

# The Lord's Day

January 11, 2015

10:30 AM

We welcome you to worship today. It is a privilege to have you as our guest. As you enter the sanctuary, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer. Please turn off your cell phone and turn your thoughts toward God. Our hope and prayer is that you will encounter the Living God and experience his grace and blessing in the service and through fellowship with his people.

## We prepare for worship

*Take a moment and meditate on this as you prepare for worship...*

*We may wish prayer could be all courtesy and finesse. If so, we've no business messing with the Psalms. Prayer must often have a hard edge about it, because it has to deal with evil. There's a ruggedness about true biblical piety. Why is the psalmist so ecstatic over Yahweh's coming to judge the earth? Because it means that at that time he will put things right ("he will judge the world with righteousness"), and only when that happens can the cosmic party begin (Ps 98:7-9).*

D. Ralph Davis

Prelude

Rondeau

Marchand

Mrs. Gloria Hague, Director of Music

## We praise our great God

\* The Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 18:1-3, 46 (ESV)

I love you, O LORD, my strength.

**The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,**

my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

**I call upon the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies.**

The LORD lives! And blessed be [our] Rock, and exalted be the God of [our] salvation—

\*Hymn No. 165

*Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim*

Lyons

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,  
And publish abroad his wonderful name;  
The name, all victorious, of Jesus extol;  
His kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;  
And still he is nigh—his presence we have.  
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,  
Ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.

Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!  
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.  
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,  
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore, and give him his right,  
All glory and pow'r, and wisdom and might,  
All honor and blessing, with angels adore,

And thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

\*Invocation

**We embrace Christ our Savior**

Psalter Reading (responsive)

Psalm 39

(*Hymnal*, pg. 798)

I said, "I will watch my ways and keep my tongue from sin;

**"I will put a muzzle on my mouth as long as the wicked are in my presence."**

But when I was silent and still, not even saying anything good, my anguish increased.

**My heart grew hot within me, and as I meditated, the fire burned; then I spoke with my tongue:**

"Show me, O LORD, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting is my life.

**"You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before you. Each man's life is but a breath.**

"Man is a mere phantom as he goes to and fro: He bustles about, but only in vain; he heaps up wealth, not knowing who will get it.

**"But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in you.**

"Save me from all my transgressions; do not make me the scorn of fools.

**"I was silent; I would not open my mouth, for you are the one who has done this.**

"Remove your scourge from me; I am overcome by the blow of your hand.

**"You rebuke and discipline men for their sin; you consume their wealth like a moth—each man is but a breath.**

"Hear my prayer, O LORD, listen to my cry for help:

**"be not deaf to my weeping.**

"For I dwell with you as an alien, a stranger, as all my fathers were.

**"Look away from me, that I may rejoice again before I depart and am no more."**

\**The Gloria Patri*

(*Hymnal*, pg. 734)

\*Our Assurance of Grace (responsive)

James 1:2-8 (ESV)

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,

**For [we] know that the testing of [our] faith produces steadfastness.**

And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

**But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.**

For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

\*Confession of Faith (responsive)

The Heidelberg Catechism, Qs. 116, 117

**Why is prayer necessary for Christians?** Because it is the chief part of thankfulness which God requires of us;<sup>1</sup> and also, because God will give His grace and Holy Spirit to those only, who with sincere desires continually ask them of Him, and are thankful for them.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Ps. 50:14, 15      <sup>2</sup> Matt. 7:7; Lk. 11:9, 13; Matt. 13:2; Ps. 50:15

**What are the requisites of that prayer which is acceptable to God and which He will hear?** First, that we from the heart pray to the one true God only, who hath manifested Himself in His Word,<sup>1</sup> for all things He hath commanded us to ask of Him;<sup>2</sup> secondly, that we rightly and thoroughly know our need and misery, that so we may deeply humble ourselves in the presence of His divine majesty;<sup>3</sup> thirdly, that we be fully persuaded that He, notwithstanding that we are unworthy of it,<sup>4</sup> will, for the sake of Christ our Lord, certainly hear our prayer,<sup>5</sup> as He has promised us in His Word.

