

The Falls Village Congregational Church
October 11, 2020 10 a.m.
19th Sunday after Pentecost
The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Announcements
Ringing of the Bell
Prelude

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

Call to Worship (John 3:17; Psalm 46:1-3)

God sent Christ into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

God's love endures forever.

God is our refuge and our strength, a present help in trouble.

**Therefor we will not fear, though the earth should change,
Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

Though the waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

God's love endures forever.

* Opening Hymn: # 61 *All Things Bright and Beautiful* vv. 1,3

Call to Prayer:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

Grant, O God, that we may never grudge any time that we give to you, but that we may always be grateful to hear your word, glad to sing your praises, ready to listen to your truth, eager to pray to you. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Loving Lord, we confess that we are easily unsettled. Because we do not trust you with our lives, we are defensive and

threatened by the people and circumstances we cannot control. We long for peace in our world but there is little peace in us. We find it difficult to trust the details of our living to your guidance and care. Forgive us. Grant us such a vision of your love and forgiveness, that we will be free to live in quiet confidence and faithfulness, leaving the results to you. Amen.

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Responsive Reading Psalm 119:1-8 p. 759.

R: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of God.

**Happy are those who keep God's decrees,
who seek God with their whole heart,**

Who also do no wrong, but walk in God's ways.

You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. R

O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

Then I shall not be put to shame,

having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

I will praise you with an upright heart,

when I learn your righteous ordinances.

I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me. R

*Gloria Patri

#35 in hymnal

Passing the Peace of Christ:

The Peace of Christ be with you

And also with you

Let us pass the peace

Scripture: Proverbs 4, 15-18, 25(selected verses) Maria Bulson
James 3: 1-12 Rich Reifsnyder

Prayer

Sermon: "Taming the Tongue"
The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnyder

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

The Offertory

Pastoral Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

Hymn # *Lord, Speak to Me That I may Speak, vv. 1, 3, 5*

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.
As you have sought so let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.

O teach me Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you
impart.
And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many
a heart.

O use, me Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when and where
Until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.

Benediction

Benediction Response

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

Elizabeth Allyn, Choir Director and Organist, provides the morning
musical selections.

Scripture Lessons for October 11, 2020

Proverbs (NRSV)

4:24

Put away from you crooked speech,
and put devious talk far from you.

15:1,2,4

A soft answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger.
The tongue of the wise dispenses knowledge,
but the mouths of fools pour out folly.
A gentle tongue is a tree of life,
but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

16:24

Pleasant words are like a honeycomb,
sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

17:27

One who spares words is knowledgeable;
one who is cool in spirit has understanding.

18:4

The words of the mouth are deep waters;
the fountain of wisdom is a gushing stream.

25;11-12

A word fitly spoken
is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.
Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold
is a wise rebuke to a listening ear.

James 3:1-12 (NRSV)

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

61 All Things Bright and Beautiful

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, in love God made them all.

1. Each lit - tle flower that op - ens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2. The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3. The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,

God made their glow - ing col - ors, and made their tin - y wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.