

Falls Village Congregational Church

August 16, 2020 - 11th Sunday After Pentecost

Order of Worship

The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Words of Introduction

Prelude

Call to Worship – Ephesians 2:13-14,

In Christ Jesus, we who were once far off have been brought near in the blood of Christ

**For Christ is our peace, who has made us one
and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility.**

So then we are no longer strangers and aliens,

but citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

**Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
with Christ Jesus himself as cornerstone.**

Hymn “When God Called Jonah” (to tune of 85 “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”)

When God called Jonah to proclaim, the prophet ran, he knew no shame.

Like those of us who hear God’s word, but to our feet, we have not stirred.

In problems deep we seem to drown, if God’s promis’d help we have turned down.

When Jonah knew he ought to die, God’s whale saved him, to land brought dry.

A chastened Jonah gave much praise, he knew God’s mercy in life’s ways.

Yes, through our tempest God does speak. God will not force us, but will seek.

God’s message of that gracious care, at Nineveh the Lord did share.

Yet such the strength of human pride, that we forget how once we cried

For God to save us in distress and to forgive when we confess.

When we will only look to self, we surely lose our spiritual health.

The love God gives, we do not share; from Jonah’s sin, Lord, us please spare.

Christ’s earthly bearers let us be, of hope and faith, and charity.

Opening Prayer: O Holy One: we hear and speak so many words, but yours in the word we most need. May your living word work within us and do all those things of which your word is capable—to comfort us and disturb us, to touch our need and break our pride, to shrink our uncertainties and enlarge our wonder. Be present, O Lord, in this time of worship. Speak to us and help us to listen. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, who cares for all the peoples of the world: Forgive us when we are trapped by our sense of being victims of injustice and unfairness, when we confess that we can be guilty of being unfair and unforgiving in our treatment of others. Help us to find our healing and wholeness in Jesus, who forgives, and cleanses, and sets us free. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Responsive Reading – Psalm 130, p. 762

Response: From the depths I cry to you; God, listen to my voice.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

Lord hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

I wait for you, my soul waits, and in your word I hope. R

My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning,

More than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love,
and with God is great power to redeem.

It is God who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities. R

Gloria Patri

Offering of the Peace

Old Testament Scripture –Jonah 4

New Testament Scripture- Romans 3:21-26

Sermon – Dilemmas of Grace

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 452 “Here I Am, Lord”

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in deepest sin, my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: **Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.**

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them, they turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love along.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

Benediction

Postlude “God Be with You till We Meet Again”