

# *The Lord's Day*

March 17, 2019

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...*

*"An old Puritan rightly affirmed that 'God sometimes puts his children to bed in the dark.' There are matters about which the Christian has to be prepared not to get light in this world. There are mysteries which God calls us now to leave unsolved. So it was for Job."*  
*Geoff Thomas*

Prelude

*Simple Gifts*

Old Shaker Melody, arr. Robert Hebble  
Grace Liu, piano and Maria Schwartz, cello

## **We praise our great God**

\*Call to Worship

Psalm 28:6-9 (ESV)

Blessed be the LORD! for he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

**The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.**

The LORD is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

**Oh, save your people and bless your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**

\*Hymn No. 642

*Be Thou My Vision*

Slane

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art—  
Thou my best thought by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;  
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,  
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r:  
Raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Son!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,

\*Invocation

## **We embrace Christ our Savior**

Psalter Reading (responsive)

Psalm 73

(Hymnal pg. 811)

Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.

**But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold.**

For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

**They have no struggles; their bodies are healthy and strong.**

They are free from the burdens common to man; they are not plagued by human ills.

**Therefore pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence.**

From their callous hearts comes iniquity; the evil conceits of their minds knows no limits.

**They scoff, and speak with malice; in their arrogance they threaten oppression.**

Their mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take possession of the earth.

**Therefore their people turn to them and drink up waters in abundance.**

They say, "How can God know? Does the Most High have knowledge?"

**This is what the wicked are like—always carefree, they increase in wealth.**

Surely in vain have I kept my heart pure; in vain have I washed my hands in innocence.

**All day long I have been plagued; I have been punished every morning.**

If I had said, "I will speak thus," I would have betrayed your children.

**When I tried to understand all this, it was oppressive to me,**

till I entered the sanctuary of God then I understood their final destiny.

**Surely you place them on slippery ground; you cast them down to ruin.**

How suddenly are they destroyed, completely swept away by terrors!

**As a dream when one awakes, so when you arise, O Lord, you will despise them as fantasies.**

When my heart was grieved and my spirit embittered,

**I was senseless and ignorant; I was a brute beast before you.**

Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand.

**You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory.**

Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

**My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.**

Those who are far from you will perish; you destroy all who are unfaithful to you.

**But as for me, it is good to be near God, I have made the Sovereign LORD my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds.**

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Ephesians 4:29-32 (ESV)

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion,

**that it may give grace to those who hear.**

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

**Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.**

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

\*Confession of Faith (unison)

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. 7

What is God? **God is a Spirit,<sup>1</sup> in and of Himself infinite in being,<sup>2</sup> glory,<sup>3</sup> blessedness,<sup>4</sup> and perfection;<sup>5</sup> all-sufficient,<sup>6</sup> eternal,<sup>7</sup> unchangeable,<sup>8</sup> incomprehensible,<sup>9</sup> everywhere present,<sup>10</sup> almighty,<sup>11</sup> knowing all things,<sup>12</sup> most wise,<sup>13</sup> most holy,<sup>14</sup> most just,<sup>15</sup> most merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.<sup>16</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Jn 4:24 <sup>2</sup> Ex. 3:14; Job 11:7-9 <sup>3</sup> Acts 7:2 <sup>4</sup> 1 Tim. 6:15 <sup>5</sup> Matt. 5:48 <sup>6</sup> Gen. 17:1 <sup>7</sup> Ps. 90:2

<sup>8</sup> Mal. 3:6; Jam. 1:17 <sup>9</sup> 1 Ki. 8:27 <sup>10</sup> Ps. 139:1-13 <sup>11</sup> Rev. 4:8 <sup>12</sup> Heb. 4:13; Ps. 147:5 <sup>13</sup> Rom. 16:27

<sup>14</sup> Isa. 6:3; Rev. 15:4 <sup>15</sup> Deut. 32:4 <sup>16</sup> Ex. 34:6

\*Hymn No. 131

*Children of the Heavenly Father*

Traditional Swedish

Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish;  
From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;  
Unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

Praise the Lord in joyful numbers, your Protector never slumbers;  
At the will of your Defender ev'ry foe-man must surrender.

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

More secure is no one ever than the loved ones of the Savior;  
Not yon star on high abiding nor the bird in home-nest hiding.

