

The Lord's Day

May 30, 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...

The world we live in does not operate as God intended, and because it doesn't, it whispers seductive lies into our ears every day. It works to deceive us into thinking that what is ugly in God's eyes is really beautiful and that what God has said is wrong is really all right after all. So pray that these three truths will rule your heart today: that you'll remember God's authority, that you'll love his law, and that you'll have the desire and strength to resist temptation. There is ample grace for all of these things.

Paul David Tripp (ed.)

Prelude

Mrs. Wendy Wickham

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

Pastor Ceselsky

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Micah 7:18, 19 (ESV)

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down:

Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown;

Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;

Visit us with thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breath thy loving Spirit into ev'ry troubled breast;

Let us all in thee inherit, let us find the promised rest;

Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;

End of faith, as its Beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;

Suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,

Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be:

Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;

Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,

Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

Invocation

We embrace Christ our Savior

Psalter Reading (**responsive**)
1 (**ESV**)

Psalm

1 Blessed is the man
 who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
 nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
2 **but his delight is in the law of the Lord,
 and on his law he meditates day and night.**

3 He is like a tree
 planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
 and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.

4 The wicked are not so,
 but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
 nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
6 **for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
 but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Assurance of Pardon
8 (**ESV**)

Romans 4:4-

Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered, blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

Confession of Faith (**unison**)
21

The Heidelberg Catechism, Q.

What is true faith? **True faith is not only a certain knowledge, whereby I hold for truth all that God has revealed to us in His Word, but also an assured confidence, which the Holy Spirit works by the gospel in my heart, that not only to others, but to me also, remission of sin, everlasting**

righteousness and salvation are freely given by God, merely of grace, only for the sake of Christ's merits.

Hymn No. 675

Only Trust Him

Minerva

Come, ev'ry soul by sin oppressed, there's mercy with the Lord,
And he will surely give you rest, by trusting in his Word.

Only trust him, only trust him, only trust him now;

He will save you, he will save you, he will save you now.

For Jesus shed his precious blood rich blessings to bestow;
Plunge now into the crimson flood that washes white as snow.

Yes, Jesus is the truth, the way, that leads you into rest;
Believe in him without delay, and you are fully blessed.

Come then, and join this holy band, and on to glory go,
To dwell in that celestial land, where joys immortal flow.

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
32 (ESV)

Psalm

- 32** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.
² Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- ³ For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah*
- ⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Selah*
- ⁶ Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.
- ⁷ You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance. *Selah*
- ⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- ⁹ Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay near you.
- ¹⁰ Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.
- ¹¹ Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O **righteous**,
and shout for joy, all you **upright** in heart!

Sermon

"Happy Are the Forgiven"

Pastor Bell

We respond to God's grace

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high:
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on thee;
Leave, ah! Leave me not alone, still support and comfort me!
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name; I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within;
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.

We welcome Mrs. Wendy Wickham as our organist today.

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Kenneth Dean has accepted the Session's employment contract to serve as Aisquith's new Director of Music Ministries. We, along with Dr. Dean, are thrilled that the Lord has brought this talented church musician to our staff.

A congregational meeting is hereby called by the Session to take place immediately following the worship service NEXT SUNDAY, June 6. The purpose of this meeting is to approve the purchase of a used, digital organ for the sanctuary. The estimated cost for the organ, with installation, is \$20,000. Our by-laws require congregational approval for any purchase greater than \$15,000.

Rafiki and Refreshments: John & Gwen Cicone would like to invite you for light refreshments and a short presentation about the work of the Rafiki foundation after worship next Sunday, June 6th. There will be a time for your questions and products from the Widow's Exchange.

A NEW Photo-Directory is coming. Beginning today, Pastor Ceselsky will begin reviewing information and taking family pictures for the directory. We would really like to have 100% participation.

On Wednesday, June 2, 2021, Frank Cimino, Organist at St. Matthew United Church of Christ and Founding Director of the Maryland State Boychoir, will present an organ recital at the Maryland State Boychoir Center for the Arts. The recital will feature works by Couperin, Bach, Thalben-Ball, Arthur Rhea, and favorites such as "Come Sweet Death" arr. Virgil Fox, "Jupiter Theme" by Gustav Holst, and "Star Wars Theme" by John Williams. This event will kick off the annual Maryland State Boychoir Summer Series. All MSB Summer Series events are free and open to the public, donations are gratefully received.