

The Lord's Day

July 20, 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...

There are three things on which the safety of the church is founded and supported: doctrine, discipline, and the sacraments.

John Calvin

Prelude

Morning Has Broken

arr. K. Dean

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

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Revelation 3:19-22

¹⁹ Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent. ²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. ²¹ The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²² He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Invocation

Hymn No. 498

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

Hyfrydol

Jesus! What a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole.

***Hallelujah! What a Savior! Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.***

Jesus! What a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in him;
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, he, my strength, my vict'ry wins.

Jesus! What a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking, he, my comfort, helps my soul.

Jesus! What a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high,
Storms about me, night o'er takes me, he, my pilot, hears my cry.

Jesus! I do now receive him, more than all in him I find;
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am his, and he is mine.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Our Confession of Faith

Belgic Confession (1561), Article 29.2

The marks by which the true Church is known are these: if the pure doctrine of the gospel is preached therein; if she maintains the pure administration of the sacraments as instituted by Christ; if church discipline is exercised in punishing of sin; in short, if all things are managed according to the pure Word of God, all things contrary thereto rejected, and Jesus Christ acknowledged as the only Head of the Church. Hereby the true Church may certainly be known, from which no man has a right to separate himself.

The Command of Christ

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The Discipline of Christ (Responsive)

Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵ “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone.
If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.
¹⁶ But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses.
¹⁷ **If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church.**
And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.
¹⁸ **Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**
¹⁹ Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.
²⁰ **For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”**

The Purpose of Christ’s Ministry (Responsive)

Hebrews 12:3-11

³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.
⁴ **In [our] struggle against sin [we] have not yet resisted to the point of shedding [our] blood.**
⁵ And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?
“My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.
⁶ For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”
⁷ **It is for discipline that [we] have to endure. God is treating [us] as sons.**
For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?
⁸ **If [we] are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then [we] are illegitimate children and not sons.**
⁹ Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live?

¹⁰ **For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness.**

¹¹ For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Hymn No. 246

Man of Sorrows! What a Name

Hallelujah! What a Savior

Man of Sorrows! What a name for the Son of God who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim: Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, in my place condemned he stood,
Sealed my pardon with his blood: Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless, we; spotless Lamb of God was he;
Full atonement! Can it be? Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Lifted up was he to die, "It is finished!" was his cry;
Now in heav'n exalted high: Hallelujah! What a Savior!

When he comes, our glorious King, all his ransomed home to bring,
Then anew this song we'll sing: Hallelujah! What a Savior!

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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

Soloist: Mrs. Donna Moore Green, soprano
Trumpet: Mr. Raymond Green

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

1 Samuel 2:22-26

Pew Bible pg. 226

²² Now Eli was very old, and he kept hearing all that his sons were doing to all Israel, and how they lay with the women who were serving at the entrance to the tent of meeting. ²³ And he said to them, "Why do you do such things? For I hear of your evil dealings from all these people. ²⁴ No, my sons; it is no good report that I hear the people of the Lord spreading abroad. ²⁵ If someone sins against a man, God will mediate for him, but if someone sins against the Lord, who

can intercede for him?” But they would not listen to the voice of their father, for it was the will of the Lord to put them to death.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and also with man.

Sermon

“The Marks of a True Church”

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God’s Grace

Hymn

Speak O Lord

Getty

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail—
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us—
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises,
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

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

Danish

Postlude

Trumpet Tune

Henry Purcell

Trumpet: Mr. Raymond Green

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

Announcements

We welcome and thank the husband and wife team of Raymond and Donna Green who are blessing us this morning with their vocal and musical talents.

Pastor Ceselsky will be away on vacation following worship this morning through Monday, July 28. Please contact one of the elders with any concerns.

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Wednesday (July 23) is both Gwen Cicone's and Hannah Fisher's birthdays; Friday (July 25) is Dave & Carol Carson's anniversary and Mary Lou Wickham's birthday; and Saturday (July 26) is Tatiana Andrade's birthday.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Dave Carson as he has been diagnosed with Leukemia and is receiving home hospice care. Please pray for his wife, Carol, as she cares for him as well.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for Debbie DeFord as she recovers from shoulder surgery this past week. Please pray for a quick and full recovery.
3. Please continue to be in prayer for Drew Calhoun, Mark Fisher's stepfather, who has been diagnosed with Metastatic cancer. Please pray for comfort and for wisdom for those who will be caring for him.
4. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Phil & Amina – Phil and Amina request prayer for the seminary in their hometown. They still need to raise another \$182,000 to complete the work on the main building on the campus. They are also in need of prayer for their family as they are facing some difficult challenges.
5. 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:	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service
	12:00 PM	Called Joint Board Meeting - Library
NEXT Sunday	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service

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: July 20, 2025

Text: 1 Samuel 2:22-26

Sermon Title: "The Marks of a True Church"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: We must seek after God's purposes in the life of the church.

Main Point 1: The purpose of Church Discipline: God's Glory. (vss. 22-26)

Point 1: Notoriety.

Point 2: Confrontation.

Point 3: Action.

Point 4: Purity.

Main Point 2: The purpose of Christian discipleship: Maturity. (vs. 26)

Point 1: The Word.

Point 2: The Sacraments

Point 3: Prayer.