

The Falls Village Congregational Church
October 4, 2020 10:00 a.m.
18th Sunday after Pentecost- World Communion Sunday
The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Announcements

Ringing of the Church Bell

Prelude: *Adagio*

F. Mendelssohn

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

Call to Worship

This is the day the Lord has made
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Hymn: # 263 *Surely the Presence of the Lord*

Opening Prayer (Unison):

Prepare our hearts, O God, to hear and receive your word.

Silence in us any voice but your own, so that hearing, we may also trust you and learn to obey your will. In Jesus name we pray.

Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Shining, surprising, grace filled God: for avoiding the searchlight of your desire for us and running away from your love:

Forgive us!

For preferring the safe, familiar and certain to the risky, unknown and mysterious:

Forgive us!

For fearing those different from ourselves, and projecting onto them what we cannot accept within our own depths:

Forgive us!

For assuming we are superior to the rest of creation, for abusing, despoiling and failing to celebrate our relationship with the earth and the web of life:

Forgive us!

For not noticing your presence in the shadows as in light, in body

as in spirit, in feeling as in intellect, in pain as in healing, in Good Friday as in Easter Day:

Forgive us! Set us free, we pray, to be whole human beings and to live our lives graciously and without fear!

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Responsive Reading Psalm 147:1-6 p. 767

Response: Praise God who reigns above; Alleluia

Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem, and gathers the outcasts of Israel.

God heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

God determines the number of the stars, and gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; whose understanding is beyond measure.

The Lord lift up the downtrodden, but casts the wicked to the ground. R

Gloria Patri

#35 in hymnal

Offering the Peace of Christ:

The Peace of Christ be with you

And also with you

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17
Matthew 21:33-46

Frank Hadsell
Rich Reifsnyder

Prayer

Sermon: "A Little Respect, Please!"
The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnyder

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

The Offertory

Choir ensemble

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to Communion

Hymn of Preparation # 427 *Loving Lord, As Now We Gather*

The Communion Prayer:

The Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your heads

We lift them up to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God

It is right, and a good and joyful thing.

(The Minister continues the prayer)

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

(Please partake of the bread individually, when it is received, as a sign of our individual relationship to God, but hold the cup so we may drink together, as a sign of our unity before our God)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

***Closing Hymn:** # 272 *The Church's One Foundation*, (vv. 1,2)

***Benediction**

Benediction Response

God Be With You Till We Meet Again #434 in hymnal

Scripture Lessons for October 4, 2020

Exodus 20:1-17(NRSV)

The Ten Commandments

20 Then God spoke all these words:

² I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before^a me.

⁴ You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation^b of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰ But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹² Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ You shall not murder.^c

¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ You shall not steal.

¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Matthew 21:33-46 (NRSV)

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

³³ "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a

miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;’^[a] this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?”

⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.^[a] ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”^[a]

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

263 Surely the Presence of the Lord

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are: "Sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his might - y pow - er and his grace. I can hear the brush of an - gels' wings, I see glo - ry on each face; sure - ly the pres - ence of the Lord is in this place." The score includes several chords: D, F#m, Gmaj9, Em, A7, D, G/D, A7, D, F#m, Gmaj9, Em, A7, Em7, A7, and D. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Loving Lord, as Now We Gather 427

FOUNDATION

1. Lov-ing Lord, as now we gath-er, of that love un-wor-thy still,
2. Ho-ly Lord, as here you give us bread and wine, as means of grace,

give us cour-age to sur-ren-der reb-el heart and stub-born will,
grant to all who call you Sav-ior, now to meet you face to face,

and in us, in faith ma-tur-ing, all your prom-is-es ful-fill.
and to own, in si-lent won-der, Lord, how ho-ly is this place.

272 The Church's One Foundation

Descant

5. We now on earth have un-ion with God the Three in One,

1. The chur-ch's one foun-da-tion is Je-sus Christ our Lord;
2. Called forth from ev-ery na-tion, yet one o'er all the earth;
3. Though with a scorn-ful won-der the world sees us op-pressed,
4. Mid toil and trib-u-la-tion, and tu-mult of our war,
5. We now on earth have un-ion with God the Three in One,

and mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion with those whose rest is won.

1. we are his new cre-a-tion by wa-ter and the Word;
2. our char-ter of sal-va-tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
3. by schis-ms rent a-sun-der, by her-e-sies dis-tressed,
4. we wait the con-sum-ma-tion of peace for-ev-er-more;
5. and mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion with those whose rest is won.

Oh, hap-py ones, Lord, give us grace that we

1. from heaven he came and sought us to be his ho-ly bride;
2. One ho-ly name pro-fess-ing and at one ta-ble fed,
3. yet saints their watch are keep-ing; their cry goes up, "How long?"
4. till with the vi-sion glo-rious our long-ing eyes are blest,
5. Oh, hap-py ones, and ho-ly! Lord, give us grace that we

like them, the meek, on high may dwell with thee.

1. with his own blood he bought us, and for our life he died.
2. to one hope al-ways press-ing, by Christ's own Spir-it led.
3. And soon the night of weep-ing shall be the morn of song.
4. and the great church vic-to-rious shall be the church at rest.
5. like them, the meek and low-ly, on high may dwell with thee.