<sup>1</sup> Jn 4:22, 23

<sup>2</sup> Rom. 8:28; 1 Jn 5:14

<sup>3</sup> Jn 4:23, 24; Ps. 145:18

<sup>4</sup> 2 Chron. 20:12

<sup>5</sup> Ps. 2:11; Ps. 34:18, 19; Isa. 66:2

<sup>6</sup> Rom. 10:13; Rom. 8:15, 16; Jam. 1:6; Jn 14:13; Dan. 9:17, 18; Matt. 7:8; Ps. 143:1

## Old Testament Reading

Exodus 26:1-14 (ESV)

**26** “Moreover, you shall make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen and blue and purple and scarlet yarns; you shall make them with cherubim skillfully worked into them. <sup>2</sup> The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains shall be the same size. <sup>3</sup> Five curtains shall be coupled to one another, and the other five curtains shall be coupled to one another. <sup>4</sup> And you shall make loops of blue on the edge of the outermost curtain in the first set. Likewise you shall make loops on the edge of the outermost curtain in the second set. <sup>5</sup> Fifty loops you shall make on the one curtain, and fifty loops you shall make on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite one another. <sup>6</sup> And you shall make fifty clasps of gold, and couple the curtains one to the other with the clasps, so that the tabernacle may be a single whole.

<sup>7</sup> “You shall also make curtains of goats’ hair for a tent over the tabernacle; eleven curtains shall you make. <sup>8</sup> The length of each curtain shall be thirty cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits. The eleven curtains shall be the same size. <sup>9</sup> You shall couple five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves, and the sixth curtain you shall double over at the front of the tent. <sup>10</sup> You shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in one set, and fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the second set.

<sup>11</sup> “You shall make fifty clasps of bronze, and put the clasps into the loops, and couple the tent together that it may be a single whole. <sup>12</sup> And the part that remains of the curtains of the tent, the half curtain that remains, shall hang over the back of the tabernacle. <sup>13</sup> And the extra that remains in the length of the curtains, the cubit on the one side, and the cubit on the other side, shall hang over the sides of the tabernacle, on this side and that side, to cover it. <sup>14</sup> And you shall make for the tent a covering of tanned rams’ skins and a covering of goatskins on top.

\*Hymn No. 668

*Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode*

Constance

Who trusts in God, a strong abode in heav’n and earth possesses;  
Who looks in love to Christ above, no fear his heart oppresses.  
In you alone, dear Lord, we own sweet hope and consolation:  
Our shield from foes, our balm for woes, our great and sure salvation.

Though Satan’s wrath beset our path, and worldly scorn assail us,  
While you are near we will not fear, your strength shall never fail us:  
Your rod and staff shall keep us safe, and guide our steps forever;  
Nor shades of death, nor hell beneath, our souls from you shall sever.

In all the strife of mortal life our feet shall stand securely;  
Temptation’s hour shall lose its pow’r, for you shall guard us surely.  
O God, renew, with heav’nly dew, our body, soul and spirit,  
Until we stand at your right hand, through Jesus’ saving merit.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

The Prayers of God’s People and the Lord’s Prayer (in unison)

**We respond in gratitude for God’s blessing**\**The Doxology (Hymnal, pg. 731)* and Prayer of Dedication

God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

The Offertory

*Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me*

K. Lee Scott

The Adult Choir

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be; Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee; And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal; And, with actions bold and meek, For Christ, my Savior, speak. Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be; Help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee; And, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear; And, with actions brotherly, Speak Christ’s sincerity. Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be; Show thy mercy tenderly, Make me more like thee; Separate from sin, I would And cherish all things good, And whatever I can be Give him who gave me thee. Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be; Help me now thy pow’r to see, I would be like thee; ‘Gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield; Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, Thine the victory. Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

*Musical Interlude: Children grades 1-4 may recess for Children's Church through the side door or may remain with their families.*

**We hear God speak**

Scripture Reading

Psalm 5

(Pew Bible pg. 384)

