

The Lord's Day

September 4, 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...

Not every Christian today feels comfortable praying "Come, Lord Jesus." Suffering Christians long for Jesus' return, but some people are more comfortable with the world and view the end of the present world order with anxiety. Sometimes we love things that are not wrong, but if we yearn for them more than we yearn for Jesus, those priorities are wrong.

Craig Keener

Prelude

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross (Hamburg)

Gordon Young

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

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalm 19:7-11,14

⁷ The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure,
making wise the simple;
⁸ the precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is pure,
enlightening the eyes;
⁹ the fear of the Lord is clean,
enduring forever;
the rules of the Lord are true,
and righteous altogether.
¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.
¹¹ Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Invocation

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, his Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.

We embrace Christ's Call

Confession of Our Desire for Christ's Return

Belgic Confession (1561), Article 7

We believe that those Holy Scriptures fully contain the will of God, and that whatsoever man ought to believe until salvation is sufficiently taught therein. For since the whole manner of worship which God requires of us is written in them at large, it is unlawful for anyone, though an apostle, to teach otherwise that we are now taught in the Holy Scriptures: *nay, though it were an angel from heaven*, as the apostle Paul says. For since it is forbidden *to add unto or take away from anything from the Word of God*, it does thereby evidently appear that the doctrine thereof is most perfect and complete in all respects. Neither do we consider of equal value any writing of men, however holy these men may have been, with those divine Scriptures; nor ought we to consider custom, or the great multitude, or antiquity, or succession of times and persons, or councils, decrees, or statutes as of equal value with the truth of God, for the truth is above all; for all men are themselves liars, and more vain than vanity itself. Therefore, we reject with all our hearts whatsoever does not agree with this infallible rule which the apostles have taught us, saying, *Try the spirits whether they are of God*. Likewise, *If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house*.

Confession of Sin

based upon 1 John 1:5-10

O Lord our God, we proclaim for all to hear that you are light, and that in you there is no darkness at all. Lord, we then confess that while we have fellowship with you, we still walk in darkness. That makes us liars as we do not practice the truth. Lord, so often we fail to repent of our sin and in that, we act as if we have no sin. In doing so, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. And if we act as if we have not sinned, we make You out to be a liar, and your word is not in us. But we praise you for the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit whereby we are made able to walk in the light, as you are in the light. Therefore, we have fellowship with you and with one another, as the blood of Jesus, your Son, cleanses us from all sin.

Individual Confession of Sin

Assurance of God's Grace

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hymn No. 679

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Trusting Jesus

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word;
Just to rest upon his promise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

***Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more.***

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing cleansing flood!

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cleanse;
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest and joy and peace.

I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.

We acknowledge God's blessings

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

RE Jeff Soule

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Intermezzo Sinfonico (from: Cavalleria Rusticana)

P. Mascagni

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 22:18-21

Pew Bible pg. 1042

¹⁸ I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

Sermon

“You Know the End”

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 No. 465

Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord

Moody

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
Yonder on Calvary’s mount outpoured,
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

***Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God’s grace, grace that is greater than all my sin.***

Sin and despair like the sea waves cold,
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;
Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
Points to the Refuge, the mighty cross.

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide,
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide;
Whiter than snow you may be today.

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

Danish

The Lord Jesus Christ proclaims: “Surely I am coming soon.”
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all.

Postlude

Improvisation on: CWM RHONDDA (Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah)

K. Dean

Please be seated and quietly reflect upon the Lord’s grace during the Postlude.

Announcements

The Handbell Choir will begin practicing on Thursday, September 8 at 5 PM in room 28 here at the church. New members are welcome and needed!

The Choir will begin meeting on Saturday, September 10 at 11 AM in room 26 here at the church. New members are welcome!

Valley Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Grief Share support group beginning on Tuesday, September 13. The group will meet at Valley every Tuesday from 12-2 PM through December 13. If you have any questions, you can call 410-828-6234. (There are some brochures available in the narthex.)

Sunday School for all ages will begin on Sunday, September 25. Pastor Ceselsky will be teaching the adult class, while Sandy Jones teaches the children, on the Ten Commandments (these lessons will form a backdrop to part of the sermon series we will be beginning that same day). All are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to come and participate.

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.

Bible Study Materials for the Women's Bible Study for the 2022-2023 (Beginning Wednesday, September 28 at 10:30 AM) study on the Gospel of Luke are on the tables in the narthex. Please take the one with **YOUR NAME** on it. There is no required payment for the study guides, but if you are able to help cover the cost, each guide costs \$16. (Please give any funds to John or Julie Ceselsky.)

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

We have several copies of *Gentle and Lowly* (used for the summer book study) in the narthex. They are free to a good home.

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

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for John & Gwen Cicone as they begin to serve the Lord with the Rafiki Foundation in Tanzania.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for RE Mark Werner as he recovers from surgery.
3. Please continue to be in prayer for Maisie Manning's daughter, Yvonne, as she continues to battle medical conditions in Jamaica.
4. 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: September 4, 2022

Text: Revelation 22:18-21

Sermon Title: "You Know the End"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: Jesus is the only ground and hope of our lives.

Main Point 1: Jesus' Word is Completely Sufficient.

Point 1: We Must NOT Add to God's Word. (v. 18)

Point 2: We Must NOT Subtract from God's Word. (v. 19)

Main Point 2: Jesus' Return is Completely Certain. (v. 20)

Point 1: Surely I am Coming Soon.

Point 2: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus

Main Point 3: Jesus' Grace Sustains God's People. (v. 21)