

## *The Lord's Day*

January 2, 2022 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...*

*Yahweh's fidelity does not hinge on the achievements of men, however gifted they may be, nor does it evaporate in the face of funerals or rivers [or retirements].* Dale Ralph Davis, [edit JEC]

Prelude *I Love To Tell The Story* Fischer  
Dr. Kenneth Dean, Director of Music Ministries

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

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

Call to Worship Psalm 27:1,4,13-14

<sup>1</sup> The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**<sup>4</sup> One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.**

<sup>13</sup> I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

**<sup>14</sup> Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!**

Hymn No. 32 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Faithfulness

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 139:1-18,23-24

<sup>1</sup> O Lord, you have searched me and known me!  
<sup>2</sup> **You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.**  
<sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.  
<sup>4</sup> **Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.**  
<sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.  
<sup>6</sup> **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.**  
<sup>7</sup> Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?  
<sup>8</sup> **If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!**  
<sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,  
<sup>10</sup> **even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.**  
<sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,"  
<sup>12</sup> **even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.**  
<sup>13</sup> For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.  
<sup>14</sup> **I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.**  
<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.  
<sup>16</sup> **Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.**  
<sup>17</sup> How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!  
<sup>18</sup> **If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you.**  
<sup>23</sup> Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts!  
<sup>24</sup> **And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!**

Assurance of Pardon (**responsive**)

Hebrews 13:5b-6

<sup>5b</sup> He has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." <sup>6</sup> So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

Confession of Faith (**unison**)

Westminster Larger Catechism, Q. 7, 5

What is God?

**God is a spirit, in and of himself infinite in being, glory, blessedness, and perfection; all-sufficient, eternal, unchangeable, incomprehensible, everywhere present, almighty, knowing all things, most wise, most holy, most just, most merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.**

What do the Scriptures principally teach?

**The Scriptures principally teach, what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.**

Hymn No. 642

*Be Thou My Vision*

Slane

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art—  
Thou my best thought by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;  
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,  
Thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r:  
Raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Son!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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

Offertory

*If With All Your Hearts*

Felix Mendelssohn

**We hear God speak in Word and Sacrament**

Scripture Reading

Joshua 1:1-9

<sup>1</sup> After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, <sup>2</sup> "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. <sup>3</sup> Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. <sup>4</sup> From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. <sup>5</sup> No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. <sup>6</sup> Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. <sup>7</sup> Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. <sup>8</sup> This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. <sup>9</sup> Have I not commanded you? Be

strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

Sermon

“Bob’s NOT Dead”

Pastor Ceselsky

Celebration of The Lord’s Supper

**We respond to God’s grace**

Hymn No. 94

*How Firm a Foundation*

Foundation

How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you. O be not dismayed;  
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

“When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
My grace all sufficient, shall be your supply;  
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

“E’en down to old age all my people shall prove  
my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake.”

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

Danish

Postlude

*Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus*

Webb

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**Announcements**

**The women’s Bible Study** resumes on Wednesday, January 5 at 10:30 a.m. here at the church. The last lesson of 1 Samuel will be covered before starting 2 Samuel the following week. The men’s Bible Study will also resume at the same time.

**Sunday School will return** the next Sunday, January 9 – Please rejoin us in the New Year!

**Please Join Us** in celebrating Pastor Bell's retirement at an Open House NEXT Saturday, January 8, 2022 (weather make-up date is Saturday, January 15) from 1 PM to 6 PM. This celebration will take place at their new home – 2220 Benson Mill Road, Sparks, MD 21152. If you need transportation please contact Pastor Ceselsky and we will help you line up a ride.

**Our Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held on Sunday, February 6, 2022. The purpose of this meeting will be to review the annual reports, and vote on officer candidates. Mr. Mark Werner, has been nominated, examined and approved by the Session to stand for election to the office of Ruling Elder.

**Annual Reports are due** by January 15 for all of those who are tasked with providing one.

**We are still collecting** used inkjet cartridges. There is a box in the kitchen labeled for the donations.

### **Prayer Requests**

1. Continue to be in prayer for Judi Mason as she recovers from surgery.
2. Continue to be in prayer for Sylvia Barfield, as well as the Beerli family as they mourn the loss of Sylvia's husband, Darl.
3. Continue to be in prayer for the family of Debbie Baughman as they mourn her sudden death and that of her husband James in September,
4. Please be in prayer for the Bell family as they work on completing all the work for their new home, move and settle into retirement.

### **Church Officers**

**Ruling Elders:** Tim Bracken, John Cicone (Clerk), & Jeff Soule

**Deacons:** Andrew Bell, Gus DeFord, Ken Schumann, & Mark Werner (President)

**Deaconesses:** Christine Clark, Debbie DeFord, Fran Oswinkle, & Jeanne Williams (Moderator)

### **Sermon Notes**

Date: January 2, 2022

Text: Joshua 1:1-9

Sermon Title: "Bob's NOT Dead"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: Leaders Change, but the Lord, Yahweh, does not.

Main Point 1: Yahweh's Promises Remain Certain.

Point 1: Promise of a Place

Point 2: Promise of Protection

Main Point 2: Yahweh's Presence Remains with His People.

Point 1: I will not leave nor forsake you.

Point 2: Yahweh is with us wherever we go.

Main Point 3: Yahweh's Word Stands True Forever.

Point 1: Meditate on God's Word Day and Night

Point 2: God's Word is Always on Our Lips.

Point 3: God's Word MUST Guide Our Walks.