

The Falls Village Congregational Church

April 25, 2021 10 a.m.

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

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Welcome and Announcements

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude *Prelude in C*

H. Purcell

**THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE**

Call to Worship

Jesus our Lord is risen.

**May we experience the power of the resurrection and live by it.**

May we respond as the community of the free.

**May the spirit and gift of your freedom break the spell of our fears and send us away obedient rebels, lovers of life's depths, and your disciples forever.**

In that spirit, let us worship the triune God.

**Opening Hymn:** #70 *God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale*, vv. 1,2,3

Call to Prayer:

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

**Lord, we are here because of our desire to know you and serve you. Calm the restlessness in our hearts. Help us to hear your voice calling and to find our shelter in the care of the Good Shepherd. May we discover in this time of worship that you are able to give us the peace that so often eludes us, the peace which passes all understanding and which nothing external can take away. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**O Lord, we call you light, yet so often walk in darkness. We call you love, yet too often dislike those who are unlike ourselves. We call you joy, and yet more often than we should we live in unhappiness. Forgive us, Lord, and turn us toward your way. Let the power of your salvation shape us into the people we are meant to be, bearers of your light and love and joy. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The Covenant of Membership

Welcome to Jack Wilcox

Hymn of welcome #433 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds*, v. 1

**TO HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Responsive Reading—Psalm 133 p. 764

**R: Unite us, God, unite us in your everlasting love.**

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!  
**It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.**

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

**For there God ordained a blessing: life forevermore. 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:** Acts 4:5-12  
John 10:11-18

Dick Heinz  
Rich Reifsnyder

**Prayer**

**Sermon:** “The Voice We Hear”  
The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnyder

## TO RESPOND IN FAITH

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

## THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

**Hymn** #622 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*, vv. 1,2

**Benediction**

**Benediction Response**

*God Be With You Till We Meet Again*

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## Blest Be the Tie That Binds

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christ - tian love:  
 2. When we are called to part, it gives us in - ward pain;

the fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.  
 but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

*Scripture Lessons for April 25, 2021***ACTS 4:5-12**

5 The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John,<sup>\*</sup> and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners<sup>\*</sup> stand in their midst, they inquired, ‘By what power or by what name did you do this?’ <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, ‘Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this

man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth,<sup>\*</sup> whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus<sup>\*</sup> is “the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.”<sup>\*</sup> <sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.’

**JOHN 10: 11-18**

<sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

# 70 God of the Sparrow God of the Whale

# Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 622

*Unison*

1. God of the spar - row God of the whale  
 2. God of the earth - quake God of the storm  
 3. God of the rain - bow God of the cross  
 4. God of the hun - gry God of the sick  
 5. God of the neigh - bor God of the foe  
 6. God of the a - ges God near at hand

1. God of the swirl - ing stars      How does the crea - ture say  
 2. God of the trum - pet blast      How does the crea - ture cry  
 3. God of the emp - ty grave      How does the crea - ture say  
 4. God of the prod - i - gal      How does the crea - ture say  
 5. God of the prun - ing hook      How does the crea - ture say  
 6. God of the lov - ing heart      How do your chil - dren say

1. Awe      How does the crea - ture say      Praise  
 2. Woe      How does the crea - ture cry      Save  
 3. Grace      How does the crea - ture say      Thanks  
 4. Care      How does the crea - ture say      Life  
 5. Love      How does the crea - ture say      Peace  
 6. Joy      How do your chil - dren say      Home

\* last time

1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing  
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy  
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my  
 fears sub - side; bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent; land me safe on

power - ful hand; bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
 jour - ney through; strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer,  
 Ca - naan's side; songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es,

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.  
 be thou still my strength and shield, be thou still my strength and shield.  
 I will ev - er give to thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

