

# The Lord's Day

May 24, 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.*

## We prepare for worship

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

*O God, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit; Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.*

*The Book of Common Prayer, Pentecost*

Prelude

*Coronation*

arr. Brunner  
Mrs. Gloria Hague, Director of Music

## We praise our great God

\*The Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 145:18; Isaiah 55:6, 7

The LORD is near to all who call on him,  
**to all who call on him in truth.**  
Seek the LORD while he may be found, call on him while he is near;  
**let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts.**  
Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him,  
**and to our God, for he will freely pardon.**

\*Hymn No. 101

*Come, Thou Almighty King*

Trinity

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing,  
Help us to praise, Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious,  
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword,  
Our prayer attend. Come and thy people bless, and give thy Word success,  
Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear  
In this glad hour. Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart,  
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To the great One in Three eternal praises be,  
Hence evermore. His sovereign majesty may we in glory see,  
And to eternity love and adore.

\*Invocation

## We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading (responsive)

Psalm 94

(*Hymnal*, pg. 818)

O LORD, the God who avenges, O God who avenges, shine forth.  
**Rise up, O Judge of the earth; pay back to the proud what they deserve.**  
How long will the wicked, O LORD, how long will the wicked be jubilant?  
**They pour out arrogant words; all the evildoers are full of boasting.**

They crush your people, O LORD; they oppress your inheritance.

**They slay the widow and the alien; they murder the fatherless.**

They say, “The LORD does not see;

**“the God of Jacob pays no heed.”**

Take heed, you senseless ones among the people; you fools, when will you become wise?

**Does he who implanted the ear not hear? Does he who formed the eye not see?**

Does he who disciplines nations not punish? Does he who teaches man lack knowledge?

**The LORD knows the thoughts of man; he knows that they are futile.**

Blessed is the man you discipline, O LORD, the man you teach from your law;

**you grant him relief from days of trouble, till a pit is dug for the wicked.**

For the LORD will not reject his people; he will never forsake his inheritance.

**Judgment will again be founded on righteousness, and all the upright in heart will follow it.**

Who will rise up for me against the wicked? Who will take a stand for me against evildoers?

**Unless the LORD had given me help, I would soon have dwelt in the silence of death.**

When I said, “My foot is slipping,” your love, O LORD, supported me.

**When anxiety was great within me, your consolation brought joy to my soul.**

Can a corrupt throne be allied with you—one that brings on misery by its decrees?

**They band together against the righteous and condemn the innocent to death.**

But the LORD has become my fortress, and my God the rock in whom I take refuge.

**He will repay them for their sins and destroy them for their wickedness; the LORD our God will destroy them.**

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Matthew 5:43-48 (ESV)

But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.

**For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.**

For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

**And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others?**

Do not even the Gentiles do the same? You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

\*Our Confession of Faith (unison)

Heidelberg Catechism, Qs 105-107

What doth God require in the sixth commandment? **That neither in thoughts, nor words, nor gestures, much less in deeds, I dishonor, hate, wound, or kill my neighbor, by myself or by another;<sup>1</sup> but that I lay aside all desire of revenge;<sup>2</sup> also, that I hurt not myself, nor willfully expose myself to any danger.<sup>3</sup> Wherefore also the magistrate is armed with the sword to prevent murder.<sup>4</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Matt. 5:21, 22; Prov. 12:18; Matt. 26:52      <sup>2</sup> Eph. 4:26; Rom. 12:19; Matt. 5:39, 40

<sup>3</sup> Matt. 4:5-7; Col. 2:23      <sup>4</sup> Gen. 9:6; Matt. 26:52; Rom. 13:4

But this commandment seems only to speak of murder? **In forbidding murder, God teaches us that He abhors the causes thereof, such as envy,<sup>1</sup> hatred,<sup>2</sup> anger, and desire of revenge; and that He accounts all these as murder.<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> James 1:20; Gal. 5:20      <sup>2</sup> Rom. 1:29; 1 John 2:9      <sup>3</sup> 1 John 3:15

