

## *The Lord's Day*

February 23, 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...*

*Our real blessings often appear to us in the shape of pains, losses, and disappointments, but let us have patience, and we soon shall see them in their proper figures*

*Joseph Addison*

Prelude

Miss Grace Liu

### **We praise our great God**

\*Call to Worship

Psalm 61:1-5 (ESV)

Hear my cry, O God, listen to my prayer; from the end of the earth I call to you when my heart is faint.

**Lead me to the rock that is higher than I, for you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the enemy.**

Let me dwell in your tent forever! Let me take refuge under the shelter of your wings!

**For you, O God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.**

\*Hymn No. 32

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Runyan

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with thee;  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

***Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided—  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!***

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

\*Invocation

### **We embrace Christ our Savior**

Psalter Reading

Psalm 4

(Hymnal pg. 786)

Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God.

**Give me relief from my distress; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.**

How long, O men, will you turn my glory into shame? How long will you love delusions and seek false

gods?

**Know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD will hear when I call to him.**

In your anger do not sin; when you are on your beds, search your hearts and be silent.

**Offer right sacrifices and trust in the LORD.**

Many are asking, "Who can show us any good?"

**Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

You have filled my heart with greater joy than when their grain and new wine abound.

**I will lie down and sleep in peace, for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

\*Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Psalm 145:13b, 14, 18-21 (ESV)

The LORD is faithful in all his words, and kind in all his works. The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them. The LORD preserves all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy.

**My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.**

\*Hymn No. 624

*Through All the Changing Scenes of Life*

Downs

Through all the changing scenes of life, in trouble and in joy,  
The praises of my God shall still my heart and tongue employ.

Of his deliv'rance I will boast, till all that are distressed  
From my example comfort take, and charm their griefs to rest.

O magnify the Lord with me, with me exalt his name;  
When in distress to him I called, he to my rescue came.

The hosts of God encamp around the dwellings of the just;  
Deliv'rance he affords to all who on his succor trust.

O make but trial of his love; experience will decide  
How blest they are, and only they, who in his truth confide.

Fear him, ye saints, and you will then have nothing else to fear:  
Make you his service your delight; he'll make your want his care.

Confession of Faith (unison)

The Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 27

What do we mean by the providence of God? **The almighty and everywhere present power of God; whereby ... He upholds and governs heaven, earth, and all creatures; so that herbs and grass, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, meat and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, yea, and all things come, not by chance, but by His fatherly hand.**

Old Testament Reading

Judges 21:16-24

(Pew Bible, pg. 187)

<sup>16</sup>Then the elders of the congregation said, "What shall we do for wives for those who are left, since the women are destroyed out of Benjamin?" <sup>17</sup>And they said, "There must be an inheritance for the survivors of Benjamin, that a tribe not be blotted out from Israel. <sup>18</sup>Yet we cannot give them wives from our daughters." For the people of Israel had sworn, "Cursed be he who gives a wife to Benjamin." <sup>19</sup>So they said, "Behold, there is the yearly feast of the LORD at Shiloh, which is north of Bethel, on the east of the highway that goes up from Bethel to Shechem, and south of Lebonah." <sup>20</sup>And they commanded the people of Benjamin, saying, "Go and lie in ambush in the vineyards <sup>21</sup>and watch. If the daughters of Shiloh come out to dance in the dances, then come out of the vineyards and snatch each man his wife from the daughters of Shiloh, and go to the land of Benjamin. <sup>22</sup>And when their fathers or their brothers come to complain to us, we will say to them, 'Grant them graciously to us, because we did not take for each man of them his wife in battle, neither did you give them to them, else you would now be guilty.'" <sup>23</sup>And the people of Benjamin did so and took their wives, according to their number, from the dancers

whom they carried off. Then they went and returned to their inheritance and rebuilt the towns and lived in them. <sup>24</sup> And the people of Israel departed from there at that time, every man to his tribe and family, and they went out from there every man to his inheritance.

<sup>25</sup> In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

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 40

(Pew Bible, pg. 30)

#### **Joseph Interprets Two Prisoners' Dreams**

**40** Some time after this, the cupbearer of the king of Egypt and his baker committed an offense against their lord the king of Egypt. <sup>2</sup> And Pharaoh was angry with his two officers, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker, <sup>3</sup> and he put them in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, in the prison where Joseph was confined. <sup>4</sup> The captain of the guard appointed Joseph to be with them, and he attended them. They continued for some time in custody.

<sup>5</sup> And one night they both dreamed—the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were confined in the prison—each his own dream, and each dream with its own interpretation. <sup>6</sup> When Joseph came to them in the morning, he saw that they were troubled. <sup>7</sup> So he asked Pharaoh's officers who were with him in custody in his master's house, "Why are your faces downcast today?" <sup>8</sup> They said to him, "We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret them." And Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Please tell them to me."

