and dead, be present
among us as we gather. Let us worship you in praise
and thanksgiving, in spirit and in truth, in season and
out of season. May our souls reach toward you and
our hearts burn as we encounter you afresh. Renew
our minds through your word and our spirits through
our praise. May your name be magnified and
glorified in our assembly, and may your path become
clearer for all who follow you. Amen.**

HYMN *"For All the Saints"*

#299 NCH (vs. 1-3) Wm. W. How

**1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who to the world their steadfast faith confessed;
O Jesus, be forever blessed. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**2 You were their rock, their refuge and their might;
You, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;
'Mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**3 Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold,
Live as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And share with them a glorious crown of gold.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

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".

RESPONSE: *"For All the Saints"*

#299 NCH (vs. 4) Wm. W. How

**4 Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine,
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet in your love our faithful lives entwine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

CHILDREN'S TIME Sue Vornholt

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Donita Follen

NEW TESTAMENT **Revelation 7:9-17**

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great crowd
that no one could number. They were from every
nation, tribe, people, and language. They were
standing before the throne and before the Lamb.
They wore white robes and held palm branches in
their hands. ¹⁰They cried out with a loud voice:

"Victory belongs to our God
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb."

¹¹All the angels stood in a circle around the throne,
and around the elders and the four living creatures.
They fell facedown before the throne and
worshipped God, ¹²saying,

"Amen! Blessing and glory
and wisdom and thanksgiving
and honor and power and might
be to our God forever and always. Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders said to me, "Who are these
people wearing white robes, and where did they
come from?"

¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know."

Then he said to me, "These people have come out of great hardship. They have washed their robes and made them white in the Lamb's blood. ¹⁵ This is the reason they are before God's throne. They worship him day and night in his temple, and the one seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶ They won't hunger or thirst anymore. No sun or scorching heat will beat down on them, ¹⁷ because the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them. He will lead them to the springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

¹ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up a mountain. He sat down and his disciples came to him.

² He taught them, saying:

Happy people

³ "Happy are people who are hopeless, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

⁴ "Happy are people who grieve, because they will be made glad.

⁵ "Happy are people who are humble, because they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Happy are people who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness, because they will be fed until they are full.

⁷ "Happy are people who show mercy, because they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Happy are people who have pure hearts, because they will see God.

⁹ "Happy are people who make peace, because they will be called God's children.

¹⁰ "Happy are people whose lives are harassed because they are righteous, because the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

¹¹ "Happy are you when people insult you and harass you and speak all kinds of bad and false things about you, all because of me. ¹² Be full of joy and be glad, because you have a great reward in heaven. In the same way, people harassed the prophets who came before you.

Beatitudes Litany

A fresh take on the Beatitudes from Brian McLaren and Rob Bell. Originally posted on Third Space website.

The poor, and those in solidarity with them –
God is on your side.

Those who mourn and feel grief about the state of the world –
God is on your side.

The non-violent, gentle and humble –
God is on your side.

Those who hunger and thirst for the common good –
God is on your side.

The merciful and compassionate –
God is on your side.

Those characterized by sincerity, kindness and generosity –
God is on your side.

Those who work for peace and reconciliation –
God is on your side.

Those who keep seeking justice –
God is on your side.

Those who stand for justice and truth as the prophets did,
who refuse to be quiet even when slandered,
misrepresented, threatened, imprisoned or harmed –
God is on your side!

SERMON "Who Are These?" Pastor Julie

HYMN "O God, We Give Thanks for the Saints Gone Before Us" ASH GROVE 6.6.11.6.6.11 D ("Let All Things Now Living")

1 O God, we give thanks for the saints gone before us — remembering well how they walked Jesus' Way. They valued the truth and would rise to defend it. They knelt to be kind to the poor day by day. They welcomed in immigrants, honored new neighbors, put love before greed, and sought peace over strife. May we in our homes and our churches and nations recall Jesus' teachings and welcome this life.

2 O God, we give thanks for the saints now among us — for teachers and helpers and activists, too, for those in our families and those who work with us to make the world better, to make the world new. We thank you for those who seek justice for others, for those who seek Jesus and live by his grace. May we in our homes and our churches and nations give thanks for their witness of love in this place.

