

The Lord's Day

February 9, 2020
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...

The history of all the great characters of the Bible is summed up in this one sentence: They acquainted themselves with God, and acquiesced in His will in all things. *Richard Cecil (1749-1810)*

Prelude

Mr. Scott Engel

We praise our great God

*Call to Worship

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. 17

Praise the Lord: Ye Heavens Adore Him

Faben

Praise the Lord: ye heav'ns adore him; praise him, angels, in the height;
Sun and moon, rejoice before him; praise him all ye stars and light.
Praise the Lord, for he hath spoken; worlds his mighty voice obeyed:
Laws which never shall be broken for their guidance hath he made.

Praise the Lord, for he is glorious; never shall his promise fail:
God hath made his saints victorious; sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation; hosts on high, his pow'r proclaim;
Heav'n and earth and all creation, laud and magnify his name.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing, Lord, we offer unto thee;
Young and old, thy praise expressing, in glad homage bend the knee.
All the saints in heav'n adore thee; we would bow before thy throne:
As thine angels serve before thee, so on earth thy will be done.

*Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading

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.

*Assurance of Pardon Hymn

Before the Throne

Bancroft/Cook
CCLI Lic. No. 944471

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence depart (2X).

When Satan tempts me to despair And tells me of my guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died My sinful soul is counted free
For God, the Just, is satisfied To look on Him and pardon me (2X).

Behold Him there the risen Lamb My perfect spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM The King of Glory and of Grace
One with Himself I cannot die My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high With Christ my Savior and my God (2X).

Old Testament Reading

Judges 20:19-48

(Pew Bible, pg. 186)

¹⁹ Then the people of Israel rose in the morning and encamped against Gibeah. ²⁰ And the men of Israel went out to fight against Benjamin, and the men of Israel drew up the battle line against them at Gibeah. ²¹ The people of Benjamin came out of Gibeah and destroyed on that day 22,000 men of the Israelites. ²² But the people, the men of Israel, took courage, and again formed the battle line in the same place where they had formed it on the first day. ²³ And the people of Israel went up and wept before the LORD until the evening. And they inquired of the LORD, “Shall we again draw near to fight against our brothers, the people of Benjamin?” And the LORD said, “Go up against them.”

²⁴ So the people of Israel came near against the people of Benjamin the second day. ²⁵ And Benjamin went against them out of Gibeah the second day, and destroyed 18,000 men of the people of Israel. All these were men who drew the sword. ²⁶ Then all the people of Israel, the whole army, went up and came to Bethel and wept. They sat there before the LORD and fasted that day until evening, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD. ²⁷ And the people of Israel inquired of the LORD (for the ark of the covenant of God was there in those days, ²⁸ and Phinehas the son of Eleazar, son of Aaron, ministered before it in those days), saying, “Shall we go out once more to battle against our brothers, the people of Benjamin, or shall we cease?” And the LORD said, “Go up, for tomorrow I will give them into your hand.”

²⁹ So Israel set men in ambush around Gibeah. ³⁰ And the people of Israel went up against the people of Benjamin on the third day and set themselves in array against Gibeah, as at other times.

³¹ And the people of Benjamin went out against the people and were drawn away from the city. And as at other times they began to strike and kill some of the people in the highways, one of which goes up to Bethel and the other to Gibeah, and in the open country, about thirty men of Israel. ³² And the people of Benjamin said, “They are routed before us, as at the first.” But the people of Israel said, “Let us flee and draw them away from the city to the highways.” ³³ And all the men of Israel rose up out of their place and set themselves in array at Baal-tamar, and the men of Israel who were in ambush rushed out of their place from Maareh-geba. ³⁴ And there came against Gibeah 10,000 chosen men out of all Israel, and the battle was hard, but the Benjaminites did not know that disaster was close upon them. ³⁵ And the LORD defeated Benjamin before Israel, and the people of Israel destroyed 25,100 men of Benjamin that day. All these were men who drew the sword. ³⁶ So the people of Benjamin saw that they were defeated. **The men of Israel gave ground to Benjamin, because they trusted the men in ambush whom they had set against Gibeah.** ³⁷ Then the men in ambush hurried and rushed against Gibeah; the men in

