

The Lord's Day

February 23, 2025 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...

Our true security is in God, not in God plus anything else.

Derek Kidner

Prelude

Open MY Eyes That I May See

Clara H. Scott

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

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

RE Mark Werner

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalm 145:18-21

¹⁸ The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.

¹⁹ He fulfills the desire of those who fear him;
he also hears their cry and saves them.

²⁰ The Lord preserves all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.

²¹ My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

Invocation

Hymn No. 92

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Ein' Feste Burg

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure,
For lo! His doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them abideth;
The spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Question 63

What are the special privileges of the visible church?

The visible church has the privilege of being under God's special care and government; of being protected and preserved in all ages, notwithstanding the opposition of all enemies; and of enjoying the communion of saints, the ordinary means of salvation, and offers of grace by Christ to all the members of it in the ministry of the gospel, testifying, that whosoever believes in him shall be saved, and excluding none that will come unto him.

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalms 91

¹ He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

² **I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."**

³ For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

⁴ **He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.**

⁵ You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,

⁶ **nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.**

⁷ A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

⁸ **You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.**

⁹ Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—

¹⁰ **no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent.**

¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

¹² **On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

¹⁴ **"Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.**

¹⁵ When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.

¹⁶ **With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."**

Our Assurance in Christ

Hebrews 6:16-20

¹⁶ For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. ¹⁷ So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, ¹⁸ so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. ¹⁹ We have this as a sure and

steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, ²⁰ where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

Hymn No. 347

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

The church's One foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation by water and the Word:
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,
To guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;
Though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,
Against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won;
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

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

List The Cherubic Host (From – The Holy City)

Alfred R. Gaul
The Aisquith Choir

List! The cherubic host, in thousand choirs, Touch their immortal harps of golden wires, With those just spirits that wear victorious palms, Singing everlastingly devout, devout and Holy psalms. (Repeat) And I heard the voice of harpers, harping with their harps, And they sang as it were a new song, before the throne, before the throne, And no man could learn that song, but

they, but they which were redeemed, they which were redeemed. List! The cherubic host, I heard the list! The cherubic host touch their immortal harps of golden wires.

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

Psalm 46

Pew Bible pg. 471

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah
- ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
- ⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah
- ⁸ Come, behold the works of the Lord,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- ⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.
- ¹⁰ "Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!"
- ¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

Sermon

"Faith Over Fear"

Pastor Bell

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 345

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Austrian Hymn

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode;

On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove:
Who can faint, while such a river ever flows their thirst t'assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near:
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna which he gives them when they pray.

Savior, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name:
Fading is the worldling's pleasure, all his boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know.

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

Danish

Postlude

Come Thou Fount

Robert Robinson

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

Announcements

We welcome back our Pastor Emeritus, Robert Bell as he opens God's Word to us this morning; and our choir as they lead us in worship.

Adult Sunday School: We began a new adult class this morning, RE Mark Werner began a class on the topic of "What is Reformed Theology?" using materials from Dr. R.C. Sproul. Too often we have only a vague idea of what we believe and why we believe what we do. This series will help clarify why we claim the term Reformed Theology as our understanding of our relationship to our God.

The Facilities Fund is in need of some donations. If you are able to give a special gift to this fund, it would be greatly appreciated.

Tulips for Easter: The book is in the narthex to sign up for tulips for the Easter service. The cost of each plant is \$10 (please use one of the pink envelopes in the book or pew racks) and the deadline to sign up is Sunday, March 30.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Stuart Jones and his family as he awaits a very risky procedure to be performed in mid-March.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for Buckey Pearre as he continues to struggle with issues regarding his lungs. Pray as well for Nancy as she cares for him in this time.

3. 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 for all ages Children – Rooms 16 & 17 Adults – Room 11
	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service
	12:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal – Rooms 26 & 27
	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Practice – Room 28
Tuesday	10:30 AM	Women's Bible Study – Rooms 15 & 16 (Please prepare pages 58-62 – Lydia & Priscilla)
Wednesday:	7:00 PM	Men's Bible Study – Rooms 15 & 16 (Please prepare pages 114-120)
NEXT Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages Children – Rooms 16 & 17 Adults – Room 11
	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service with The Lord's Supper
	12:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal – Rooms 26 & 27

Church Officers

Ruling Elders: Riley B. Franklin, Jeff Soule & Mark Werner (Clerk)

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

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

Sermon Notes

Date: February 23, 2025

Text: Psalm 46

Sermon Title: "Faith Over Fear"

Delivered By: Pastor Robert Bell

Proposition: Our true security is in God alone.

Main Point 1: God is the Sovereign Lord over the Universe.

Main Point 2: God is the Sovereign Lord over His People.

Main Point 3: God is the Sovereign Lord over all History.