

The Falls Village Congregational Church
June 11, 2023 10 a.m.
2nd Sunday after Pentecost
The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude - *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* - arr. M. Larkin

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

Call to Worship –

By faith, we trust that we were created in the image of God.

By faith, we hope and dream and make plans.

By faith, we face our fears and insecurities.

By faith, we till the soil of our lives and plant seeds of love.

By faith, we follow where God leads.

By faith, we trust that God is present in our midst.

By faith, we gather in this place to worship God together.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

God of Infinite Wisdom: You have been faithful to your people throughout time. Help us to be receptive to your presence in this time of worship. Calm our minds. Open our ears. Penetrate our hearts that we might still hear of your faithfulness. Amen.

Opening Hymn: #6 “*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*”

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God: We are not always people who live by faith. We know that we were created in your image, but we treat ourselves and each other in ways that do not honor your presence within us. We know your laws and your commandments, but we choose to disobey you and to act in ways that harm our neighbors. We hear your call to reach out to those most in need, but instead we turn our backs on them and on you. Forgive us, O God, and

help us day by day to become more faithful followers and the people you created us to be. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

TO HEAR GOD’S WORD

Responsive Reading Psalm 27: 1-6, 13-14, p. 736

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: Genesis 12:1-9

Tracy Atwood

Romans 4:13-25

Rich Reifsnyder

Prayer

Sermon: “It Depends on Faith”

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 - #86 “*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*”

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.

6 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1. Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
 2. Our God is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -
 3. Then all my glad - some way a - long, I sing a - loud your
 4. Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God all praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
 tress - ing, an ev - er pres - ent help and stay, our peace and
 prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song my voice un -
 glo - ry; let all who own God's power pro - claim a - loud the

our sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm my soul is filled and
 joy and bless - ing. As with a moth - er's ten - der hand, God
 wea - ried rais - es. Be joy - ful in the Lord, my heart, both
 won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, for

ev - ery faith - less mur - mur stilled: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 gent - ly leads the cho - sen band: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 soul and bod - y bear your part: to God all praise and glo - ry.
 Christ is Lord, and Christ a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry.

Psalm 27:1-6, 13-14

RESPONSE James Montgomery
The Sacred Harp; harm. Austin C. Lovelace

Unison

God is my strong sal - va - tion: What foe have I to fear?

R

- 1 The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
**The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?**
- 2 When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
**my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.**
- 3 Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
**though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.**
- 4 One thing I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
**to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in God's temple. R**
- 5 God will hide me in a shelter
in the day of trouble;
**will conceal me under the cover of a tent;
and will set me high on a rock.**
- 6 Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
**and I will offer in God's tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**
- 13 I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.
- 14 **Wait for the LORD;**
be strong, and let your heart take courage.
Wait for the LORD! R

Scripture Lessons for June 11, 2023

GENESIS 12: 1-9

Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot, and all the possessions that they had gathered, and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran; and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan,

⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram, and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; and there he built an altar to the LORD and invoked the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

ROMANS 4:13-25

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us,

¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.”

²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness 86

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther, there is no shad-ow of
2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon and stars in their
3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thy own dear pres-ence to

turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-pas-sions, they fail not;
cours-es a - bove, join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit-ness
cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

Refrain
as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be. Great is thy faith-ful-ness!
to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy and love.
bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have

need-ed thy hand hath pro-vid-ed — Great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!