

The Falls Village Congregational Church  
August 27, 2023 10 a.m.  
12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Reverend Terrence Ryan, Worship Leader

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Welcome and Announcements  
Ringling of the Bell  
Prelude - *Presto* - J. Haydn

**THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE**

**Call to Worship –**

God's Spirit is moving among us: thanks be to God!

**How good it is to be chosen by God; we gather to sing and to give thanks.**

The Lord has done great things. Now the Lord is calling us to confront hatred with love, compassion, and mercy.

**The Scriptures show us the way. Am I ready to risk the slings and arrows of those who bear bitterness and hatred for people who are different than they are?**

Will we dare the wilderness of the times we live in? Will we love those who are convinced that we who follow Christ are fools?

**We know what is behind us. We do not know what awaits us around the next turn in the path.**

Then, onward to Glory we go!

**Prayer for God's Presence (Unison):**

**Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us. Strengthen us to stand for what is good. Give us the words to speak, the joy to live, and that love to care about our neighbors and our fellow pilgrims who**

**are hard at sea who seek a new beginning. Enter our hearts as we worship, as we give You our praise, and, most of all, as we give our thanksgiving. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn: #115 "There's Something About That Name"**

**Prayer of Confession**

Loving and Almighty God, many times we think we love you well, but we deceive ourselves. We confess our love for you is diluted and divided. Our attention falls away. Our devotion dies. Our commitment withers. Forgive us, O God. In your deep mercy, spare us. Rekindle our love for you as we experience your love for us through the grace of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Silent Confession**

**Personal prayer of confession (in unison):**

**I have fallen short of the mark and often times miss the target of a sacred life. Give us humility to face the truth, courage to choose to live in Jesus' name, and the faith to trust Him now and forever.**

**TO HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**Responsive Reading** Psalm 147:1-6. Page 767

**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 26:1-11

John 8:31-38

Dick Heinz

Rev. Terrence Ryan

**Prayer**

**Sermon:** "A Fifty Year Old Cake"

The Rev. Terrence Ryan

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

Offertory Hymn – *Sing to the Lord* - Peterson  
Pastoral Prayer  
Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

Hymn #592 "Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

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.

There's Something About That Name 115

Je- sus, Je- sus, Je - sus! There's just some-thing a - bout that

name! Mas- ter, Sav- ior, Je - sus! Like the fra- grance

af- ter the rain. Je- sus, Je- sus, Je - sus! Let all

heav- en and earth pro- claim: kings and king- doms will

all pass a - way, but there's some-thing a - bout that name!

## Psalm 147:1-6

RESPONSE

Charles Wesley  
Robert Williams; harm. Carlton R. Young

Musical score for Psalm 147:1-6. The score is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Praise to God who reigns a - bove; Al - le - lu - ia!"

**R**

- 1 Praise the LORD!  
How good it is to sing praises to our God;  
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.
- 2 **The LORD builds up Jerusalem,**  
**and gathers the outcasts of Israel.**
- 3 God heals the brokenhearted,  
and binds up their wounds.
- 4 **God determines the number of the stars,**  
**and gives to all of them their names.**
- 5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;  
whose understanding is beyond measure.
- 6 **The LORD lifts up the downtrodden,**  
**but casts the wicked to the ground. R**

## Scripture Lessons for August 27, 2023

### Proverbs 26:1-11

- 26 Like snow in summer or rain in harvest,  
so honor is not fitting for a fool.
- 2 Like a sparrow in its flitting, like a swallow in its flying,  
an undeserved curse goes nowhere.
- 3 A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey,  
and a rod for the back of fools.
- 4 Do not answer fools according to their folly,  
lest you be a fool yourself.
- 5 Answer fools according to their folly,  
lest they be wise in their own eyes.
- 6 It is like cutting off one's foot and drinking down violence,  
to send a message by a fool.
- 7 The legs of a lame person hang limp;  
so does a proverb in the mouth of a fool.
- 8 It is like binding a stone in a sling  
to give honor to a fool.
- 9 Like a thornbush brandished by the hand of a drunkard  
is a proverb in the mouth of a fool.
- 10 Like an archer who wounds everybody  
is one who hires a passing fool or drunkard. <sup>[a]</sup>
- 11 Like a dog that returns to its vomit  
is a fool who reverts to his folly.

*John 8:31-38*

True Disciples

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup> and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup> They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free?’”

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed. <sup>37</sup> I know that you are descendants of Abraham, yet you look for an opportunity to kill me because there is no place in you for my word. <sup>38</sup> I declare what I have seen in the Father’s presence; as for you, you should do what you have

heard from the Father.”

592 Every Time I Feel the Spirit

*Refrain*

Ev-ery time I feel the Spir-it mov-ing in my heart, I will

pray. Yes, ev-ery time I feel the Spir-it mov-ing

*Fine*

in my heart, I will pray.

1. Up-on the moun-tain, my Lord
2. Jor-dan Riv-er chil-ly and
3. I have heart-ache, I have

spoke, out his mouth came fire and smoke. All a-cold, chills the bod-y, not the soul. Ain't but woe, I have trou-ble here be-low. While God