<sup>9</sup> So the chief cupbearer told his dream to Joseph and said to him, "In my dream there was a vine before me, <sup>10</sup> and on the vine there were three branches. As soon as it budded, its blossoms shot forth, and the clusters ripened into grapes. <sup>11</sup> Pharaoh's cup was in my hand, and I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup and placed the cup in Pharaoh's hand." <sup>12</sup> Then Joseph said to him, "This is its interpretation: the three branches are three days. <sup>13</sup> In three days Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your office, and you shall place Pharaoh's cup in his hand as formerly, when you were his cupbearer. <sup>14</sup> Only remember me, when it is well with you, and please do me the kindness to mention me to Pharaoh, and so get me out of this house. <sup>15</sup> For I was indeed stolen out of the land of the Hebrews, and here also I have done nothing that they should put me into the pit."

<sup>16</sup> When the chief baker saw that the interpretation was favorable, he said to Joseph, "I also had a dream: there were three cake baskets on my head, <sup>17</sup> and in the uppermost basket there were all sorts of baked food for Pharaoh, but the birds were eating it out of the basket on my head."

<sup>18</sup> And Joseph answered and said, "This is its interpretation: the three baskets are three days. <sup>19</sup> In

three days Pharaoh will lift up your head—from you!—and hang you on a tree. And the birds will eat the flesh from you.”

<sup>20</sup> On the third day, which was Pharaoh’s birthday, he made a feast for all his servants and lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker among his servants. <sup>21</sup> He restored the chief cupbearer to his position, and he placed the cup in Pharaoh’s hand. <sup>22</sup> But he hanged the chief baker, as Joseph had interpreted to them. <sup>23</sup> *Yet the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, but forgot him.*

Sermon

“The Forgotten Slave”

Pastor Bell

### We respond to God’s grace

\*Hymn No. 621

*Sometimes a Light Surprises*

Bentley

Sometimes a light surprises the Christian while he sings;  
It is the Lord, who rises with healing in his wings:  
When comforts are declining, he grants the soul again  
A season of clear shining, to cheer it after rain.

In holy contemplation we sweetly then pursue  
The theme of God’s salvation, and find it ever new;  
Set free from present sorrow, we cheerfully can say,  
“Let the unknown tomorrow bring with it what it may.”

It can bring with it nothing but he will bear us through;  
Who gives the lilies clothing will clothe his people too:  
Beneath the spreading heavens no creature but is fed;  
And he who feeds the ravens will give his children bread.

Though vine and fig tree neither, their wonted fruit shall bear,  
Though all the fields should wither, nor flocks nor herds be there;  
Ye God the same abideth, his praise shall tune by voice,  
For, while in him confiding, I cannot but rejoice.

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

Danish Postlude

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\*Those who are able, please stand.

**Nursery Attendants: TODAY**, Christine Clark; **NEXT WEEK**, March 1<sup>st</sup>, Karen Wallace.

**Pastor Ceselsky** will have a short meeting at the front of the sanctuary immediately following the worship service. The meeting is open to anyone who might be interested in participating on a mission trip in 2020. There is no date or ministry location decided. We would like to get input from those who might be interested in going on a trip as to where they would like to serve and when they might be available. This does not mean that we will be doing a trip, but we wanted to see what interest there might be, and if so when/where.

**Next Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>** we will begin our discussions about the present and future life of Aisquith at 9:00 AM during the Sunday School hour. These are issues that should concern every member and attendee. Please make every effort to join us.

**The Session** has asked a few volunteers to explore the possibility of our church hosting some type of **Summer @ Aisquith** program. The goals would be to help us connect with one another and reach out to our community for Christ. Imagine a 4-day modified and updated VBS-style program, with fun skill workshops, and opportunities to use your skills to outreach to the community. Your input would be most helpful as we plan. If you are able, **PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SURVEY TODAY ONLINE at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9HVX52Y>** or, **Please Fill Out a Paper Form (in the narthex) TODAY and Return To Eileen Ley NO LATER THAN NEXT SUNDAY, March 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Perry Hall High School** will present the musical *Bye, Bye, Birdie* on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM and Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 and 7:00 PM. Scott Engel will be directing the orchestra; Sarah Soule Walters is the choreographer, and Jackson Clark is a member of the cast. Call the school for more information and tickets.

### THIS WEEK AT AISQUITH

<b>TODAY</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Worship</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Ladies' and Men's Bible Studies</b>
	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Ladies' Bible Study</b>
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Session Meeting</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>Soup &amp; Salad Supper</b>
	<b>7:15 PM</b>	<b>Lenten Service</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Worship and the Lord's Supper</b>

<b>Rev. Robert E. Bell, Pastor</b>	<b>Manse: 410-444-5111</b>
<b>Rev. John E. Ceselsky, Assistant Pastor</b>	<b>Cell: 410-340-4923</b>