ambush moved out and struck all the city with the edge of the sword. ³⁸ Now the appointed signal between the men of Israel and the men in the main ambush was that when they made a great cloud of smoke rise up out of the city ³⁹ the men of Israel should turn in battle. Now Benjamin had begun to strike and kill about thirty men of Israel. They said, “Surely they are defeated before us, as in the first battle.” ⁴⁰ But when the signal began to rise out of the city in a column of smoke, the Benjaminites looked behind them, and behold, the whole of the city went up in smoke to heaven. ⁴¹ Then the men of Israel turned, and the men of Benjamin were dismayed, for they saw that disaster was close upon them. ⁴² Therefore they turned their backs before the men of Israel in the direction of the wilderness, but the battle overtook them. And those who came out of the cities were destroying them in their midst. ⁴³ Surrounding the Benjaminites, they pursued them and trod them down from Nohah as far as opposite Gibeah on the east. ⁴⁴ Eighteen thousand men of Benjamin fell, all of them men of valor. ⁴⁵ And they turned and fled toward the wilderness to the rock of Rimmon. Five thousand men of them were cut down in the highways. And they were pursued hard to Gidom, and 2,000 men of them were struck down. ⁴⁶ So all who fell that day of Benjamin were 25,000 men who drew the sword, all of them men of valor. ⁴⁷ But 600 men turned and fled toward the wilderness to the rock of Rimmon and remained at the rock of Rimmon four months. ⁴⁸ And the men of Israel turned back against the people of Benjamin and struck them with the edge of the sword, the city, men and beasts and all that they found. And all the towns that they found they set on fire.

Confession of Faith (unison)

The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 26

What do you confess when you say, “I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth?” **That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (who of nothing made heaven and earth, with all that is in them; who likewise upholds and governs the same by His eternal counsel and providence) is for the sake of Christ His Son, my God and my Father; on whom I rely so entirely, that I have no doubt but He will provide me with all things necessary for soul and body; and further, that He will make whatever evils He sends upon me, in this valley of tears, turn out to my advantage; for He is able to do it, being Almighty God, and willing, being a faithful Father.**

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

The children may dismiss for church-time programs.

We hear God speak

Scripture Reading

Genesis 37:12-35

(Pew Bible, pg. 28)

Joseph Sold by His Brothers

¹² Now his brothers went to pasture their father’s flock near Shechem. ¹³ And Israel said to Joseph, “Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.” And he said to him, “Here I am.” ¹⁴ So he said to him, “Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring me word.” So he sent him from the Valley of Hebron, and he came to Shechem. ¹⁵ And a man found him wandering in the fields. And the man asked him, “What are you seeking?” ¹⁶ “I am seeking my brothers,” he said. “Tell me, please, where they

are pasturing the flock.” ¹⁷ And the man said, “They have gone away, for I heard them say, ‘Let us go to Dothan.’” So Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan.

¹⁸ They saw him from afar, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him. ¹⁹ They said to one another, “Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰ Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits.^[cistern] Then we will say that a fierce animal has devoured him, and we will see what will become of his dreams.” ²¹ But when Reuben heard it, he rescued him out of their hands, saying, “Let us not take his life.” ²² And Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but do not lay a hand on him”—that he might rescue him out of their hand to restore him to his father. ²³ So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the robe of many colors that he wore. ²⁴ And they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

²⁵ Then they sat down to eat. And looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels bearing gum, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶ Then Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷ Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers listened to him. ²⁸ Then Midianite traders passed by. And they drew Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. They took Joseph to Egypt.

²⁹ When Reuben returned to the pit and saw that Joseph was not in the pit, he tore his clothes ³⁰ and returned to his brothers and said, “The boy is gone, and I, where shall I go?” ³¹ Then they took Joseph’s robe and slaughtered a goat and dipped the robe in the blood. ³² And they sent the robe of many colors and brought it to their father and said, “This we have found; please identify whether it is your son's robe or not.” ³³ And he identified it and said, “It is my son's robe. A fierce animal has devoured him. Joseph is without doubt torn to pieces.” ³⁴ Then Jacob tore his garments and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days. ³⁵ All his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him, but he refused to be comforted and said, “No, I shall go down to Sheol to my son, mourning.” Thus his father wept for him. ³⁶ Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard.

Sermon

“The Forsaken Sibling”

Pastor Bell

We respond to God’s grace

*Hymn No. 689

Be Still, My Soul

Finlandia

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav’nly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
 and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
 then shall you better know his love, his heart,
 who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
 Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
 from his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
 when we shall be forever with the Lord,
 when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
 sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
 all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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

Danish

 *Those who are able, please stand.

Nursery Attendants: TODAY, Angela Andrade; NEXT WEEK, February 16th, Janet Johnson.

A **Congregational Meeting** is hereby called for TODAY, February 9th following the worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to review the annual reports and the election of elders and deacons. The approved nominees are; for elder: John Cicone, and for deacon: Andrew Bell and Gus DeFord.

THIS WEEK AT AISQUITH

TODAY	10:30 AM	Worship Congregational Meeting Luncheon
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	Ladies' and Men's Bible Studies
	7:00 PM	Ladies' Bible Study
FRIDAY	NOON	Valentine's Luncheon
SUNDAY	9:00 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship

Rev. Robert E. Bell, Pastor

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Rev. John E. Ceselsky, Assistant Pastor

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