

The Lord's Day

March 15, 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 conscience must be washed in blood [before] it can be clean; all our pains will not cleanse it; floods of tears will not do it; it is blood alone, that can purge the conscience from dead works.

Robert Leighton (1611-84)

Prelude

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Gläser, arr. Tornquist
Mr. Scott Engel

We praise our great God

*Call to Worship

Matthew 11:28-30 (ESV)

Come to me, all who labor and are heaven laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

*Hymn No. 30 (vv. 1-4, 7)

Our God Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
O be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

*Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading

Psalms 19

(Hymnal pg. 790)

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.

There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard.

Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun, which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is hidden from its heat.

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul.

The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart.
The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes.
 The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever.
The ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous.
 They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold;
they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb.
 By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
Who can discern his errors? Forgive my hidden faults.
 Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me.
Then will I be blameless, innocent of great transgressions.
 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my
 Rock and my Redeemer.

Assurance of Pardon (*responsive*)

1 John 4:13-15 (ESV)

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.
And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.
 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

Confession of Faith (*unison*)

Canons of Dort (1619), Head III, Art. 6

What therefore neither the light of nature, nor the law could do, that God performs by the operation of the Holy Spirit through the Word or ministry of reconciliation, which is the glad tidings concerning the Messiah, by means whereof it hath pleased God to save such as believe, as well under the Old, as under the New Testament.

*Hymn

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.

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

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Mason, arr. Johnson

The children may dismiss for church-time programs.

We hear God speak

Scripture Reading

Genesis 42

(Pew Bible, pg. 32)

Joseph's Brothers Go to Egypt

42 When Jacob learned that there was grain for sale in Egypt, he said to his sons, “Why do you look at one another?” ² And he said, “Behold, I have heard that there is grain for sale in Egypt. Go down and buy grain for us there, that we may live and not die.” ³ So ten of Joseph’s brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt. ⁴ But Jacob did not send Benjamin, Joseph’s brother, with his brothers, for he feared that harm might happen to him. ⁵ Thus the sons of Israel came to buy among the others who came, for the famine was in the land of Canaan.

⁶ Now Joseph was governor over the land. He was the one who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph’s brothers came and bowed themselves before him with their faces to the ground.

⁷ Joseph saw his brothers and recognized them, but he treated them like strangers and spoke roughly to them. “Where do you come from?” he said. They said, “From the land of Canaan, to buy food.” ⁸ And Joseph recognized his brothers, but they did not recognize him. ⁹ And Joseph remembered the dreams that he had dreamed of them. And he said to them, “You are spies; you have come to see the nakedness of the land.” ¹⁰ They said to him, “No, my lord, your servants have come to buy food. ¹¹ We are all sons of one man. We are honest men. Your servants have never been spies.”

¹² He said to them, “No, it is the nakedness of the land that you have come to see.” ¹³ And they said, “We, your servants, are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan, and behold, the youngest is this day with our father, and one is no more.” ¹⁴ But Joseph said to them, “It is as I said to you. You are spies. ¹⁵ By this you shall be tested: by the life of Pharaoh, you shall not go from this place unless your youngest brother comes here. ¹⁶ Send one of you, and let him bring your brother, while you remain confined, that your words may be tested, whether there is truth in you. Or else, by the life of Pharaoh, surely you are spies.” ¹⁷ And he put them all together in custody for three days.

¹⁸ On the third day Joseph said to them, “Do this and you will live, for I fear God: ¹⁹ if you are honest men, let one of your brothers remain confined where you are in custody, and let the rest go and carry grain for the famine of your households, ²⁰ and bring your youngest brother to me. So your words will be verified, and you shall not die.” And they did so. ²¹ Then they said to one another, “In truth we are guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the distress of his soul, when he begged us and we did not listen. That is why this distress has come upon us.” ²² And Reuben answered them, “Did I not tell you not to sin against the boy? But you did not listen. So now there comes a reckoning for his blood.” ²³ They did not know that Joseph understood them, for there was an interpreter between them. ²⁴ Then he turned away from them and wept. And he returned to them and spoke to them. And he took Simeon from them and bound him before their eyes. ²⁵ And Joseph gave orders to fill their bags with grain, and to replace every man’s money in his sack, and to give them provisions for the journey. This was done for them.

²⁶ Then they loaded their donkeys with their grain and departed. ²⁷ And as one of them opened his sack to give his donkey fodder at the lodging place, he saw his money in the mouth of his sack.

²⁸ He said to his brothers, “My money has been put back; here it is in the mouth of my sack!” At this their hearts failed them, and they turned trembling to one another, saying, “What is this that God has done to us?”

²⁹ When they came to Jacob their father in the land of Canaan, they told him all that had happened to them, saying, ³⁰ “The man, the lord of the land, spoke roughly to us and took us to be spies of the land. ³¹ But we said to him, ‘We are honest men; we have never been spies. ³² We are twelve

brothers, sons of our father. One is no more, and the youngest is this day with our father in the land of Canaan.’ ³³ Then the man, the lord of the land, said to us, ‘By this I shall know that you are honest men: leave one of your brothers with me, and take grain for the famine of your households, and go your way. ³⁴ Bring your youngest brother to me. Then I shall know that you are not spies but honest men, and I will deliver your brother to you, and you shall trade in the land.’”

³⁵ As they emptied their sacks, behold, every man’s bundle of money was in his sack. And when they and their father saw their bundles of money, they were afraid. ³⁶ And Jacob their father said to them, “You have bereaved me of my children: Joseph is no more, and Simeon is no more, and now you would take Benjamin. All this has come against me.” ³⁷ Then Reuben said to his father, “Kill my two sons if I do not bring him back to you. Put him in my hands, and I will bring him back to you.” ³⁸ But he said, “My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead, and he is the only one left. If harm should happen to him on the journey that you are to make, you would bring down my gray hairs with sorrow to Sheol.”

Sermon

“The Frightened Servants”
Part 1: The Testing for Conscience

Pastor Bell

We respond to God’s grace

*Hymn No. 654

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Angel’s Story

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

Danish

Postlude

Lead On, O King Eternal

Smart, arr. Tornquist

*Those who are able, please stand.

Nursery Attendants: TODAY, Mary Ann Kauffman; NEXT WEEK, March 22nd, Janet Johnson.

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 book to sign up for Easter Flowers is on the narthex table. The cost is \$9.00 this year and the deadline is next Sunday, March 22nd.

This Week at Aisquith

TODAY	10:30 AM	Worship
TUESDAY	10:30 AM	Ladies’ and Men’s Bible Studies
	7:00 PM	Ladies’ Bible Study
	7:30 PM	Session Meeting
SUNDAY	9:00 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship

Coming Soon

April 9th at 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service (APC)

April 10th at 7:00 PM Good Friday Service (LRPC)

April 12th at 10:30 AM Easter Sunday Service

May 3rd at 12:30 PM Acostas’ luncheon

Rev. Robert E. Bell, Pastor **Manse: 410-444-5111**
Rev. John E. Ceselsky, Assistant Pastor **Cell: 410-340-4923**

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me, the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear:
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee,
That where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.