

Falls Village Congregational Church

April 19, 2020 - 2nd Sunday of Easter

Order of Worship

The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Words of Introduction

Prelude: *Toccata in F Major*

Dietrich Buxtehude

Call to Worship

Glory be to you

God, our strength and our redeemer.

The vacant cross and the empty tomb vindicate your claim that the love which suffers is the love which saves. So fill your people with joy and your church with celebration.

That the world may know that your son Jesus is not a dead hero we commemorate but the living Lord whom we worship, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be our praise forever.

Come, let us worship the risen Christ.

Hymn 215 - Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;

God hath brought forth Israel into joy from sadness;

Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters,

Led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea's waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison,

And from three days sleep in death as a sun hath risen;

All the winter of our sins, long and bleak is flying

From his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Now the brightest season dawns with the day of splendor,

Now the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render;

Comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection

Welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

Opening Prayer

Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever. In this time of worship, teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true. Amen.

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

Gracious and loving God, the resurrection of your Son has not pulled us far from our old ways. Our faith becomes fear in the face of the world's troubles. We trust more in the power of "the way things are" than in the new life you grant. We hesitate to speak out against wrong, convinced it will do no good. We excuse ourselves from chances to help others, fearing for our security. Holy God, forgive our fears and our doubts. Plant Easter seeds in us to push through the packed, dead ground of old habits.

Transform our hesitations into greater faithfulness, so that we may find hope and strength for the living of these days. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Responsive Reading – Psalm 23, p. 734

Response 1 : My shepherd, you supply my need and holy is your name.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

For you are with me; you rod and your staff—they comfort me. R

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. R

Gloria Patri

Offering of the Peace

Old Testament Scripture –2 Samuel 22:1-7, 17-20

New Testament Scripture- 1 Peter 1:3-9

Sermon – A Psalm for All Seasons

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 80 - My Shepherd, You Supply My Need

My Shepherd, you supply my need, most holy is your name;

In pastures fresh you make me feed, beside the living stream.

You bring my wandering spirit back, when I forsake your ways;

You lead me, for your mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When through the shades of death I walk, your presence is my stay;

One word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.

Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;

My cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.

Your sure provisions, gracious God, attend me all my days;

O may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.

Here would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;

No more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

Benediction

Postlude “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”