Old Testament Reading

Judges 8:1-12 (ESV)

### **Gideon Defeats Zebah and Zalmunna**

**8** Then the men of Ephraim said to him, “What is this that you have done to us, not to call us when you went to fight against Midian?” And they accused him fiercely. <sup>2</sup> And he said to them, “What have I done now in comparison with you? Is not the gleaning of the grapes of Ephraim better than the grape harvest of (AY big EE zur) Abiezer? <sup>3</sup> God has given into your hands the princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb. What have I been able to do in comparison with you?” Then their anger against him subsided when he said this.

<sup>4</sup> And Gideon came to the Jordan and crossed over, he and the 300 men who were with him, exhausted yet pursuing. <sup>5</sup> So he said to the men of Succoth, “Please give loaves of bread to the people who follow me, for they are exhausted, and I am pursuing after (ZEE buh) Zebah and (zal MUHN uh) Zalmunna, the kings of Midian.” <sup>6</sup> And the officials of Succoth said, “Are the hands of Zebah and Zalmunna already in your hand, that we should give bread to your army?” <sup>7</sup> So Gideon said, “Well then, when the LORD has given Zebah and Zalmunna into my hand, I will flail your flesh with the thorns of the wilderness and with briers.” <sup>8</sup> And from there he went up to (pi NYOO el) Penuel, and spoke to them in the same way, and the men of Penuel answered him as the men of Succoth had answered. <sup>9</sup> And he said to the men of Penuel, “When I come again in peace, I will break down this tower.”

<sup>10</sup> Now Zebah and Zalmunna were in (KAHR kawr) Karkor with their army, about 15,000 men, all who were left of all the army of the people of the East, for there had fallen 120,000 men who drew the sword. <sup>11</sup> And Gideon went up by the way of the tent dwellers east of (NO buh) Nobah and (JAHG bih ha) Jogbehah and attacked the army, for the army felt secure. <sup>12</sup> And Zebah and Zalmunna fled, and he pursued them and captured the two kings of Midian, Zebah and Zalmunna, and he threw all the army into a panic.

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

*Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

St. Agnes

*The children may dismiss for church-time programs.*

### **We hear God speak**

Scripture Reading

Job 11-14

(Pew Bible, pg. 365)

Sermon

“Though He Slay Me, Yet Will I Trust Him”

Pastor Bell

**We respond to God's grace**

\*Hymn No. 109

*Lord, My Weak Thought in Vain Would Climb*

Cannonbury

Lord, my weak thought in vain would climb  
 To search the starry vault profound;  
 In vain would wing her flight sublime  
 To find creation's utmost bound.

But weaker yet that thought must prove  
 To search thy great eternal plan,  
 Thy sovereign counsels, born of love  
 Long ages ere the world began.

When my dim reason would demand  
 Why that, or this, thou dost ordain,  
 By some vast deep I seem to stand,  
 Whose secrets I must ask in vain.

When doubts disturb my troubled breast,  
 And all is dark as night to me,  
 Here, as on solid rock, I rest—  
 That so it seemeth good to thee.

Be this my joy, that evermore  
 Thou rulest all things at thy will;  
 Thy sovereign wisdom I adore,  
 And calmly, sweetly, trust thee still.

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

Danish  
 American Folk Melody, arr. Joseph M. Martin  
*Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire*

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 \*Those who are able, please stand.

**If you would like to place tulips in the sanctuary** for Easter, please sign up in the book in the narthex. April 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline and the cost is \$7.95.

Andrew Oswinkle will present a **Classical Guitar concert** TODAY at 3:00 PM. An offering will be taken.

**Our Lenten Supper and Service this week** will be on FRIDAY night, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Supper will begin at 6:30 as usual, but at 7:15 we will view a full length preview of the new Pilgrim's Progress movie. It is a full-length animated film based off *The Pilgrim's Progress* that was written by John Bunyan while he was in prison, persecuted for preaching the Gospel. We will be taking a special offering which will go toward releasing this movie around the world.

**This Week at Aisquith**

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>Guitar Concert</b>
	<b>6:30-8:30 PM</b>	<b>Youth Group</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Ladies' and Men's Bible Studies (at the church)</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Choir practice</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Soup and Salad Supper</b>
	<b>7:15 PM</b>	<b>Lenten Service (rm. 11) Pilgrim's Progress Movie</b>

**SUNDAY**                    **9:00 AM** **Sunday School**  
                                  **10:30 AM** **Worship**  
                                  **6:30-8:30 PM** **Youth Group**

**Coming Soon**

**Thursday, April 18, 2019 Maundy Thursday Service**  
**at 7:00 PM at LRPC**

**Friday, April 19, 2019 Good Friday Service**  
**At 7:00 PM at Aisquith**

**Sunday, May 5, 2019 The National Christian Choir Concert**

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