

Palm Sunday

March 24, 2024 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...

Because Jesus is greater than Levi and the Aaronic priesthood, because Jesus is the real great High Priest, because Melchizedek is like him – it's not that Jesus is like Melchizedek but it's that Melchizedek is like Him – because of that we can know two things about Jesus. First, He is eternal, and second, He is able to bless.

Dr. J. Ligon Duncan III

Prelude

The Palms

Jean-Baptiste Faure

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

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

Procession of the Palms

John 12:13

“Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
even the King of Israel!”

Special Music

The Holy City

Adams

Trumpet & Organ, Organ: Dr. Kenneth Dean, Jr.; Trumpeter: Mr. Raymond Green

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalms 110

¹ The Lord says to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand,
until I make your enemies your footstool.”

² The Lord sends forth from Zion
your mighty scepter.

Rule in the midst of your enemies!

³ Your people will offer themselves freely
on the day of your power,
in holy garments;
from the womb of the morning,
the dew of your youth will be yours.

⁴ The Lord has sworn
and will not change his mind,
“You are a priest forever

after the order of Melchizedek.”
⁵ The Lord is at your right hand;
he will shatter kings on the day of his wrath.
⁶ He will execute judgment among the nations,
filling them with corpses;
he will shatter chiefs
over the wide earth.
⁷ He will drink from the brook by the way;
therefore he will lift up his head.

Invocation

Hymn No. 235

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

St. Theodulph

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One!

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present;
To thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!
All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

We embrace Christ's Word

WLC Q. 43 How does Christ execute the office of a prophet?

Christ executes the office of a prophet, in his revealing to the church, in all ages, by his Spirit and Word, in diverse ways of administration, the whole will of God, in all things concerning their edification and salvation.

Hebrews 1:1-2 (Responsive)

¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,
² **but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son,**
whom he appointed the heir of all things,
through whom also he created the world.

WLC Q. 44 How does Christ execute the office of a priest?

Christ executes the office of a priest, in his once offering himself a sacrifice without spot to God, to be reconciliation for the sins of his people; and in making continual intercession for them.

Hebrews 7:23-28 (Responsive)

²³ The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office,

²⁴ **but [Jesus] holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.**

²⁵ Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, **since he always lives to make intercession for them.**

²⁶ For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

²⁷ **He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself.**

²⁸ For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, **but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.**

WLC Q. 45 How does Christ execute the office of a king?

Christ executes the office of a king, in calling out of the world a people to himself, and giving them officers, laws, and censures, by which he visibly governs them; in bestowing saving grace upon his elect, rewarding their obedience, and correcting them for their sins, preserving and supporting them under all their temptations and sufferings, restraining and overcoming all their enemies, and powerfully ordering all things for his own glory, and their good; and also in taking vengeance on the rest, who know not God, and obey not the gospel.

Psalm 2 (Responsive)

¹ Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

² **The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying,**

³ “Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”

⁴ **He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.**

⁵ Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,

⁶ **“As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”**

⁷ I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

⁸ **Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.**

⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.”

¹⁰ **Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

¹¹ Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

¹² **Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him. (Unison)**

Hymn No. 295

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Diademata

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! How the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:

No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose pow'r a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail through out eternity.

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

Draw Nigh to Jerusalem

David H. Williams
The Aisquith Choir

Draw nigh to Thy Jerusalem, O Lord, Thy faithful people cry with one accord: Ride on in triumph; Lord, behold we lay Our passions, lusts, and proud wills in Thy way! Thy road is ready; and Thy paths, made straight, With longing expectation seem to wait The consecration of Thy beauteous feet, And silently Thy promised advent greet! Thy road is ready; Thy paths made straight, With longing expectation seem to wait. Hosanna! Welcome to our hearts! For here Thou hast a temple, too, as Zion dear; O enter in dear Lord, unbar the door And in that temple dwell forevermore. Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

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 are nourished by God's Word

Scripture Reading

Genesis 14:17-20

Pew Bible pg. 10

¹⁷ After his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him [Abram] at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). ¹⁸ And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. (He was priest of God Most High.) ¹⁹ And he blessed him and said,

“Blessed be Abram by God Most High,
Possessor of heaven and earth;
²⁰ and blessed be God Most High,
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!”

And Abram gave him a tenth of everything.

Sermon

“The King of Righteous”

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God’s grace

Hymn

Before the Throne

Sovereign Grace

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav’n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart (2X).

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of my guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me (2X).

Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of Glory and of Grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God (2X)

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

Danish

Postlude

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Melchior Tischner
Duet for Organ & Trumpet

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

Announcements

We welcome Mr. Raymond Green as he plays the trumpet for us today.

Volunteers are needed to help with the sound and video recording of our worship services. If you are able to help, please speak to either Pastor Ceselsky, Andrew Bell or Ken Schumann.

A Call to Prayer: As many members of Aisquith have been undergoing a great deal of personal trials, and facing challenges with loved ones, we are calling on the congregation to pray individually, or to gather with others, this Wednesday at either 10 AM or 7 PM to pray for the Lord's people here at Aisquith. We will also gather at 9 AM on Sunday, April 7 in the church sanctuary to hold a service of prayer where congregation members will lead in prayer – more details will be provided as we get closer.

This year's Easter Offering will go to Mission to the World's Compassion Fund. This fund serves to assist those recovering from natural disasters around the world. You can use your Easter envelope or use a pink envelope, found in the pew racks, and label it as "Easter Offering."

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for JonCarlos Ley as is treating a bacterial infection in his eye.
2. Please continue in prayer for Maria Harris, Eileen Ley's daughter, as she is currently receiving (and will for several more weeks) inpatient-treatments in the hospital for leukemia. Pray as well for her husband, Christian, and their two beautiful daughters, Corinne and Nina.
3. Please continue to be in prayer for Chuy Acosta as he recovers from back surgery in Guadalajara.
4. Please continue to be in prayer for Libby Soule as she struggles with the limitations and difficulties related to her FND.
5. Please continue in prayer for Anna Graham as she recovers from a back procedure on Friday.
6. Please be in prayer for Aisquith members, family members and friends of the Aisquith Community who are currently struggling with various illnesses and other physical and emotional issues.

Weekly Calendar

TODAY:	9:00 AM	Sunday School Adults – Room 11 Children – Room 17
	10:30 AM	Worship Service (Nursery available in Room 25)
	12:00 PM	Called Joint Board Meeting – Room 18
Tuesday	6:15 PM	Handbell Choir Practice – Room 28
Wednesday	10:00 AM & 7 PM	Call to Prayer for the Congregation
Thursday	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Worship Service – Loch Raven Presbyterian Church
Friday	7:00 PM	Good Friday Worship Service – Aisquith Presbyterian Church
NEXT Sunday	10:30 AM	Resurrection Day Worship Service

Coming Soon

Sunday, April 7 – Prayer Service at 9 AM
 Sunday, April 7 – Mission Report and Lunch with John & Gwen Cicone

Church Officers

Ruling Elders: Jeff Soule & Mark Werner (Clerk)

Deacons: Andrew Bell, Gus DeFord, Ken Schumann (President), and Rick Willis

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

Sermon Notes

Date: March 24, 2024

Text: Genesis 14:17-20

Sermon Title: “The King of Righteousness”

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: We must meet with King Jesus.

Main Point 1: Abraham and Melchizedek.

Main Point 2: Melchizedek, the King of Salem.

Point 1: The King of Righteousness.

Point 2: The King of Peace.

Point 3: The Priest of God Most High.

Main Point 3: Jesus.

Point 1: The King of kings.

Point 2: The Priest like Melchizedek.