

The Lord's Day

September 18, 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...

For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

1 Corinthians 2:2

Prelude

Air (from: Suite in D)

J.S. Bach

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

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

RE Jeff Soule

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalms 28:6-9

⁶ Blessed be the Lord!

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

⁷ The Lord is my strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;
my heart exults,

and with my song I give thanks to him.

⁸ The Lord is the strength of his people;
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

⁹ Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!
Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

Invocation

Confessional of Faith

Second Helvetic Confession (1566) XI.17

We do plainly and openly profess that Jesus Christ is the only Redeemer and Savior of the world, the King and High Priest, the true and looked-for Messiah, that holy and blessed one whom all the shadows of the law and prophecies of the prophets, did prefigure and promise; and that God did supply and send Him unto us, so that now we are not to look for any other. And now there remains nothing, but that we all should give all glory to Him, believe in Him, and rest in Him only, despising and rejecting all other aids of our life. For they are fallen from the grace of God, and make Christ of no value unto themselves, whosoever they be that seek salvation in any other things besides Christ alone.

Hymn No. 342

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Regent Square

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.

All that dedicated city, dearly loved of God on high,
In exultant jubilation pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring in glad hymns eternally.

To this temple where we call thee, come, O Lord of hosts, today;
With thy wonted loving kindness hear thy people as they pray;
And thy fullest benediction shed within its walls always.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One,
One in might, and One in glory, while unending ages run.

We embrace Christ's Call

Confession of Sin

based upon Hebrews 13:1-6

Righteous Father, we gather confessing that we have all sinned and fall short of your great glory. We have failed to love our brothers and sisters in Christ. We have neglected to show hospitality to strangers. We have failed to care for those who are in prison, and those who are mistreated. Whether physically or in the lusting of our hearts we have become an adulterous generation. We acknowledge our love of money, and our lack of contentment. Nonetheless, Father we rejoice in your promise which you have given to us: "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Therefore, we can confidently proclaim, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"

Individual Confession of Sin

Assurance of God's Grace

Hebrews 4:14-16

¹⁴ Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hymn No. 305

Arise, My Soul, Arise

Lenox

Arise, my soul, arise, shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding Sacrifice in my behalf appears;
Before the throne my Surety stands,
before the throne my Surety stands,
My name is written on his hands.

He ever lives above, for me to intercede,
His all redeeming love, his precious blood to plead;
His blood atoned for ev'ry race,
His blood atoned for ev'ry race,

And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Five bleeding wounds he bears, received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers, they strongly plead for me.
“Forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,
“forgive him, O forgive,” they cry,
“nor let that ransomed sinner die!”

My God is reconciled; his pard’ning voice I hear;
He owns me for his child, I can no longer fear;
With confidence I now draw nigh,
with confidence I now draw nigh,
And “Father, Abba, Father!” cry.

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 *If With All Your Hearts (from: Elijah)* F. Mendelssohn

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

Scripture Reading *Philippians 3:4-7* Pew Bible pg. 981

⁴ Though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

Sermon “Misplaced Confidence” Pastor Bell

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

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

Praise Ye The Triune God

D. Fleming

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

Announcements

We welcome our Pastor Emeritus, Pastor Bell as he brings the Word of the Lord to us today.

Pastor Ceselsky is away on vacation through Wednesday, September 21.

Sunday School for all ages will begin NEXT Sunday at 9 AM. Pastor Ceselsky will be teaching the adult class in Room 11, while Sandy Jones teaches the children in Room 17, 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 NEXT Sunday. There is also a large baby bottle in the narthex where you can continue to give.

The Women's Bible Study for the 2022-2023 begins on Wednesday, September 28 at 10:30 AM, meeting in rooms 15 & 16. The group will be using Rafiki materials studying the Gospel of Luke. 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.)

We will be holding a new member's class beginning on Sunday, October 16 – the class will meet in Pastor Ceselsky's office following the worship service. Any are welcome to come!

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: Jeff Soule & Mark Werner (Clerk of Session)

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

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

Sermon Notes

Date: September 18, 2022

Text: Philippians 3:4-7

Sermon Title: "Misplaced Confidence"

Delivered By: Pastor Emeritus Robert Bell

Main Point 1: Paul's Physical Advantages

Main Point 2: Paul's Personal Achievements

Main Point 3: Paul's Painful Assessment