

The Falls Village Congregational Church  
January 15, 2023 10 a.m.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany  
The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnnyder, Worship Leader

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Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude - *Andante in G* - W. A. Mozart

### THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

Call to Worship -Psalm 95: 6-7

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

**let us kneel before the Lord, our maker!**

For he is our God,

**And we the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

Opening Prayer (Unison):

God of mercy and compassion, who counts our tears and hears our sighs and knows the secrets of our hearts: Teach us that it is a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you. Fill us with visions of your kingdom that is to come, and empower us to follow you faithfully where you would lead us in the way of love and service. Amen.

Opening Hymn: #352 *Spirit Song*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious God, forgive our sins. Forgive the sins that we remember, and the sins we have forgotten. Forgive our many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when we have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times we have been proud of our own achievements and those when we have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments we have made of others, and the leniency we have shown to ourselves. Forgive the lies we have told to others, and the truths we have avoided. Forgive us the pain we have caused others and the

indulgence we have shown ourselves. Lord God, have mercy on us and make us whole. In Jesus Christ, our Savior's name, Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

### TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Responsive Reading Psalm 107:1-9, 33-43 p. 755.

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: Proverbs 12:17-22; 13:3; 25:11-12 Christine Wallace  
John 1:1-5, 14 Rich Reifsnnyder

Prayer

Sermon: "Watching our Words"

The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnnyder

### TO RESPOND IN FAITH

Offertory - *Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me* - arr. K. Lee Scott

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

### THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

Hymn #323 *Wonderful Words of Life*

Benediction

Benediction Response

*God Be with You till We Meet Again*

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Your tithes and offerings may be left in the plates at either entrance to the sanctuary.

Spirit Song

*Unison*

Gmaj7 Gmaj7/F# Em7 A7 A7/G

1. O let the Son of God en-fold you with his  
 2. (O come and) sing this song with glad-ness as your

F#m7 Bm7 Em7

Spir - it and his love. Let him fill your heart and  
 hearts are filled with joy. Lift your hands in sweet sur-

A7 D Dmaj7 Em7 F#m7 Gmaj7 Gmaj7/F#

sat - is - fy your soul. O let him have the things that  
 ren - der to his name. O give him all your tears and

Em7 A7 A7/G F#m7 Bm7

hold you, and his Spir - it like a dove will de -  
 sad - ness; give him all your years of pain, and you'll

Em G6/A G/A A7 D C/D D

scend up-on your life and make you whole.  
 en - ter in - to life in Je - sus' name.

*Refrain*

Gmaj7 A7 A9/G F#m7 Bm

Je - sus, O Je - sus,

Em7 A7 Dmaj7 C/D D

come and fill your lambs.

Gmaj7 A7 A9/G F#m7 Bm

Je - sus, O Je - sus,

Em7 G6/A G/A D

1. come and fill your lambs. 2. O come and

# Psalm 107:1-9, 33-43

James Weldon Johnson  
J. Rosamond Johnson

RESPONSE

Lift ev - ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en  
ring. Let them re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.

**R**

- 1 O give thanks to the LORD, who is good;  
whose steadfast love endures forever.
- 2 **Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,**  
those redeemed from trouble
- 3 and gathered in from the lands,  
**from the east and from the west,**  
**from the north and from the south.**
- 4 Some wandered in desert wastes,  
finding no way to an inhabited town;
- 5 **hungry and thirsty,**  
**their soul fainted within them.**
- 6 Then they cried to the LORD,  
who delivered them from their distress;
- 7 **and led them by a straight way,**  
**until they reached an inhabited town.**
- 8 Let them thank the LORD for steadfast love,  
for wonderful works to humankind.
- 9 **For the LORD satisfies the thirsty,**  
**and fills the hungry with good things.** **R**

(Continued on following page)

- 33 The LORD turns rivers into a desert,  
springs of water into thirsty ground,
- 34 **a fruitful land into a salty waste,**  
**because of the wickedness of its inhabitants.**
- 35 The LORD turns a desert into pools of water,  
a parched land into springs of water.
- 36 **And there the LORD lets the hungry live,**  
**and they establish a town to live in;**
- 37 they sow fields, and plant vineyards,  
and get a fruitful yield.
- 38 **They multiply greatly by the blessing of the LORD,**  
**who does not let their cattle decrease.**
- 39 When they are diminished and brought low  
through oppression, trouble, and sorrow,
- 40 the LORD pours contempt on despots  
and makes them wander in trackless wastes,
- 41 **but raises up the needy out of distress,**  
**and makes their families like flocks.**
- 42 The upright see it and are glad;  
and all wickedness stops its mouth.
- 43 **Let those who are wise give heed to these things,**  
**and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.** **R**

*Scripture Lessons for January 15, 2023*

**PROVERBS 12:17-22; 13:3; 25:11-12**

<sup>12:17</sup>Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness speaks deceitfully.

<sup>18</sup>Rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

<sup>19</sup>Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

<sup>20</sup>Deceit is in the mind of those who plan evil, but those who counsel peace have joy.

<sup>21</sup>No harm happens to the righteous, but the wicked are filled with trouble.

<sup>22</sup>Lying lips are an abomination to the LORD, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

<sup>13:3</sup>Those who guard their mouths preserve their lives; those who open wide their lips come to ruin.

<sup>25:11</sup>A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.

<sup>12</sup>Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold is a wise rebuke to a listening ear.

**JOHN 1:1-5, 14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people... <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

## Wonderful Words of Life

1. Sing them o - ver a - gain to me, won - der - ful words of life;  
 2. Christ, the bless - ed one, gives to all, won - der - ful words of life;  
 3. Sweet - ly ech - o the gos - pel call, won - der - ful words of life;

let me more of their beau - ty see, won - der - ful words of life.  
 sin - ner, list to the lov - ing call, won - der - ful words of life.  
 of - fer par - don and peace to all, won - der - ful words of life.

Words of life and beau - ty, teach me faith and du - ty;  
 All so free - ly giv - en, woo - ing us to heav - en;  
 Je - sus, on - ly Sav - ior, sanc - ti - fy for - ev - er;

*Refrain*

beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of life,