

The Falls Village Congregational Church
January 8, 2023 10 a.m.
The Baptism of the Lord
The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude - *Andante in A Major* - T. Arne

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

Call to Worship

This is the day that the Lord has made.

We will be glad and rejoice in it.

This is the year that the Lord has begun.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

God's compassions never fail. They are new every morning.

Great is his faithfulness.

The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to those who seek him.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

O Lord, our God, we gather together today to give you thanks and praise your greatness. We praise your mighty works to the whole world. Your power is limitless, your wisdom is unparalleled, your grace is overwhelming, your love is never failing. You promised that you will never leave or forsake us. Confident of those truths we come to worship you in spirit and truth. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Opening Hymn: #586 *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious God, we confess that we have too often forgotten that we are yours. Sometimes we carry on our lives as if you do not exist and thus we fall short of being a credible witness to you. For these things we ask for your forgiveness and for strength to be more trustworthy. Give us clear minds and open hearts so we show our

determination to follow you. Remind us to be who you would have us to be regardless of what we are doing or who we are with. Strengthen our relationship with you and all your children. Amen
Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

Responsive Reading Psalm 29, p. 737.

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: Isaiah 42:5-9

Matthew 3:13-17

Rich Reifsnyder

Prayer

Sermon:

"Every Christian's Call"

The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnyder

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

Offertory - *Day By Day* - M. How

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

Hymn #226 *He Lives*

Benediction

Benediction Response

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

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

Open My Eyes, That I May See 586

1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou
 2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic-es of truth thou
 3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad-ly the warm truth

hast for me; place in my hands the won-der-ful key
 send-est clear; and while the wave-notes fall on my ear,
 ev-ery-where; o - pen my heart and let me pre-pare

Refrain

that shall un-clasp and set me free.
 ev-ery-thing false will dis-ap-pear. Si-lent-ly now I
 love with thy chil-dren thus to share.

wait for thee, read-y, my God, thy will to see.

O - pen my eyes,
 O - pen my ears, il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!
 O - pen my heart,

Psalm 29

Charles Wesley
 John Hatton

RESPONSE

With joy the God of Hosts pro-claim,
 ex-tol the great al-might-y name.

R

- 1 Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 2 Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.
- 3 The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
**the God of glory thunders,
 the LORD, over mighty waters.**
- 4 The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. R
- 5 The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
 the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- 6 **The LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
 and Sirion like a young wild ox.**
- 7 The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
- 8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- 9 The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
 and strips the forest bare;
and in God's temple all say, "Glory!"
- 10 The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
 the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
- 11 **May the LORD give strength to God's people!
 May the LORD bless God's people with peace! R**

ISAIAH 42:5-9

⁵Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

MATTHEW 3:13-17

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

1. I serve a ris - en Sav - ior, he's in the world to - day;
2. In all the world a - round me I see his lov - ing care,
3. Re - joice, re - joice, O Chris - tian, lift up your voice and sing

I know that he is liv - ing, what - ev - er oth - ers say.
and though my heart grows wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair.
e - ter - nal hal - le - lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King!

I see his hand of mer - cy, I hear his voice of cheer,
I know that he is lead - ing through all the storm - y blast;
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find;

and just the time I need him, he's al - ways near.
the day of his ap - pear - ing will come at last.
none oth - er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

Refrain

He lives, he lives, Christ Je - sus lives to - day!
(he lives) (he lives)

He walks with me and talks with me a - long life's nar - row way.

He lives, he lives, sal - va - tion to im - part!
(he lives) (he lives)

You ask me how I know he lives? He lives with-in my heart.