

The Lord's Day

August 7, 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...

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
Matthew 28:18-20

Prelude

Arioso

J.S. Bach

Dr. Kenneth Dean, Jr., Director of Music Ministries

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalm 22:22-23a, 27-28

²² I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³ You who fear the Lord, praise him!
²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.
²⁸ For kingship belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.

Invocation

Hymn No 368

The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear

Vision

The ends of all the earth shall hear and turn unto the Lord in fear;
all kindreds of the earth shall own and worship him as God alone.

**All earth to him her homage brings,
The Lord of lords, the King of kings.**

For his the kingdom, his of right, he rules the nations by his might;
All earth to him her homage brings, the Lord of lords, the King of kings.

Both rich and poor, both bond and free, shall worship him on bended knee,
And children's children shall proclaim the glorious honor of his name.

(The Lord's unfailing righteousness, all generations shall confess,
From age to age shall men be taught, what wondrous works the Lord has wrought.)

We embrace Christ's Call

Missions Update RE John & Gwen Cicone, Rafiki Foundation (Tanzania, Africa)

Missions Charge Isaiah 6:8

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"
Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

Commissioning of John & Gwen Cicone

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.

We acknowledge God's blessings

The Prayers of God's People and the Lord's Prayer (**in unison**)

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory *Let Us Break Bread Together* Traditional Spiritual

Soloist: Mr. Louis Davis, Jr., Baritone

Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees, Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees, When I Fall On My Knees With My Face To The Rising Sun, O Lord, Have Mercy On Me.

Let Us Drink Wine Together On Our Knees, Let Us Drink Wine Together On Our Knees, When I Fall On My Knees With My Face To The Rising Sun, O Lord, Have Mercy On Me.

Let Us Praise God Together On Our Knees, Let Us Praise God Together On Our Knees, When I Fall On My Knees With My Face To The Rising Sun, O Lord, Have Mercy On Me.

The Doxology (Hymnal, pg. 731) and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

We hear God speak in Word and Sacrament

Scripture Reading

Revelation 22:1-5

Pew Bible pg. 1041

¹ Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. ⁴ They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Sermon

“The Return of the Garden”

Pastor Ceselsky

Sermon Outline can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

We respond to God's grace

Hymn

Bought by the Blood

Highland Cathedral
Words: Bryan Chapell

Bought by the blood of heaven's perfect Lamb,
Freed from the bonds of earth by pierced hand,
He all my worthiness and I his sin,
Nailed to a cross by pow'r of God's love.

*Though his call take me far away,
Tho' it cost my name, comfort and gain,
I will serve him all my days,
My life now his, my Lord.*

Bold I approach my King's eternal throne,
Robed in a righteousness that's not my own.
Filled with his Spirit for a holy cause,

Bearing his cross by pow'r of God's love.

Lord, now grant me for the Gospel strife,
Grace for the morning and the fearful night,
Strengthen my zeal for my dear Savior's reign
Raising his cross by pow'r of God's love.

Benediction

Postlude

Go (Hymn of Commission)

A. Crouch

Soloist: Mr. Louis Davis, Jr., Baritone

Go ye therefore and teach all nations, go, go, go. Go ye therefore and teach all nations, go, go, go. Baptizing them in the name of the Father and Son, and Holy Ghost. Go, go, go.

If you love me, really love me, feed my sheep. If you love me, really love me, feed my sheep. And lo I'll be with you forever and every until the ends of the world, go, go, go.

Go ye therefore and teach all nations, go, go, go. Go ye therefore and teach all nations, go, go, go. Baptizing them in the name of the Father and Son, and Holy Ghost. Go, go, go.

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

Danish

Announcements

We thank all those who participated in the worship service today!

We will be Commissioning John & Gwen Cicone TODAY during our worship service. Following the service, we will be hosting a fellowship, Italian luncheon to spend time with them as a church family.

We will be baptizing Damian Andrade on Sunday, August 28. The congregation is invited to a lunch to follow (also celebrating his 1st birthday) but please rsvp to Angela no later than August the 15th, via email (Andrade.angelamaria@yahoo.com) or text to (240) 274-0914, so that she can plan accordingly.

The Handbell Choir will begin practicing on Wednesday, September 7 at 5 PM here at the church. Anyone who may be interested is welcome to come!

The Women's Bible Study will begin studying The Gospel of Luke at 10:30 am on Wednesday, September 28. Please let Julie Ceselsky know if you are interested in attending no later than NEXT Sunday, August 14 so that she can order and distribute the study materials.

Donations are needed for our Facilities Fund. We are currently running a deficit in our Facilities Fund of just over \$12,000 and we have several important repairs and updates to make. If you are able to give to this fund, it will be greatly appreciated.

The Items in the Middle Sunday School Room will be donated to local charities following the worship service on NEXT Sunday. If you would like any of the items please feel free to do so prior to then.

Baby Bottles for the Center for Pregnancy Concerns are due back in the church by Sunday, September 25. There is also a large baby bottle in the narthex where you can continue to give.

The Balcony remains closed as the deacons are performing some much-needed repairs.

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

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for John & Gwen Cicone as they complete their plans to move and serve the Lord with the Rafiki Foundation in Tanzania.
2. Please continue be in prayer for Buckey Pearre as he remains in the hospital with issues related to his blood pressure.
3. Please be in prayer for Libby Soule as she has an appointment with a new neurologist who specializes in headaches. Please pray that the doctor will be able to discover the nature of Libby's headaches and be able to successfully treat the problem.
4. Please continue to be in prayer for RE Mark Werner as he recovers from surgery.
5. Please continue to be in prayer for Maisie Manning's daughter, Yvonne, as she continues to battle medical conditions in Jamaica.
6. Please continue to be in prayer for Sarah Walters (Soule) and her husband Matthew as they await the birth of their first child in August.
7. Please be in prayer for the many members, family members and friends of the Aisquith Community who currently struggling various illnesses and other physical and emotional issues.

Church Officers

Ruling Elders: John Cicone (Clerk), Jeff Soule & Mark Werner

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

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

Sermon Notes

Date: August 7, 2022

Text: Revelation 22:1-5

Sermon Title: "The Return of the Garden"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: The New Jerusalem returns us to a Garden of Eden-like Life.

Main Point 1: Giving of Life

Point 1: The River of Life (v. 1)

Point 2: The Tree of Life (v. 2)

Point 3: From God and the Lamb (v. 1)

Main Point 2: Overcoming the Curse

Point 1: Healing of the Nations (v. 2)

Point 2: See His Face (v. 4)

Point 3: Bear His Name (v. 4)

Point 4: No Darkness (v. 5)

Main Point 3: Restoration of Proper Order

Point 1: Worshipping Servants (v. 3)

Point 2: Reign Forever and Ever (v. 5)