

The Falls Village Congregational Church  
July 2, 2023 10:00 a.m.  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

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Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Church Bell

Choral Prelude –*For the Beauty of the Earth* – S. DeFord

**THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE**

Call to Worship ( from Psalm 33)

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord

**The people whom he has chosen for his heritage**

Truly the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him

**On those who hope in his steadfast love.**

Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us.

**Even as we hope in you.**

Prayer for God's Presence:

Gracious God, you have made all the peoples of the earth for your glory. You invite us to serve you in freedom and in peace. Give to us in this church and this nation a zeal for justice and the strength for forbearance, that we may use our liberty in accordance with your gracious will. Amen.

Hymn # 64 *"We Sing the Mighty Power of God"*

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Gloria Patri

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you

**And also with you.**

Let us pass the peace of Christ.

**TO HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Readings: 2 Kings 20:1-6

I Peter 2: 4-12

Christine Wallace

Rich Reifsnyder

Prayer

Sermon: "Prayer and Providence"

**TO RESPOND IN FAITH**

*Sacrament of Holy Communion*

Invitation to Communion

Hymn of Preparation #395 *"Seed, Scattered and Sown"*

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

### THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

Closing Hymn: #720 "O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"

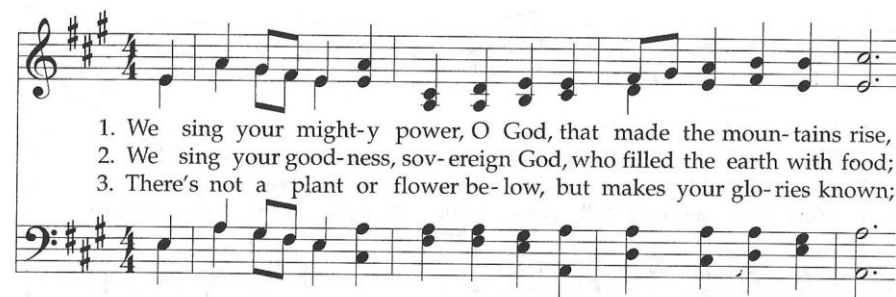
### Benediction

### Benediction Response

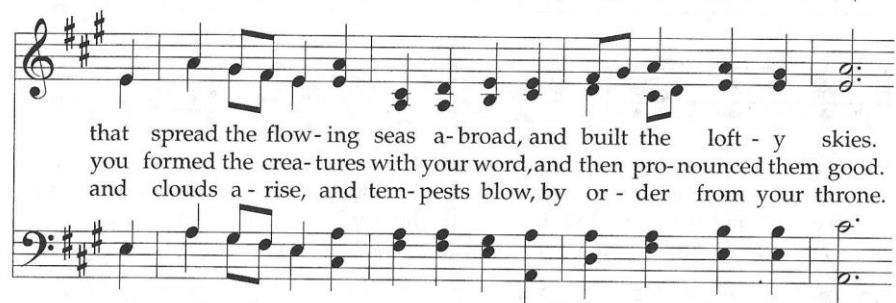
*God Be with You till We Meet Again*

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*You are invited to place your offerings as you leave in the plate at either entrance to the church.*

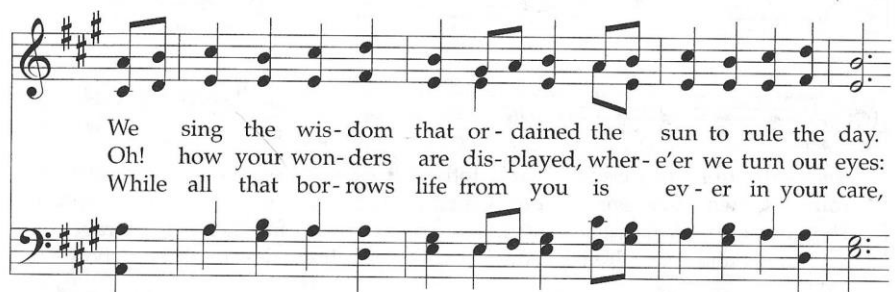
## We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God 64



