

The Falls Village Congregational Church  
September 17, 2023 10 a.m.  
16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
The Reverend Henry Frueh, Worship Leader

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**Welcome and Announcements**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Prelude - *Fairest Lord Jesus* - arr. M. Bober**

**THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE**

**Call to Worship – (from Psalm 146)**

Come, gather together like those who sat at Jesus’ feet so many years ago.

**We gather with joy, for we too want to be disciples of Christ.**

I tell you, Christ is here with us, calling us now to life and love.

**Let us praise God for bringing us together, and coming to us in Jesus Christ.**

**Opening Prayer (Unison):**

**Eternal God, in birthing us into this world you have shared a great gift – life in all its dimensions. For the joys and sorrows, for the smiles and tears, for health and suffering, for belief and doubt, we praise you. May your loving Spirit guide us in this life, and in the life that knows no end. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn: #97 “*Fairest Lord Jesus*”**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God: You eagerly call us to follow Jesus. And we quickly say, “Yes, Lord!” only to later become reluctant, tentative, fearful, and doubtful. The heartbeat of our faith grows faint. We make convenient excuses. We settle for the good instead of reaching for the best. Yet your call and desire for us never fades! Forgive our weary faith. Restore our joy. Set our feet upon solid ground once again. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

**Silent Confession  
Assurance of Pardon**

**TO HEAR GOD’S WORD**

**Responsive Reading** Psalm 8, pg. 728

**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:** Micah 6:6-8

Matthew 5:1-12

Tracy Atwood

Rev. Henry Frueh

**Prayer**

**Sermon:** “On a Hill Not So Far Away”

The Rev. Henry Frueh

**TO RESPOND IN FAITH**

**Offertory – *Day By Day* - M. How**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE**

**Hymn #342 “*Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*”**

**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.

## Fairest Lord Jesus

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, rul - er of all na - ture,  
 2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the wood - lands,  
 3. Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light,

O thou of God to earth come down; thee will I cher - ish,  
 robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,  
 and all the twink - ling, star - ry hosts: Je - sus shines bright - er,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.

WORDS: *Münster Gesangbuch*, 1677; tr. *Church Chorals and Choir Studies*, 1850, alt.  
 MUSIC: *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842

ST. ELIZABETH  
 568.558

## Psalm 8

Johann J. Schütz; tr. Frances E. Cox  
 Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesänge*

## RESPONSE

*Unison*  
 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the

God of all cre - a - tion.

## R

- 1 O LORD, our God,  
**how majestic is your name in all the earth!**  
 You have set your glory above the heavens.
- 2 Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
**you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,**  
**to silence the enemy and the avenger. R**
- 3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
**the moon and the stars that you have established;**  
 what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
**mortals that you care for them?**
- 5 Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
**and crowned them with glory and honor. R**
- 6 You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
**you have put all things under their feet,**  
 all sheep and oxen,  
**and also the beasts of the field,**  
 the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
**whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**
- 9 O LORD, our God,  
**how majestic is your name in all the earth! R**

## *Scripture Lessons for September 17, 2023*

### *MICAH 6:6-8 (NRSV)*

#### **What God Requires**

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the LORD  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?  
<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”  
<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good,  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice and to love kindness  
and to walk humbly with your God?

### *MATTHEW 5:1-12*

#### **The Beatitudes**

<sup>5</sup> When Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he began to speak and taught them, saying:  
<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.  
<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely<sup>[b]</sup> on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

# Tú Has Venido a la Orilla

(Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore)

Unísono (Unison)

1. Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla,  
 2. Tú sa - bes bien lo que ten - go:

1. Lord, you have come to the lake - shore  
 2. You know so well my pos - ses - sions;

no has bus - ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos,  
 en mi bar - ca no hay o - ro ni es - pa - das,  
 look - ing nei - ther for wealth - y nor wise ones;  
 my boat car - ries no gold and no weap - ons;

tan só - lo quie - res que yo te si - ga.  
 tan só - lo re - des y mi tra - ba - jo.  
 you on - ly asked me to fol - low hum - bly.  
 you will find there my nets and la - bor.

*Estríbillo (Refrain)*

Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos  
 O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,

y son - rien - do has di - cho mi nom - bre;  
 and while smil - ing have spo - ken my name;

en la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi bar - ca;  
 now my boat's left on the shore - line be - hind me;

jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.  
 by your side I will seek oth - er seas.

3.  
 Tú necesitas mis manos,  
 mi cansancio que a otros descanse,  
 amor que quiera seguir amando.  
*Estríbillo*

4.  
 Tú, pescador de otros mares,  
 ansia eterna de almas que esperan,  
 amigo bueno, que así me llamas.  
*Estríbillo*

3.  
 You need my hands, full of caring  
 through my labors to give others rest,  
 and constant love that keeps on loving.  
*Refrain*

4.  
 You, who have fished other oceans,  
 ever longed for by souls who are waiting,  
 my loving friend, as thus you call me.  
*Refrain*