

The Lord's Day

July 31, 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...

And I will be to her a wall of fire all around, declares the Lord, and I will be the glory in her midst.

Zechariah 2:5

Prelude

Jerusalem, The Golden

Alexander Ewing

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

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalms 18:31-33

³¹ For who is God, but the Lord?

And who is a rock, except our God?—

³² the God who equipped me with strength
and made my way blameless.

³³ He made my feet like the feet of a deer
and set me secure on the heights.

Invocation

Hymn No 30

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

The busy tribes of flesh and blood, with all their lives and cares,
Are carried downward by your flood, and lost in following years.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;

They fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
O be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

We embrace Christ our Savior

Corporate Seeking after The Lord (responsive)

Psalm 122

¹ I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

² **Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

³ Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together,

⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,**

as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

⁵ **There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David.**

⁶ Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! "May they be secure who love you!"

⁷ **Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!"**

⁸ For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!"

⁹ **For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.**

Individual Confession of our Need

Assurance of God's Grace

1 Peter 1:3-5

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith XVII.1,2

They, whom God has accepted in His beloved, effectually called and sanctified by His Spirit, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace; but shall certainly persevere therein to the end, and be eternally saved.

This perseverance of the saints depends, not upon their own free will, but upon the immutability of the decree of election, flowing from the free and unchangeable love of God the Father; upon the efficacy of the merit and intercession of Jesus Christ; the abiding of the Spirit and of the seed of God within them; and the nature of the covenant of grace; from all which arises also the certainty and infallibility thereof.

Hymn

There is a Higher Throne

Getty

Soloist: Mr. Louis Davis, Jr., Baritone

There is a higher throne than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand, made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace; Salvation comes.

**Hear heaven's voices sing; Their thund'rous anthems ring
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies; Their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength, thanks and honor are to God,**

Our King who reigns on high forevermore.

And there we'll find our home; Our life before the throne.
We'll honor Him in perfect song where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye as thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb become our Shepherd King; We'll reign with Him.

Chorus 2x

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

O What A Beautiful City

Jacqueline B. Hairston

Soloist: Mr. Louis Davis, Jr., Baritone

O! What a beautiful city. O! What a beautiful city. O! What a beautiful city. Twelve gates a to the city, a Hallelu!

I'm seein' Twelve gates in a de East; Twelve gates in a de West; Twelve gates in a de North; Twelve gates in a de South; makin it Twelve gates at to the city, a Hallelu!

My Lord built a dat city; an' He said it was jus' a four-square; An He said He wanted you sinners, to meet Him in a de air; Cause He built twelve gates a to de city; a Hallelu!

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

Revelation 21:9-27

Pew Bible pg. 1041

⁹ Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹² It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed— ¹³ on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴ And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

¹⁵ And the one who spoke with me had a measuring rod of gold to measure the city and its gates and walls. ¹⁶ The city lies foursquare, its length the same as its width. And he measured the city with his rod, 12,000 stadia. Its length and width and height are equal. ¹⁷ He also measured its wall, 144 cubits by human measurement, which is also an angel's measurement. ¹⁸ The wall was built of jasper, while the city was pure gold, like clear glass. ¹⁹ The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every kind of

jewel. The first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald,²⁰ the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst.²¹ And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

²² And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.
²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb.²⁴ By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it,
²⁵ and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there.²⁶ They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.²⁷ But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Sermon

“The New Jerusalem – Part 2”
Sermon Outline can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

Pastor Ceselsky

We respond to God's grace

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.

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

Danish

Postlude

Thine Be The Glory (Maccabaeus)

G.F. Handel

Announcements

We welcome Mr. Louis Davis, Jr. this morning as he will lead us in There is a Higher Throne and will sing the offertory. Mr. Davis did formal musical studies at Howard University and Morgan State University. He has sung around the world and has been a soloist for many performances, including with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

The Tuesday Morning Book Club has changed their meeting time from 10 am to 10:30 am – please take note of this change.

Donations are needed for our Facilities Fund. We are currently running a deficit in our Facilities Fund of just over \$4,000 and we have several important repairs and updates to make. If you are able to give to this fund, it will be greatly appreciated.

We will be Commissioning John & Gwen Cicone on Sunday, August 7 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 via email (Andrade.angelamarie@yahoo.com) or text to (240) 274-0914, so that she can plan accordingly.

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 Sunday, August 14 so that she can order and distribute the study materials.

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 to be in prayer for RE Mark Werner as he recovers from surgery.
3. Please continue to be in prayer for Maise Manning's daughter, Yvonne, as she continues to battle medical conditions in Jamaica.
4. 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.
5. 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: July 31, 2022

Text: Revelation 21:9-27

Sermon Title: "The New Jerusalem – Part 2"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: The Christian Longs for the City of God – the New Jerusalem – Home.

Main Point 1: A Secure City

Point 1: Size of the City (v. 16)

Point 2: Walls Surrounding the City (vv. 11,17)

Point 3: Foundations of the City (vv. 14,19-20)

Main Point 2: An Open City

Point 1: Gates (vv. 12,21)

Point 2: Never Shut (v. 25)

Main Point 3: A Face-to-Face City.

Point 1: No Temple (v. 22)

Point 2: Written in The Lamb's Book of Life (v. 27)

Point 3: Light of Glory (vv. 23,24)