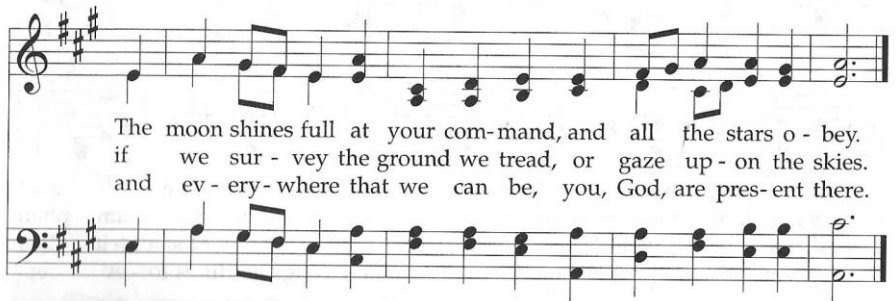
1. We sing your might-y power, O God, that made the moun-tains rise,  
2. We sing your good-ness, sov-ereign God, who filled the earth with food;  
3. There's not a plant or flower be-low, but makes your glo-ries known;



that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad, and built the loft-y skies.  
you formed the crea-tures with your word, and then pro-nounced them good.  
and clouds a-rise, and tem-pests blow, by or-der from your throne.



We sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day.  
Oh! how your won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er we turn our eyes:  
While all that bor-rows life from you is ev-er in your care,



The moon shines full at your com-mand, and all the stars o-bey.  
if we sur-vey the ground we tread, or gaze up-on the skies.  
and ev-ery-where that we can be, you, God, are pres-ent there.

Seed, scat-tered and sown, wheat, gath-ered and  
grown, bread, bro-ken and shared as one, the  
Liv - ing Bread of God. Vine, fruit of the  
land, wine, work of our hands,  
one cup that is shared by all; the Liv - ing Cup, the

Liv - ing Bread of God. God.  
1. Is not the bread we break a shar - ing in our  
2. The seed which falls on rock will with - er and will  
3. As wheat up - on the hills was gath - ered and was  
Lord? Is not the cup we bless the  
die. The seed with - in good ground will  
grown, so may the church of God be  
blood of Christ out - poured?  
flow - er and have life.  
gath - ered in - to one.

## *Scripture Lessons for July 2, 2023*

### *2 KINGS 20:1-6*

In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, “Thus says the LORD: Set your house in order, for you shall die; you shall not recover.” <sup>2</sup>Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD: <sup>3</sup>“Remember now, O LORD, I implore you, how I have walked before you in faithfulness with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight.” Hezekiah wept bitterly. <sup>4</sup>Before Isaiah had gone out of the middle court, the word of the LORD came to him: <sup>5</sup>“Turn back, and say to Hezekiah prince of my people, Thus says the LORD, the God of your ancestor David: I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; indeed, I will heal you; on the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>I will add fifteen years to your life. I will deliver you and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; I will defend this city for my own sake and for my servant David’s sake.”

### *1 PETER 2:4-12*

<sup>4</sup>Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and <sup>5</sup>like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” <sup>7</sup>To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” <sup>8</sup>and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, I urge you as aliens and exiles to abstain from the desires of the flesh that wage war against the soul. <sup>12</sup>Conduct yourselves honorably among the Gentiles, so that, though they malign you as evildoers, they may see your honorable deeds and glorify God when he comes to judge.

720

## O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

1. O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, for am-ber waves of grain,  
 2. O beau-ti-ful for he-roes proved in lib-er-at-ing strife,  
 3. O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream that sees be-yond the years

for pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties a-bove the fruit-ed plain!  
 who more than self their coun-try loved, and mer-cy more than life!  
 thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, un-dimmed by hu-man tears!

A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed full grace on thee,  
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine,  
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-ery flaw,

and crown thy good with ser-vant-hood from sea to shin-ing sea.  
 till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness and ev-ery gain di-vine.  
 con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, thy lib-er-ty in law.