- 5** Give ear to my words, O LORD;  
consider my groaning.
- 2** Give attention to the sound of my cry,  
my King and my God, for to you do I pray.
- 3** O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice;  
in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.
- 4** For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;  
evil may not dwell with you.
- 5** The boastful shall not stand before your eyes;  
you hate all evildoers.
- 6** You destroy those who speak lies;  
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.
- 7** But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love,  
will enter your house.  
I will bow down toward your holy temple  
in the fear of you.
- 8** Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness  
because of my enemies;  
make your way straight before me.
- 9** For there is no truth in their mouth;  
their inmost self is destruction;  
their throat is an open grave;  
they flatter with their tongue.
- 10** Make them bear their guilt, O God;  
let them fall by their own counsels;  
because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them  
out,  
for they have rebelled against you.
- 11** But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;  
let them ever sing for joy,  
and spread your protection over them,  
that those who love your name may exult in you.
- 12** For you bless the righteous, O LORD;  
you cover him with favor as with a shield.

Sermon

“Praying Boldly”

Pastor Bell

**We respond to God's grace**

\*Hymn No. 727

*Lead Me, Lord, Lead Me in Thy Righteousness*

Samuel Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make my way plain before my face,  
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Teach me, Lord, teach me truly how to live, that I may come to know thee,  
And in thy presence serve thee with gladness and sing songs of praise to thy glory.

\*Benediction and Three-Fold Amen (*Hymnal*, pg. 740)

Postlude

*Pavan*

Danish

Byrd

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\*Those who are able, please stand.

**Serving in our Nursery today:** Sarah Soule and Amelia Wickham; next week, January 18<sup>th</sup>: Lydia Komenda and Gina Cicone.

**The Impact Pot luck** starts at 5 PM today. Please sign up this morning if you are coming. They will be selling a number of hand-made items from India (made by the women in the ministry Barbara Angert was involved with: Dorcas House) at the pot-luck. Please bring cash or checks (better). The money raised will help cover some of the extra expenses that the team incurred.

**Monday is the deadline** to sign up for the RockHouse January 23<sup>rd</sup> snow tubing trip.

**A Communicant's Membership Class** will begin on Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Please speak to Pastor Ceselsky if you are interested in participating.

**Impact applications** are available for those who would like to apply to go on this summer's mission trip to Cherokee, North Carolina. The trip is scheduled for July 18-25<sup>th</sup> and is open to anyone who will be at least 14 years old by July 18<sup>th</sup>. The deadline is Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Annual Reports for 2014** must be submitted in final form by email to [bob@aisquith.org](mailto:bob@aisquith.org) by January 18<sup>th</sup>. No reminders will be sent, so if you headed up a committee or organization in 2014, please compose a concise account of what was accomplished last year and get it to Pastor Bell.

**A Congregational Meeting is hereby called** for Wednesday, February 4, 2015 at 7:15 PM at the church. The purpose of this meeting is to review the annual reports, elect elders and deacons, approve new deaconesses, approve a change in the pastor's financial package, and elect a Nominating Committee for 2015. The following will be presented for election for Ruling Elder: Tom Ley; for Deacon: Dave Newman; and for approval as Deaconess: Diane Eisenmeier, Fran Oswinkle and Nancy Pearre.

#### This Week at Aisquith

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Worship service</b> <b>Children's Church (grades 1-4)</b>
	<b>5:00 PM</b>	<b>The India Impact Team Potluck</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Ladies' Bible Study (at the church)</b>
	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study (at the Willis')</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Prayer time (Pastor's study)</b> <b>RockHouse Bible study</b> <b>(John's office)</b>
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Adult Choir (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>Prayer Time in the balcony</b>
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School for all ages</b>
	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Worship service</b> <b>Children's Church (grades 1-4)</b>

#### Coming Soon

**Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> Congregational Dinner and Annual Meeting**

<b>Rev. Robert E. Bell, Pastor</b>	<b>Manse: 410-444-5111</b>
<b>Rev. John Ceselsky, Assistant Pastor</b>	<b>Home: 410-836-6655</b>
<b>Mrs. Gloria Hague, Director of Music</b>	<b>Mobile: 443-467-0146</b>