But is it enough that we do not kill any man in the manner mentioned above? **No, for when God forbids envy, hatred, and anger, He commands us to love our neighbor as ourselves;<sup>1</sup> to show patience,<sup>2</sup> peace, meekness,<sup>3</sup> mercy,<sup>4</sup> and all kindness towards him, and prevent his hurt as much as in us lies;<sup>5</sup> and that we do good, even to our enemies.<sup>6</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Matt. 22:39; Matt. 7:12      <sup>2</sup> Rom. 12:10      <sup>3</sup> Eph. 4:2; Gal. 6:1, 2; Matt. 5:5; Rom. 12:18

<sup>4</sup> Ex. 23:5      <sup>5</sup> Matt. 5:45      <sup>6</sup> Rom. 12:20

\*Hymn (insert)

*Holy Spirit*

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Holy Spirit, living Breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul;  
 Bring the presence of the Risen Lord, to renew my heart and make me whole.  
 Cause Your Word to come alive in me; give me faith for what I cannot see.  
 Give me passion for Your purity; Holy Spirit breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within; may Your joy be seen in all I do.  
 Love enough to cover ev'ry sin in each thought and deed and attitude.  
 Kindness to the greatest and the least; gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
 Turn my striving into works of grace; Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made.  
 Show Your power once again on earth, cause Your church to hunger for Your ways.  
 Let the fragrance of our prayers arise; lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
 That in unity the face of Christ will be clear for all the world to see.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 35 (ESV)

**35** Moses assembled all the congregation of the people of Israel and said to them, “These are the things that the LORD has commanded you to do. <sup>2</sup> Six days work shall be done, but on the seventh day you shall have a Sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the LORD. Whoever does any work on it shall be put to death. <sup>3</sup> You shall kindle no fire in all your dwelling places on the Sabbath day.”

<sup>4</sup> Moses said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, “This is the thing that the LORD has commanded. <sup>5</sup> Take from among you a contribution to the LORD. Whoever is of a generous heart, let him bring the LORD’s contribution: gold, silver, and bronze; <sup>6</sup> blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen; goats’ hair, <sup>7</sup> tanned rams’ skins, and goatskins; acacia wood, <sup>8</sup> oil for the light, spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense, <sup>9</sup> and onyx stones and stones for setting, for the ephod and for the breastpiece.

<sup>10</sup> “Let every skillful craftsman among you come and make all that the LORD has commanded: <sup>11</sup> the tabernacle, its tent and its covering, its hooks and its frames, its bars, its pillars, and its bases; <sup>12</sup> the ark with its poles, the mercy seat, and the veil of the screen; <sup>13</sup> the table with its poles and all its utensils, and the bread of the Presence; <sup>14</sup> the lampstand also for the light, with its utensils and its lamps, and the oil for the light; <sup>15</sup> and the altar of incense, with its poles, and the anointing oil and the fragrant incense, and the screen for the door, at the door of the tabernacle; <sup>16</sup> the altar of burnt offering, with its grating of bronze, its poles, and all its utensils, the basin and its stand; <sup>17</sup> the hangings of the court, its pillars and its bases, and the screen for the gate of the court; <sup>18</sup> the pegs of the tabernacle and the pegs of the court, and their cords; <sup>19</sup> the finely worked garments for ministering in the Holy Place, the holy garments for Aaron the priest, and the garments of his sons, for their service as priests.”

<sup>20</sup> Then all the congregation of the people of Israel departed from the presence of Moses. <sup>21</sup> And they came, everyone whose heart stirred him, and everyone whose spirit moved him, and brought the LORD’s contribution to be used for the tent of meeting, and for all its service, and for the holy garments. <sup>22</sup> So they came, both men and women. All who were of a willing heart brought brooches and earrings and signet rings and armlets, all sorts of gold objects, every man dedicating an offering of gold to the LORD. <sup>23</sup> And every one who possessed blue or purple or scarlet yarns or fine linen or goats’ hair or tanned rams’ skins or goatskins brought them. <sup>24</sup> Everyone who could make a contribution of silver or bronze brought it as the LORD’s contribution. And every

one who possessed acacia wood of any use in the work brought it. <sup>25</sup> And every skillful woman spun with her hands, and they all brought what they had spun in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen. <sup>26</sup> All the women whose hearts stirred them to use their skill spun the goats' hair. <sup>27</sup> And the leaders brought onyx stones and stones to be set, for the ephod and for the breastpiece, <sup>28</sup> and spices and oil for the light, and for the anointing oil, and for the fragrant incense. <sup>29</sup> All the men and women, the people of Israel, whose heart moved them to bring anything for the work that the LORD had commanded by Moses to be done brought it as a freewill offering to the LORD.

