

The Falls Village Congregational Church
September 25, 2022 10 a.m.
16th Sunday after Pentecost
The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Announcements

Ring of the Bell

Prelude - *Allegro* - J. Haydn

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

Call to Worship – Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the Lord with all your heart

And do not rely on your own insight.

In all your ways acknowledge God

And God will make straight your paths.

Come, let us worship the God who promises to guide us.

Prayer for God's Presence (Unison)

Most holy God: We await the touch of your Spirit, asking that as we worship, you might be present with each of us, refreshing, renewing, and healing us, that we may see with your eyes, love with your heart, and act with your courage, after the manner of Jesus, who makes us whole. Amen.

Opening Hymn – #517 *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Dear God, we acknowledge we don't deserve your forgiveness. Day after day, we sin, and we fall short of what you desire for us. We are unworthy of your mercy, and yet you offer it to us new every morning. Thank you, Lord, for your assurance that when we repent and ask for forgiveness, you remember our sins no more. Lord, although we still remember and may not forget hurt, you have given us the greatest example of forgiveness--Jesus, who experienced hurt and betrayal and yet chose to forgive, even those who put him to death. Assured of your forgiveness and following his model, help us to be bold to forgive others so that our hearts might be healed. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Responsive Reading – Psalm 139:1-12, p. 765

Gloria Patri

#35 in hymnal

Passing of the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you

And also with you.

Let us pass the peace of Christ.

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Scripture: Isaiah 43:15-21, 25-28

Frank Hadsell

Romans 3:21-26; 5:6-11

Rich Reifsnyder

Prayer

Sermon: “Love So Amazing” (forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us --5th in a series on the Lord's Prayer)

The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnyder

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

Musical Offering - *For Where Love is There is God* - D. Wagner

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

Hymn #619 *“My Life Flows On”*

Benediction

Benediction Response

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

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

517 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1. Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;
 3. Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er, let us all thy life re-ceive;
 4. Fin-ish, then, thy new cre-a-tion; pure and spot-less let us be,

fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy faith-ful mercies crown;
 let us all in thee in-her-it, let us find thy prom-ised rest;
 sud-den-ly re-turn and nev-er, nev-er-more thy tem-ples leave.
 let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in thee;

Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion, pure, un-bound-ed love thou art;
 take a-way our love of sin-ning; al-pha and o-me-ga be;
 Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing, serve thee as thy hosts a-bove,
 changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry, till in heaven we take our place,

vis-it us with thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.
 end of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
 pray, and praise thee with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
 till we cast our crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise.

Psalm 139:1-12

RESPONSE

Psalm 139:23
 Martin Luther; adapt. Carlton R. Young

Search me, O God, and know my heart.

R

- 1 O God, you have searched me and known me.
- 2 **You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
 you discern my thoughts from far away.**
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down,
 and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 **Even before a word is on my tongue,
 you know it completely.**
- 5 You hem me in, behind and before,
 and lay your hand upon me.
- 6 **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
 it is so high that I cannot attain it. R**
- 7 Where can I go from your spirit?
 Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 8 **If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
 if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**
- 9 If I take the wings of the morning
 and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
 10 **even there your hand shall lead me,
 and your right hand shall hold me fast.**
- 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
 and the light around me become night,"
 12 **even the darkness is not dark to you;
 the night is as bright as the day,
 for darkness is as light to you. R**

Scripture Lessons for September 25, 2022

ISAIAH 43:15-21, 25-28

¹⁵I am the LORD, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King. ¹⁶Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise....²⁵I, am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins. ²⁶Accuse me, let us go to trial; set forth your case, so that you may be proved right. ²⁷Your first ancestor sinned, and your interpreters transgressed against me. ²⁸Therefore I profaned the princes of the sanctuary, I delivered Jacob to utter destruction, and Israel to reviling.

ROMANS 3:21-26; 5:6-11

³²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

⁵⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

My Life Flows On 619

1. My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.
2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring-ing.
3. What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.
4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?