

The Falls Village Congregational Church

April 23, 2023 10 a.m.

3rd Sunday of Easter

The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude - *Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing* - T. Keesecker

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

Call to Worship – (from Philippians 2)

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,
**who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality
with God a thing to be grasped,**

but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in
human likeness.

**And being found in human form, he humbled himself by
becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.**

Therefore, God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the
name that is above every name,

**so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven
and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,**

Opening Prayer (Unison):

**O God, lead us in our worship today, that our lips might praise
you, our lives might bless you, and our thoughts might glorify your
name. Knowing that you always hear us, help us to hear you. In
the name of the risen Lord Jesus. Amen.**

Opening Hymn: #229 “That Easter Day with Joy was Bright”

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God: we confess that we have too often failed to be
an obedient church. We have not done your will. We have broken
your law. We have rebelled against your love, and refused to hear
the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray, and free us for joyful
obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

TO HEAR GOD’S WORD

Responsive Reading Psalm 98, p. 750

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: Acts 2:22-24, 36-41

Christine Wallace

I Peter 3:8-16

Rich Reifsnyder

Prayer

Sermon: “Confessing What We Live”

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 #536 “*When We Are Living*”

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.

229 That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

1. That Eas - ter day with joy was bright,
 2. His ris - en flesh with ra - diance glowed;
 3. O Je - sus, strong in gen - tle - ness,
 4. Come, ris - en Christ, with us a - bide

the sun shone out with fair - er light,
 his wound - ed hands and feet he showed
 come now your - self our hearts pos - sess,
 in this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide;

when, to their long - ing eyes re - stored,
 those scars their sol - emn wit - ness gave
 that we may give you all our days
 your own re - deemed for ev - er shield

the glad a - pos - tles saw their Lord.
 that Christ was ris - en from the grave.
 the trib - ute of our grate - ful praise.
 from ev - 'ry weap - on death can wield.

Psalm 98

Psalm 98:1
 David Goodrich

RESPONSE

Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done such mar-vel-ous things.

R

- 1 O sing to the LORD a new song,
 for the Lord has done marvelous things.
 God's right hand and holy arm
 have gotten the victory.
- 2 **The LORD has declared victory,
 and has revealed vindication in the sight of the nations.**
- 3 The Lord has remembered steadfast love and faithfulness
 to the house of Israel.
**All the ends of the earth have seen
 the victory of our God. R**
- 4 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
- 5 Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
 with the lyre and the sound of melody.
- 6 **With trumpets and the sound of the horn
 make a joyful noise before the LORD who reigns. R**
- 7 Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
- 8 Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
- 9 **at the presence of the LORD,
 who is coming to judge the earth.
 The Lord will judge the world with righteousness,
 and the peoples with equity. R**

Scripture Lessons for April 23, 2023

ACTS 2: 22-24, 36-41

²²“You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.

³⁶Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

1 PETER 3:8-16

⁸Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind. ⁹Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you were called—that you might inherit a blessing. ¹⁰For “Those who desire life and desire to see good days, let them keep their tongues from evil and their lips from speaking deceit; ¹¹let them turn away from evil and do good; let them seek peace and pursue it. ¹²For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” ¹³Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.

Pues Si Vivimos (When We Are Living)

Unísono (Unison)

D Em A7 D

1. Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos
2. En es - ta vi - da, fru - tos he - mos de dar.

1. When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
2. Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.

Bm Em A7 D

y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.
Las o - bras fue - ras son pa - ra o - fren - dar.

and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.

G Em A F#m

Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
Ya sea que de - mos o que re - ci - ba - mos,

Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,

Estríbillo (Refrain)

last time to Coda

Bm Em A7 D

so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.
we be - long to God, we be - long to God.

Bm Em A7 D

So - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.
We be - long to God, we be - long to God.

3. En la tristeza y en el dolor,
en la belleza y en el amor,
sea que suframos o que gocemos,
Estríbillo
4. En este mundo, hemos de encontrar
gente que llora y sin consolar.
Sea que ayudemos o que alimentemos,
Estríbillo
3. 'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
Refrain
4. Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind,
but when we help them, or when we feed them,
Refrain