

The Lord's Day

December 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...

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; Let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r. Not the labors of my hands can fulfil thy law's demands; Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, All for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone. Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling; Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; Foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die. Augustus Toplady (Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me)

Prelude

Rock of Ages New City Fellowship – James Ward
Dr. Kenneth Dean, Jr. – Director of Music Ministries

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

Choral Introit

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Plain Song - Charles Megg
The Aisquith Handbell Choir

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalm 22:1,14,15,18,22-23a

1 My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?
14 I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;
my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;
15 my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.
18 They divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
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!

Invocation

Hymn No. 207

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

We embrace Christ's Call

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 37

Q. 37 What do you understand by the word "suffered"?

A. That during his whole life on earth, but especially at the end, Christ sustained in body and soul the wrath of God against the sin of the whole human race. This he did in order that, by his suffering as the only atoning sacrifice, he might deliver us, body and soul, from eternal condemnation, and gain for us God's grace, righteousness, and eternal life.

Confession of Sin (Responsive)

Colossians 2:8-13a

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit,
according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,

¹⁰ **and [we] have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.**

¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands,
by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ,

¹² having been buried with him in baptism,

in which [we] were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God,
who raised him from the dead.

¹³ **And [we], who were dead in [our] trespasses and the uncircumcision of [our] flesh.**

Individual Confession of Sin

Assurance of God's Grace

Colossians 2:13-14

¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Hymn No. 691

It Is Well with My Soul

Ville Du Havre

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll;

Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
“It is well, it is well with my soul.”

It is well with my soul; it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and has shed his own blood for my soul.

My sin—O the bliss of this glorious thought!—
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
“Even so”—it is well with my soul.

The Reception of New Members

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

The Sacrament of Baptism

John Clark

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

The First Noel

arr. Brian Trevi
The Aisquith Handbell Choir

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

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Pew Bible pg. 952

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.

²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Sermon

“A Clash of Worldviews”

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's grace

Hymn

The Power of the Cross

Getty

O, to see the dawn of the darkest day;
Christ on the road to Calvary.
Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten then
Nailed to a cross of wood.

**This the pow'r of the cross:
Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath;
We stand forgiven at the cross.**

O to see the pain written on Your face,
Bearing the awesome weight of sin.
Ev'ry bitter thought, every evil deed
Crowning You blood stained brow.

Refrain

Now the daylight flees; Now the ground beneath
Quakes as its Maker bows His head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life –
“Finished!” the vict'ry cry.

Refrain

O, to see my name written in the wounds,
For through Your suffering I am free.

Death is crushed to death, life is mine to live,
Won through You selfless love!

This the pow'r of the cross:
Son of God – slain for us
What a love, what a cost!
We stand forgiven at the cross.

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

Danish

Postlude

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

tune: Hyfrydol - K. Dean

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

Announcements

Today we welcome 7 new members: Mark, Yuki, Mary and Hannah Fisher by transfer; Dr. Kenneth Dean by reaffirmation of Faith; and John Clark and Bryan Lee upon profession of Faith. We will also be celebrating the sacrament of Baptism with John Clark.

We are planning wonderful services for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Please plan to join us and invite others!

Giving Envelopes for 2023 and sorted Christmas cards are in the narthex. They are arranged alphabetically based on last name. Please note that we have had to change a few envelope numbers.

A sign-up sheet for the Lord's Supper is in the narthex. If you can help set up during one of our celebrations, that would be most helpful.

There will be a Messiah Sing-Along at The Weinberg Center in Frederick, Maryland at 8:00 PM on Tuesday, December 20th. Tickets can be purchased on their website: <https://weinbergcenter.org/shows/messiah-sing-along/> - if you are interested in going, please talk with Mark Fisher.

Our Christmas Offering this year will be going once again to the Ministerial Relief Fund of the PCA.

A Mold Analysis was completed in November in parts of the church building. The report notes that the analysis shows that the spaces tested are "within normal range," and further states that: "Based on the mold counts there is no indication of an air quality issue at the time of testing." From the lab analysis, it was noted that the air quality outside the church building is of worse quality than the air quality inside the rooms tested. The findings are very good news and indicate that we will not have to move on a course of mold remediation, which can be both costly and involve closing off all or parts of our campus for possibly extended periods of time.

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

Prayer Requests

1. Please be in prayer for Norm Norris as he has had some setbacks in his recovery from surgery which will delay their return to Baltimore. If you would like to send Norm and Betty Jo a note or card, their address in Florida is 1724 SE Plumbob Way, Crystal River, FL 34429.
2. 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.

Weekly Calendar

TODAY:	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages Children – Room 17 Adults and Older Children – Room 11
	10:30 AM	Worship Service (Nursery is available in Room 25)
	12:00 PM	Choir Practice
Friday	6:00 PM	Choir and Orchestra Practice for Christmas Eve
Saturday	6:40 PM	CHRISTMAS EVE MUSICAL PRELUDE
	7:00 PM	CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE
NEXT Sunday	10:30 AM	CHRISTMAS DAY Worship Service

Church Officers

Ruling Elders: Jeff Soule & Mark Werner (Clerk)

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

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

Sermon Notes

Date: December 18, 2022

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Sermon Title: “A Clash of Worldviews”

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: Our worldview must be centered on the cross of Christ.

Main Point 1: The Cross Reveals the World’s Nature

Point 1: Do not know God (v. 21)

Point 2: Signs and human wisdom (v. 22)

Point 3: Perishing (v. 18)

Main Point 2: The Cross Displays God’s Nature (v. 24)

Point 1: The power of God

Point 2: The wisdom of God

Main Point 3: The Cross Changes the Believer's Nature

Point 1: Means of our salvation (vss. 18,24)

Point 2: Content of our preaching (v. 23)