

The Lord's Day

March 14, 2021 at 10:30 AM

*We welcome you to worship today. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.
As you join us today, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer.
Please turn off your cell phone and turn your hearts and minds toward God.*

We prepare for worship

Take a moment and meditate on this as you prepare for worship...

Yes, your life is messy and hard, but that's not a failure of the plan; it is the plan. It's God's working to complete what he's begun in you . . . This means that those moments of difficulty are not an interruption of his plan or the failure of his plan, but rather an important part of his plan. **Paul David Tripp**

Prelude

Mrs. Wendy Wickham

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

Pastor Ceselsky

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalm 98:1-4 (ESV)

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Hymn No. 455

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

Sagina

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis myst'ry all! Th'Immortal dies: who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first born seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above (so free, so infinite his grace!),
Humbled himself (so great his love!), and bled for all his chosen race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread, Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading (**responsive**)

Psalms 66 (ESV)

¹ Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

² **sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!**

³ Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

⁴ All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name."

⁵ **Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.**

⁶ He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot.

There did we rejoice in him, who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations—let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

⁸ Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

⁹ **who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs;**

¹² you let men ride over our heads;

we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.

¹³ I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to you, ¹⁴ that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;**

I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.

¹⁷ **I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. ¹⁹ But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

²⁰ **Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!**

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 3:21-25 (ESV)

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.

Confession of Faith (**unison**)

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. 70

What is justification? **Justification is an act of God's free grace unto sinners, in which He pardons all their sins, accepts and accounts their persons righteous in His sight; not for any thing wrought in them, or done by them, but only for the perfect obedience and full satisfaction of Christ, by God imputed to them, and received by faith alone.**

Hymn No. 9 (HMR)

Alive in Christ

Boice/Jones

I once was rebellious, corrupted by sin, pursuing the devil's dark path,
Oblivious, dead to the state I was in, an object of God's dreadful wrath.

But God who is rich in compassion and love, not leaving my soul to the grave,
Has given me life; born again from above, by God's sovereign grace I've been saved.

God lifted me up to the heavenly realms where seated with Christ I am free;
In ages to come he will show me more grace—so great is his kindness to me.

Since grace is the source of the life that is mine—and faith is a gift from on high—
I'll boast in my Savior, all merit decline, and glorify God 'til I die.

Yet now I am living with work to be done for I am God's workmanship too,
Created in Christ with a race to be run, which God has ordained me to do.

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

We hear God speak

Scripture Reading

Galatians 6:11-18 (ESV)

¹¹ See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. ¹⁴ **But far be it from me to boast** except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶ And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

¹⁷ From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

¹⁸ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

Sermon

“What Do You Boast About?”

Pastor Bell

We respond to God's grace

Hymn No. 252

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Hamburg

When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count by loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ my God:
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all

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

Danish

Postlude

We Welcome and Thank Mrs. Wendy Wickham for providing the musical accompaniment today.

We will have a Maundy Thursday Communion Service on April 1st at 7:00 PM here at Aisquith. The people from Loch Raven Presbyterian will be joining us, and invite our congregation to join them on Good Friday, April 2nd at 7:00 PM.

The deadline to sign up for Easter Tulips is TODAY. The book is in the narthex or you can email Pastor Ceselsky. Once again, the cost is \$9 per plant.