

**The Falls Village Congregational Church**  
**February 1, 2026, 10 a.m.**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Epiphany**  
**Rev. Dr. Kirk Hall, Worship Leader**

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**Welcome and Announcements**

**Ringling of the Bell**

**Prelude** – *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* - arr. J. Carter

**THE CHURCH GATHERS TO PRAISE**

**Call to Worship (Psalm 27):**

One: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

**All:** *The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of who shall I be afraid?*

One: Now my head is lifted up, let us offer sacrifices with shouts of joy.

**All:** *Let us sing and make melody to the Lord.*

**Opening Prayer (Unison):**

*Epiphany God, your light shines in the darkness to awaken our hope. Your mercy unmask our true selves. Your breath draws us in to send us out. As we come together in this time and place, we pray for your presence, deep and true. Through our song, prayer, and meditation, may we experience your Word of life calling us to follow that light with compassion, forgiveness and love. Amen.*

**Opening Hymn:** #16 “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

**Prayer of Confession:**

*Merciful God, you call, but we seldom listen. You beckon, yet we turn away. You invite us to drop the nets that entangle our lives, but we simply can't let go. We find a strange comfort in the emptiness and a security in the routine. Do not give up on us because we have not answered. Keep calling...*

**Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Gloria Patri**

#35 in hymnal

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

**Passing the Peace of Christ:**

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**All:** *And also with you.*

One: Let us extend that same peace to one another.

**TO HEAR GOD'S WORD**

**Scripture:** Isaiah 9:1-4 Barry Fenstermacher  
Matthew 4:12-23 Rev. Dr. Kirk Hall

**Sermon:** “A New Way to Fish”

**TO RESPOND IN FAITH**

**Offertory** – *We Have Built this House on Faith* - D. Angerman and J. Martin

*Sacrament of Holy Communion*

**Invitation to the Table**

**Great Thanksgiving**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All:** *And also with you.*

One: Lift up your hearts!

**All:** *We lift them up to the Lord.*

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

*(celebrant continues prayer)*

**The Lord's Prayer**

*...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not*

*into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.*

## **Breaking of the Bread**

### **Communion**

#### **\*Prayer After Communion (Unison)**

*Gracious God, we give you thanks for the bread that nourishes us and for the cup that brings us closer. Strengthened by your covenant, give us the courage to follow you wherever you call us to share your grace, compassion, and love. Amen*

### **THE CHURCH DISPERSES TO SERVE**

**Closing Hymn: #517** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

### **Benediction**

**Benediction Response – *God Be with You till We Meet Again***

*God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
may the shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.*

*Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet.*

*Till we meet, till we meet, 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.

## *Scripture Lessons for January 26, 2026*

### *Isaiah 9:1-4*

**9** But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

### *Matthew 4:12-22*

<sup>12</sup> When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— <sup>14</sup> to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

<sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,  
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan,  
Galilee of the Gentiles—

<sup>16</sup> the people living in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of the shadow of death  
a light has dawned.”<sup>[f]</sup>

<sup>17</sup> From that time on Jesus began to preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup> As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” <sup>20</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>21</sup> Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, <sup>22</sup> and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus<sup>[c]</sup> went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news<sup>[d]</sup> of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.