<sup>30</sup> Then Moses said to the people of Israel, "See, the LORD has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; <sup>31</sup> and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship, <sup>32</sup> to devise artistic designs, to work in gold and silver and bronze, <sup>33</sup> in cutting stones for setting, and in carving wood, for work in every skilled craft. <sup>34</sup> And he has inspired him to teach, both him and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan. <sup>35</sup> He has filled them with skill to do every sort of work done by an engraver or by a designer or by an embroiderer in blue and purple and scarlet yarns and fine twined linen, or by a weaver—by any sort of workman or skilled designer.

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

*America*

Ward  
The Adult Choir

*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

Romans 12:14-21

(Pew Bible pg. 804)

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Sermon

"Getting Even"

Pastor Bell

**We respond to God's grace**

\*Hymn No. 341

*O Breath of Life, Come Sweeping through Us*

Spiritus Vitae

O Breath of life, come sweeping through us, revive your church with life and pow'r;

O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us, and fit your church to meet this hour.

O Wind of God, come bend us, break us, till humbly we confess our need;  
Then in your tenderness remake us, revive, restore, for this we plead.

O Breath of love, come breathe within us, renewing thought and will and heart;  
Come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us, revive your church in every part.

O Heart of Christ, once broken for us, 'tis there we find our strength and rest;  
Our broken, contrite hearts now solace, and let your waiting church be blest.

Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating while harvest fields are vast and white?  
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting, equip your church to spread the light.

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

Danish  
J. S. Bach

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\*Those who are able, please stand.

**Serving in our Nursery today:** Lydia Komenda and Beryl Wickham; next week, May 31<sup>st</sup>: Sarah Soule and Gina Cicone.

**Please thank our choir** for their contribution to our worship in the past year. They will be on hiatus until the fall.

**Our congratulations to our 2015 graduates:** Tommy Bracken, Hannah Brown, Gina Cicone, Julian Hague, Ryan Leubecker and Madison Kuriny from high school and Jonathan Moor from college.

**Please join us at 9:00 AM Sunday mornings** in room 11 as we continue our study of the Life of Christ. We often encounter Christ in the Bible on a story by story basis. This series will emphasize the “big picture” while looking at select “high points” in Christ’s ministry, through stressing the unity of the gospel accounts to enlighten our study of His teachings and actions of redemption in fulfilling the covenant promises. Along the way, we will examine the background, geography, chronology and theology of the life of Jesus Christ.

#### Financial Report through April 30, 2015

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Contributions: | \$105,700.00   |
| Expenses:      | \$123,900.00   |
| Shortfall:     | (\$ 18,200.00) |

Over half of our shortfall is due to lower than projected giving. Our giving is still over \$2,000 behind our projections each month. Much of the other half of the shortfall is due to our very high heating bills in January through March. Thankfully the utility bill in April was only half what it was in March. There are many things for which to be thankful in Spring, among them are lower utility bills!

### THIS WEEK AT AISQUITH

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>TODAY</b>     | <b>10:30 AM Worship service</b><br><b>Children’s Church (grades 1-4)</b><br><b>No RockHouse (grades 7-13) tonight!</b> |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | <b>7:00 PM Men’s Bible Study (at the church)</b>   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> | <b>7:00 PM Prayer time (Pastor’s study)</b>  |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | <b>No more Adult Choir until September</b>   |
| <b>SUNDAY</b>    | <b>8:30 AM Prayer Time in the balcony</b><br><b>9:00 AM Sunday School for all ages</b><br><b>10:30 AM Worship</b>      |

**COMING SOON**

- June 8-12<sup>th</sup> – PCA General Assembly in Chattanooga, TN**
- June 14<sup>th</sup> – Potluck Dinner with Larry & Sandy Rockwell (MTW Peru)**
- June 18<sup>th</sup> – WIC Christian Book Club begins**
- June 27<sup>th</sup> – Impact Yard Sale (at Aisquith)**
- July 11<sup>th</sup> – Church picnic at Loch Raven PC (time will be announced)**
- July 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> – Impact Mission’s Trip to Cherokee, NC**

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|---|-----------------------------|
| <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> |