

The Falls Village Congregational Church

November 26, 2023 10 a.m.

26th Sunday after Pentecost – Christ the King Sunday

The Reverend Richard W. Reifsnyder, Worship Leader

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude – *Let All Things Now Living* - M. Larkin

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE

Call to Worship

The time of gathering is here.

We have come from far and wide to offer our praise to God for God’s many blessings to us.

Open your hearts to God’s compassionate words of love.

Help us, O Lord, to receive your gifts in gratitude and to live lives of helpful service to others.

In Christ’s name, we come to praise and offer thanks.

Opening Prayer (Unison):

Lord of bounty and blessing, we come to you this day in gratitude for all that we have been given. We are grateful for the blessings and for the opportunities to be of service to others in your holy name. Bless each of us here, that we may become truly blessings to others. For we ask this in Jesus’ name. AMEN.

Opening Hymn: #234 *“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, in the midst of our thanksgiving we confess how often we lose sight of the gifts each day and of you, their giver. We forget about you—we forget to love you, we forget to help our neighbors, we forget to thank you. Forgive us. Grant us clear minds to know you, strong hands to serve you. Help us live this

day, this week, and always so that our whole life is thanksgiving to you. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

TO HEAR GOD’S WORD

Responsive Reading Psalm 118:1-4, 14-17, 21-24 p. 758

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: Ezra 3:10-13

Lynn Reifsnyder

John 6:1-15

Rich Reifsnyder

Prayer

Sermon: “When Jesus Gives Thanks”

The Rev. Richard W. Reifsnyder

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

Offertory – *O Taste and See* - D. Wagner

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE

Hymn #717 *“Let All Things Now 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.

Crown Him with Many Crowns 234

1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne.
 2. Crown him the Lord of life, who tri-umphed o'er the grave,
 3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4. Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,

Hark! how the heav-en-ly an-them drowns all mu-sic but its own.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save;
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
 those wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau-ty glo' - ri - fied.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 his glo - ries now we sing who died, and rose on high,
 His reign shall know no end, and round his pier - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Psalm 118:1-4, 14-17, 21-24

Martin Rinkart; tr. Catherine Winkworth
 Johann Crüger; harm. Felix Mendelssohn

RESPONSE

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voic - es.

R

- 1 O give thanks to the LORD, who is good,
 whose steadfast love endures forever!
- 2 Let Israel say,
 "God's steadfast love endures forever."
- 3 Let the house of Aaron say,
 "God's steadfast love endures forever."
- 4 Let those who fear the LORD say,
 "God's steadfast love endures forever." R
- 14 The LORD is my strength and my might;
 the LORD has become my salvation.
- 15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
 "The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;
 the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
 the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."
- 17 I shall not die, but I shall live,
 and recount the deeds of the LORD. R
- 21 I thank you that you have answered me
 and have become my salvation.
- 22 The stone that the builders rejected
 has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the LORD's doing;
 it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 This is the day that the LORD has made;
 let us rejoice and be glad in it. R

Scripture Lessons for November 26, 2023

EZRA 3:10-13

And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD, the priests in their vestments came forward with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, to praise the LORD, according to the directions of David king of Israel;

11 and they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the LORD, "For he is good, for his steadfast love endures for ever toward Israel." And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

12 But many of the priests and Levites and heads of fathers' houses, old men who had seen the first house, wept with a loud voice when they saw the foundation of this house being laid, though many shouted aloud for joy;

13 so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people's weeping, for the people shouted with a great shout, and the sound was heard afar.

JOHN 6:1-15

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." ¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Let All Things Now Living

Descant

2. Ah, _____

Unison

1. Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
 2. By law God en - forc - es. The stars in their cours - es, the

sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine. Ah, _____

God our Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise; who fash - ioned and
 sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine; the hills and the

the depths of the o - cean pro -

made us, pro - tect - ed and stay - ed us, by guid - ing us on to the
 moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the depths of the o - cean pro -

claim God di - vine. Re - joice, _____ re -

end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us, pure light goes be -
 claim God di - vine. We, too, should be voic - ing our love and re -

joice! With glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise.

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night: till
 joic - ing with glad ad - o - ra - tion, a song let us raise: till

Ah, _____ to

shad - ows have van - ished, all fear - ful - ness ban - ished, as
 all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing, to

God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to Light.
 God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.