

# The Lord's Day

April 28, 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...*

*In the 1440s William Temple, the Archbishop of Canterbury, accurately described the purpose and function of worship: "To worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God." In other words, while we will often be impacted, changed, and benefit as a result of worship—we must always view worship as primarily centered upon God.*

Prelude

Jerusalem

Parry

Ginger Turner, trumpet  
Gloria Hague, Director of Music

## We praise our great God

\*Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 84:1-4 (ESV)

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

**My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise.**

\*Hymn No. 48

*O Lord Most High, with All My Heart*

Rockingham Old

O Lord Most High, with all my heart your wondrous works I will proclaim;  
I will be glad and give you thanks and sing the praises of your name.

The Lord, the everlasting King, is seated on his judgment throne;  
The righteous Judge of all the world will make his perfect justice known.

Jehovah will a refuge prove, a refuge strong for all oppressed,  
A safe retreat, where weary souls in troubled times may surely rest.

All they, O Lord, that know your name their confidence in you will place,  
For you have ne'er forsaken them who earnestly have sought your face.

Sing praises to the Lord Most High, to him who does in Zion dwell;  
Declare his mighty deeds abroad, his deeds among the nations tell.

\*Invocation

## We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading (responsive)

Psalm 37:1-9

(Hymnal pg. 797)

Do not fret because of evil men or be envious of those who do wrong;  
**for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.**  
Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.  
**Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.**

Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this:

**He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun.**

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;

**do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes;**

refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.

**For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.**

Confession Assurance and Faith (unison)

The Heidelberg Catechism, Q.1

What is your only comfort in life and death? **That I with body and soul, both in life and death,<sup>1</sup> am not my own,<sup>2</sup> but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ;<sup>3</sup> who, with His precious blood,<sup>4</sup> hath fully satisfied for all my sins,<sup>5</sup> and delivered me from all the power of the devil;<sup>6</sup> and so preserves me<sup>7</sup> that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head;<sup>8</sup> yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation,<sup>9</sup> and therefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life,<sup>10</sup> and makes me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto Him.**

<sup>1</sup> 1 Cor. 6:19, 20   <sup>2</sup> Rom. 14:7-9   <sup>3</sup> 1 Cor. 3:23   <sup>4</sup> 1 Pe. 1:18, 19   <sup>5</sup> Jn 1:7

<sup>6</sup> 1 Jn 3:8; Heb. 2:14, 15   <sup>7</sup> Jn 6:39; 10:28, 29   <sup>8</sup> Lk 21:18; Matt. 10:30   <sup>9</sup> Rom. 8:28

<sup>10</sup> 2 Cor. 1:22; 5:5   <sup>11</sup> Rom. 8:14; Rom. 7:22

\*Hymn No. 55

*To God Be the Glory*

Doane

To God be the glory, great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life gate that we may go in.

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!***

***Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!***

***O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,***

***And give him the glory, great things he has done!***

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!  
To every believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offended who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Old Testament Reading

Judges 9:22-41

(Pew Bible, pg. 177)

### **The Downfall of Abimelech**

<sup>22</sup> Abimelech ruled over Israel three years. <sup>23</sup> And God sent an evil spirit between Abimelech and the leaders of Shechem, and the leaders of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech, <sup>24</sup> that the violence done to the seventy sons of Jerubbaal might come, and their blood be laid on Abimelech their brother, who killed them, and on the men of Shechem, who strengthened his hands to kill his brothers. <sup>25</sup> And the leaders of Shechem put men in ambush against him on the mountaintops, and they robbed all who passed by them along that way. And it was told to Abimelech.

<sup>26</sup> And (GAY uhl) Gaal the son of (EE bed) Ebed moved into Shechem with his relatives, and the leaders of Shechem put confidence in him. <sup>27</sup> And they went out into the field and gathered the grapes from their vineyards and trod them and held a festival; and they went into the house of their god and ate and drank and reviled Abimelech. <sup>28</sup> And Gaal the son of Ebed said, "Who is Abimelech, and who are we of Shechem, that we should serve him? Is he not the son of Jerubbaal, and is not (ZEE buhl) Zebul his officer? Serve the men of Hamor the father of

Shechem; but why should we serve him? <sup>29</sup> Would that this people were under my hand! Then I would remove Abimelech. I would say to Abimelech, ‘Increase your army, and come out.’”

<sup>30</sup> When Zebul the ruler of the city heard the words of Gaal the son of Ebed, his anger was kindled. <sup>31</sup> And he sent messengers to Abimelech secretly, saying, “Behold, Gaal the son of Ebed and his relatives have come to Shechem, and they are stirring up the city against you. <sup>32</sup> Now therefore, go by night, you and the people who are with you, and set an ambush in the field.

<sup>33</sup> Then in the morning, as soon as the sun is up, rise early and rush upon the city. And when he and the people who are with him come out against you, you may do to them as your hand finds to do.”

