

AThe Falls Village Congregational Church
August 29, 2021 10 a.m.
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Announcements

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude *Aria* – G. B. Pescetti

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

Call to Worship –

Children of God, welcome!

Welcome to this place of love and grace.

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

God invites all of us to be part of the beloved community.

God invites all of us to share in the good news.

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God.

Opening Hymn – #67 *O God our Help in Ages Past*

Call to Prayer:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

Most holy God, we await the touch of your Spirit with eagerness. We ask that you enter the lives of each one of us today, refreshing, renewing and healing us with the power of your loving Spirit, that we may see with your eyes, love with your heart, and live with your courage, after the manner of Jesus who makes us whole. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we may be able to admit the fulness of our lives—that which is beautiful and good and that which is hurtful and hateful.

We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We

love with conditions, we judge and condemn, we cast the first stone, we don't see the logs in our own eyes. We fail to turn to you as the source of our healing. Forgive us our sin, we pray, and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Responsive Reading—Psalm 8, p. 728

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: Ecclesiastes 1:1-14
Luke 2: 22-24, 36-39

Lynn Reifsnyder
Rich Reifsnyder

Prayer

Sermon: “Beyond the Pension Plan”

The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnyder

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

Hymn #75 *I Was There to Hear your Borning Cry*

Benediction

Benediction Response

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

You are invited to place your offering as you leave in the plate at either entrance to the church

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Descant

6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
1. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2. Un - der the shad - ow of thy throne still may we dwell se - cure;
3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived its frame,
4. A thou - sand a - ges, in thy sight, are like an eve - ning gone;
5. Time, like an e - ver - roll - ing stream, soon bears us all a - way;
6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.
1. our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home!
2. suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
3. from ev - er - last - ing, thou art God, to end - less years the same.
4. short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.
5. we fly for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pening day.
6. be thou our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.
MUSIC: Attr. William Croft, 1708; desc. Donald P. Hustad, 1989

ST. ANNE
CM

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Psalm 8

Johann J. Schütz; tr. Frances E. Cox
Bohemian Brethren's Kirchengesänge

RESPONSE

Unison

Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the
God of all cre - a - tion.

R

- 1 O LORD, our God,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
- 2 Out of the mouths of babes and infants
**you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger. R**
- 3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;
4 what are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?
- 5 Yet you have made them a little lower than God,
and crowned them with glory and honor. R
- 6 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet,
- 7 all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
- 8 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
- 9 O LORD, our God,
how majestic is your name in all the earth! R

Scripture Lessons for August 29, 2021

ECCLESIASTES 1:1-14

The words of the Teacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem. ²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ³What do people gain from all the toil at which they toil under the sun?

⁴A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. ⁵The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises. ⁶The wind blows to the south, and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. ⁷All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they continue to flow. ⁸All things are wearisome; more than one can express; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, or the ear filled with hearing.

⁹What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun. ¹⁰Is there a thing of which it is said, “See, this is new”? It has already been, in the ages before us. ¹¹The people of long ago are not remembered, nor will there be any remembrance of people yet to come by those who come after them.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

LUKE 2: 22-24, 36-39

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

³⁶There was there a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

75 I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

Unison

1. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
 3. When you heard the won - der of the word I was
 5. In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
 7. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
 there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.

2. I was there when you were but a child, with a
 4. If you find some - one to share your time and you
 6. When the eve - ning gen - tly clos - es in and you

Fine

faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
 shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have

wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell.
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.