

The Lord's Day

March 1, 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 king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the LORD; he turns it wherever he will.
Proverbs 21:1 (ESV)*

Prelude

Miss Grace Liu

We praise our great God

*Call to Worship

Psalm 96:2-4a (ESV)

Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised...

*Hymn No. 75

O Father, You Are Sovereign

St. Theodulph

O Father, you are sovereign in all the worlds you made;
Your mighty word was spoken and light and life obeyed.
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,
Sets stars within their courses and still the tempest's roar.

O Father, you are sovereign in all affairs of man;
No pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart your perfect plan.
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,
You hold your trusting children secure in your embrace.

O Father, you are sovereign, the Lord of human pain,
Transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain.
All evil over-ruling, as none but Conqu'ror could,
Your love pursues its purpose—our souls' eternal good.

O Father, you are sovereign! We see you dimly now,
But soon before your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.
With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew;
Our sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship you!

*Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Confession of Sin (responsive)

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."
Matthew 22:37-40

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Isaiah 53:4-6 (ESV)

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted.

But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

*Hymn No. 687

Make Me a Captive Lord

Paradoxy

Make me a captive, Lord, and then I shall be free;
Force me to render up my sword, and I shall conqu'ror be;
I sink in life's alarms when by myself I stand;
Imprison me within thine arms and strong shall be my hand.

My heart is weak and poor until it master find;
It has no spring of action sure—it varies with the wind;
It cannot freely move till thou hast wrought its chain;
Enslave it with thy matchless love, and deathless it shall reign.

My pow'r is faint and low till I have learned to serve;
It wants the needed fire to glow, it wants the breeze to nerve;
It cannot drive the world until itself be driv'n;
Its flag can only be unfurled when thou shalt breathe from heav'n.

My will is not my own till thou hast made it thine;
If it would reach the monarch's throne, it must its crown resign;
It only stands unbent, amid the clashing strife,
When on they bosom it has leaned, and found in thee its life.

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 in Word and Sacrament

Scripture Reading

Genesis 41:1-45

(Pew Bible, pg. 31)

Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams

41 After two whole years, Pharaoh dreamed that he was standing by the Nile, ² and behold, there came up out of the Nile seven cows, attractive and plump, and they fed in the reed grass. ³ And behold, seven other cows, ugly and thin, came up out of the Nile after them, and stood by the other cows on the bank of the Nile. ⁴ And the ugly, thin cows ate up the seven attractive, plump cows. And Pharaoh awoke. ⁵ And he fell asleep and dreamed a second time. And behold, seven ears of grain, plump and good, were growing on one stalk. ⁶ And behold, after them sprouted seven ears, thin and blighted by the east wind. ⁷ And the thin ears swallowed up the seven plump, full ears. And Pharaoh awoke, and behold, it was a dream. ⁸ So in the morning his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was none who could interpret them to Pharaoh.

9 Then the chief cupbearer said to Pharaoh, “I remember my offenses today. 10 When Pharaoh was angry with his servants and put me and the chief baker in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, 11 we dreamed on the same night, he and I, each having a dream with its own interpretation. 12 A young Hebrew was there with us, a servant of the captain of the guard. When we told him, he interpreted our dreams to us, giving an interpretation to each man according to his dream. 13 And as he interpreted to us, so it came about. I was restored to my office, and the baker was hanged.”

14 Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they quickly brought him out of the pit. And when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh. 15 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it.” 16 Joseph answered Pharaoh, “It is not in me; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer.” *[Without God it is not possible to give Pharaoh an answer about his welfare]* 17 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Behold, in my dream I was standing on the banks of the Nile. 18 Seven cows, plump and attractive, came up out of the Nile and fed in the reed grass. 19 Seven other cows came up after them, poor and very ugly and thin, such as I had never seen in all the land of Egypt. 20 And the thin, ugly cows ate up the first seven plump cows, 21 but when they had eaten them no one would have known that they had eaten them, for they were still as ugly as at the beginning. Then I awoke. 22 I also saw in my dream seven ears growing on one stalk, full and good. 23 Seven ears, withered, thin, and blighted by the east wind, sprouted after them, 24 and the thin ears swallowed up the seven good ears. And I told it to the magicians, but there was no one who could explain it to me.”

25 Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, “The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. 26 The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears are seven years; the dreams are one. 27 The seven lean and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, and the seven empty ears blighted by the east wind are also seven years of famine. 28 It is as I told Pharaoh; God has shown to Pharaoh what he is about to do. 29 There will come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt, 30 but after them there will arise seven years of famine, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt. The famine will consume the land, 31 and the plenty will be unknown in the land by reason of the famine that will follow, for it will be very severe. 32 And the doubling of Pharaoh’s dream means that the thing is fixed by God, and God will shortly bring it about. 33 Now therefore let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt. 34 Let Pharaoh proceed to appoint overseers over the land and take one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plentiful years. 35 And let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. 36 That food shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine that are to occur in the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine.”

Joseph Rises to Power

37 This proposal pleased Pharaoh and all his servants. 38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find a man like this, in whom is the Spirit of God?” *[of the gods]* 39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has shown you all this, there is none so discerning and wise as you are. 40 You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command. Only as regards the throne will I be greater than you.” 41 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “See, I have set you over all

the land of Egypt.” 42 Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his hand and put it on Joseph’s hand, and clothed him in garments of fine linen and put a gold chain about his neck. 43 And he made him ride in his second chariot. And they called out before him, “Bow the knee!” Thus he set him over all the land of Egypt. 44 Moreover, Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no one shall lift up hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.” 45 And Pharaoh called Joseph’s name (zaf EE nath-pan EE uh) Zaphenath-paneah. And he gave him in marriage (ASS eh nath) Asenath, the daughter of (poh TI fih ruh) Potiphera priest of On. So Joseph went out over the land of Egypt.

Sermon

“The Famine Solution”

Pastor Bell

Hymn No. 688 (vv. 1, 2)

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Holy Desire

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will,
While I am waiting, yielded and still.

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Search me and try me, Master, today!
Whiter than snow, Lord, wash me just now,
As in thy presence humbly I bow.

The Lord’s Supper

We respond to God’s grace

*Hymn No. 688 (vv. 3, 4)

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Holy Desire

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me, I pray!
Power, all power, surely is thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Hold o’er my being absolute sway!
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!

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

Danish

Postlude

*Those who are able, please stand.

Nursery Attendants: TODAY, Karen Wallace; **NEXT WEEK**, March 8th, Shannon Bell.

TODAY began 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.

Pastor Ceselsky will have a short meeting at the front of the sanctuary immediately following the worship service. This meeting is open to anyone who is interested in participating in a mission trip, July 25-August 1st, to Cherokee, NC.

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

