

The Falls Village Congregational Church

September 4, 2022 10:00 a.m.

13th Sunday after Pentecost

The Reverend Dr. Terrence Ryan, Worship Leader

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**Greetings and Announcements**

**Ringing of the Church Bell**

**Gathering Words**

The Lord is risen.

**He is risen indeed!**

Alleluia. Amen

**Choral Prelude** *I Am Light, I am Life, I am Love* - M. McDonald

**THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE**

**\*Gathering Hymn #701** *"Shall We Gather At The River"*

**Call to Worship**

Leader: In life, in death, in the life beyond,

**People: Jesus Christ is Lord.**

Leader: Over powers and principalities, over all who determine or control the affairs of humankind.

**People: Jesus Christ is Lord.**

Leader: Of the poor, of the broken, of the sinned against and the sinner.

**People: Jesus Christ is Lord.**

Leader: Let us worship the risen and living Christ who is Lord of us all.

**Opening Hymn #452** *Here I Am Lord*

**Opening Prayer:**

**Gracious God, there are times when we are drawn to You by the ache in our hearts. There are times when we see the sins of the world and the those of our own hearts and we grieve. Jesus, come be present in this sanctuary and lead us out of our discouragement into the joy of hope. We cannot do it alone. Come, Lord Jesus, and save us.**

**Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

**I am a sinner. I walk too much in the darkness of self-interest, and I speak words that dishonor Your name. I ask your forgiveness, and I pray in this moment for a new beginning.**

**Silent Prayer of Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Responsive Reading** Psalm 139: 1-12, pg. 765

**Gloria Patri**

**Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you

**And also with you.**

Let us pass the peace of Christ.

**WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD GOD**

Scripture Readings: Psalm 139: 1-6

Linda Ryan

Romans 12:9-16

Rev. Terry Ryan

**Prayer**

**Sermon:** "A Simple Prayer"

The Rev. Terry Ryan

**TO RESPOND IN FAITH**

*Sacrament of Holy Communion*

**Invitation to Communion**

**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

**WE DEPART THIS SANCTUARY INTO THE WORLD TO  
SERVE GOD**

Closing Hymn: #548 "The Old Rugged Cross"

### 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.*

701

## Shall We Gather at the River

1. Shall we gath-er at the riv-er, where bright an-gel feet have  
2. On the mar-gin of the riv-er, wash-ing up its sil-ver  
3. Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er, lay we ev-ery bur-den  
4. Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv-er, soon our pil-grim-age will

trod, with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er flow-ing  
spray, we will walk and wor-ship ev-er, all the  
down; grace our spir-its will de-liv-er, and pro-  
cease; soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er with the

*Refrain*  
by the throne of God?  
hap-py gold-en day. Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er,  
vide a robe and crown.  
mel-o-dy of peace.

the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er; gath-er with the



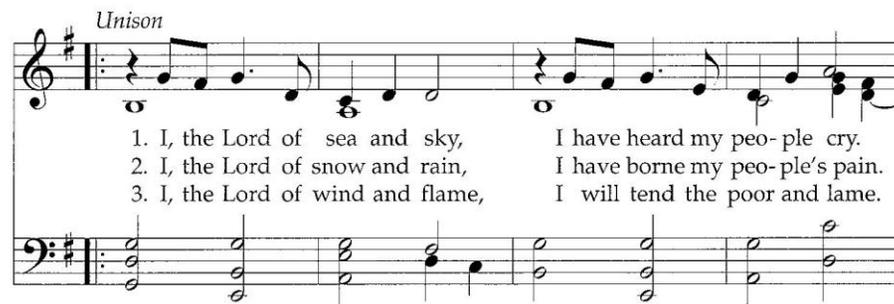
saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

452

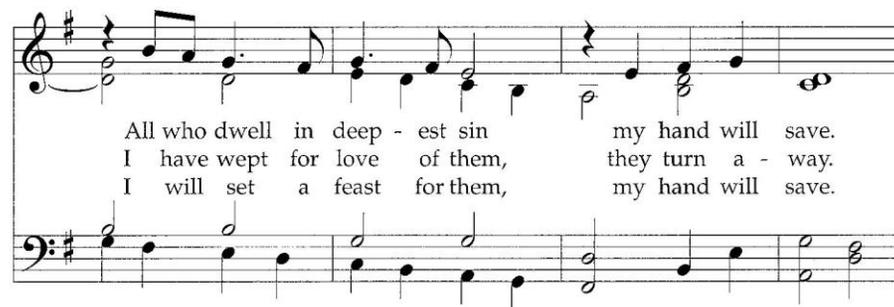
Here I Am, Lord



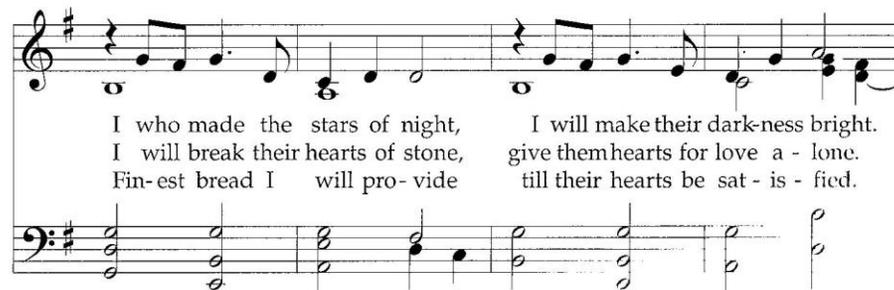
*Unison*



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.  
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.  
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will save.  
 I have wept for love of them, they turn a - way.  
 I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.



I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 Fin-est bread I will pro- vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Harmony*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you call-ing in the

night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will

hold your peo-ple in my heart. heart.  
 heart, in my heart.

## 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 4, 2022*

### *Romans 12:9-16*

#### Marks of the True Christian

<sup>9</sup> Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup> love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup> Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. <sup>13</sup> Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality.

<sup>14</sup> Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup> Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly;<sup>[a]</sup> never be conceited.

### *Psalm 139: 1-6*

#### The Inescapable God

*To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.*

- 139** O LORD, thou hast searched me and known me!  
<sup>2</sup> Thou knowest when I sit down and when I rise up;  
thou discernest my thoughts from afar.  
<sup>3</sup> Thou searchest out my path and my lying down,  
and art acquainted with all my ways.  
<sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue,  
lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.  
<sup>5</sup> Thou dost beset me behind and before,  
and layest thy hand upon me.  
<sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is high, I cannot attain it.

## The Old Rugged Cross

1. On a hill far a - way stood an old rug - ged cross,  
 2. O that old rug - ged cross, so de - spised by the world,  
 3. In that old rug - ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,  
 4. To the old rug - ged cross I will ev - er be true,

the em - blem of suf - fering and shame;  
 has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;  
 a won - drous beau - ty I see,  
 its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;

and I love that old cross where the dear - est and best  
 for the dear Lamb of God left his glo - ry a - bove  
 for 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,  
 then he'll call me some day to my home far a - way,

for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.  
 to bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.  
 to par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.  
 where his glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

## Refrain

So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross,  
 cross, the old rug - ged cross,

till my tro - phies at last I lay down;

I will cling to the old rug - ged cross,  
 cross, the old rug - ged cross,

and ex - change it some day for a crown.