3 O God, we give thanks for the Way Jesus shows us; may we seek to follow his reign from above. The world often calls us to hatred and violence, but Christ's Way is welcome and mercy and love.

Like prophets, apostles, and martyrs before us,
like those who bear witness to you every day,
may we in our homes and our churches and nations
be saints who are eager to choose Jesus' Way.

THE OFFERING SERVICE

Invitation to Generosity

Offertory "Deep River" Negro Spiritual

Doxology "Praise God, the Source" Isaac Watts

*Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen ("From All that Dwell
Below the Skies" #27 NCH)*

Praise God, the Source who makes us one,
Praise Jesus Christ, beloved Son.
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Our gifts we give as we've been led,
all bodies, minds, and spirits fed.
Help us show love,
Here as above,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Prayer of Dedication

Holy Love, we pray that you receive these gifts.
Bless those who have accepted the call to
generosity and those entrusted with the
responsibility of these offerings. May your church
be enlivened and your people nurtured in care
through these tangible expressions of our love of
you and neighbor.



REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

Prayer

...We ask in Jesus' name whose outstretched arms
welcome us and hold us securely in your grace.

God is in this place

And in our hearts.

Open yourself to the nudging God.

We feel the breath of the Spirit.

Jesus grieves with us; Jesus weeps with us.

**God embraces us with comfort; God wipes away
our tears.**

Lighting Candles of Remembrance

The candle's light will symbolize the presence of
those who have gone from our sight but not our
hearts.

We remember those we have loved and lost.
We celebrate their lives, even as we continue to
grieve.

*And so we lift up aloud the names of those no longer
with us in body, but present in spirit...*

Lois Lonning	Jun 8, 1928 - Nov. 17, 2024
Darlene Eddy	Mar. 18, 1933 - Feb. 18, 1967
Kenneth Eddy	Dec. 8, 1931 - Mar. 3, 1979
Sandy Henseler	Oct. 5, 1957 - Feb. 12, 2025
Joseph Felser	Oct. 7, 1953 - Apr. 3, 2026
Pam Eibergen	Jan 13, 1965 - Jun 28, 2026
James Patey	Aug. 5, 1959 - Aug. 7, 2026

Anyone who would like to light a candle in honor of a
loved one is invited to come forward.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

HYMN "God, We Thank You for Our People"

#376 NCH (verses 1-2) Ruth Duck

1 God, we thank you for our people,
Roots dug deep within the soil,
Hardy spirits, rich in living,
strong for struggle, bold for toil.
Faithful Rock of generations,
You whom parents' parents praised:
Here in hope as we remember
May our song to you be raised.

2 Thank you, God, for gentle pleasure:
Lessons learned and secrets told,
Hopes and memories saved as treasure,
Passed to young ones by the old,
Pranks and glories, songs and stories,
Food by loving hands prepared.
God, we bless you for your presence
In our tears and laughter shared.

BLESSING

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 “God, We Thank You for Our People”

#376 NCH (verse 4) Ruth Duck

**4 By your Spirit of creation
Keep us bold for risking still,
Eager in anticipation,
ever strong to do your will.
Bind us close to one another,
sharing life and death and birth,
Welcoming as sister, brother,
All your children on the earth.**

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

RADIO BROADCAST

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

This week’s radio broadcast is
sponsored by Donita & Phil Follen
in praise of the “church family”.

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, November 1, 2026
<https://youtube.com/live/fAxhOugC0ng>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Sunday, November 1st

- 9:30 AM Worship “All Saints’ Day”

Deacon – Byrl Buddenhagen
Greeters – Jim & Rosie Repinski
Ushers – Roger Carl, Paul Schmidt
Power Point – Barb Petkovsek
AV – Emile Miller

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, November 8th

Deacon – Barb Shoemaker
Greeters – Nancy & Kirk Rodman
Ushers – Jim Sjolin, Ken Shoemaker
Power Point – Barb Petkovsek
AV – Bonnie Weyer

Tuesday, November 3rd

- 1:00 PM Bible Study

Coffee fellowship after worship -

Sign up on back bulletin board

Nov 1 – Barb Petkovsek
Nov 8 – Weyer & Hamm
Nov 15 –
Nov 22 –
Nov 29 -