<sup>34</sup> So Abimelech and all the men who were with him rose up by night and set an ambush against Shechem in four companies. <sup>35</sup> And Gaal the son of Ebed went out and stood in the entrance of the gate of the city, and Abimelech and the people who were with him rose from the ambush.

<sup>36</sup> And when Gaal saw the people, he said to Zebul, “Look, people are coming down from the mountaintops!” And Zebul said to him, “You mistake the shadow of the mountains for men.”

<sup>37</sup> Gaal spoke again and said, “Look, people are coming down from the center of the land, and one company is coming from the direction of the Diviners’ Oak.” <sup>38</sup> Then Zebul said to him, “Where is your mouth now, you who said, ‘Who is Abimelech, that we should serve him?’ Are not these the people whom you despised? Go out now and fight with them.” <sup>39</sup> And Gaal went out at the head of the leaders of Shechem and fought with Abimelech. <sup>40</sup> And Abimelech chased him, and he fled before him. And many fell wounded, up to the entrance of the gate. <sup>41</sup> And Abimelech lived at (uh ROO muh) Arumah, and Zebul drove out Gaal and his relatives, so that they could not dwell at Shechem.

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

*How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*

arr. Larson  
The Adult Choir

How sweet the name of Jesus sound in a believer’s ear! It soothes my sorrows, heals my wounds and drives away my fear. It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast; it satisfies the hungry soul and gives the weary rest. Dear name, the rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place, my never failing treas’ry filled with boundless stores of grace. O my Jesus, Savior, Shepherd, Friend, my Prophet, Priest and King, my Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring. Weak is the effort of my heart and cold my warmest thought; but, when I see You as You are, I’ll praise You as I ought. Alleluia! In praise, I will lift my voice...Forever I will rejoice! Till then I would Your love proclaim with ev’ry fleeting breath; and may the music of Your name refresh my soul in life and death. Alleluia, amen.

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

### **We hear God speak**

Scripture Reading

Job 20 & 21

(Pew Bible, pg. 369)

Sermon

“Why do the Wicked Prosper?”

Pastor Bell

### **We respond to God’s grace**

\*Hymn No. 500

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

New City Fellowship

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;  
Let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,

Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;  
 Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,  
 All for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;  
 Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;  
 Foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,  
 When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,  
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

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

Postlude

*O God, Beyond All Praising*

Danish

Holst

-----  
 \*Those who are able, please stand.

**Nursery Attendants:** TODAY, Christine Clark; NEXT WEEK, May 5<sup>th</sup>, Angela Andrade.

**Our Easter Offering** will go to our denomination's *Compassion Fund*. This fund enables us to respond quickly to crises that touch our missionaries and their communities around the world. Urgent needs are met with medical and construction assistance, food and shelter for displaced families, and personal care and counseling for victims of natural disasters. Whatever the situation, your gifts are connected to a Mission to the World church-planting effort. Use the "Easter" envelope from your envelope box or mark a pink pew envelope "Easter" for your special gift to this ministry. Thanks.

**Volunteers are desperately needed** to occasionally provide meals to folk who are sick or recovering from surgery. If you can help with this important ministry please speak to or call Mary Ann Kauffman at 410-560-3860.

**Impact is still collecting empty inkjet cartridges** to raise funds for future mission's trips. There is a box on the steel racks in the kitchen where you can drop them off. We need your cartridges!

**The Canticle Singers' Spring Concerts** will be held on Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at the Church of the Resurrection, 11525 Greenspring Ave. in Lutherville. *Due to unforeseen circumstances*, the May 11<sup>th</sup> concert will take place at 7 PM at TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 120 Allegheny Ave. in Towson NOT at Church of the Good Shepherd in Ruxton as previously advertised. We regret any inconvenience. An offering will be taken at each performance. For more information, please call 410-292-2576. Wendy Wickham, Director.

**The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America** will be held June 25-27<sup>th</sup> in Dallas, Texas. Pray for the staff of the Administrative Committee as they finalize plans and logistics. Pray for the commissioners, both Teaching and Ruling Elders, as they travel to Dallas and participate in the business of the church. Pray that in all we do God is glorified and the truth of the Gospel is proclaimed.

### This Week at Aisquith

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>10:30 AM Worship</b> <b>6:30 PM Youth Group</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>10:30 AM Ladies' and Men's Bible Studies (at the church)</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>7:30 PM Choir practice</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:00 AM Sunday School</b> <b>10:30 AM Worship</b> <b>6:00 PM 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Concert</b>

**Coming Soon**

**Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> Impact Yard Sale (see insert)**

**Rev. Robert E. Bell, Pastor**

**Rev. John E. Ceselsky, Assistant Pastor**

**Mrs. Gloria Hague, Director of Music**

**Manse: 410-444-5111**

**Home: 410-836-6655**

**Mobile: 443-467-0146**