

The Lord's Day

July 27, 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...

Let us consider how great must be the authority of Him, who has the power to forgive sins! This is the thing that none can do but God. No angel in heaven, no man upon earth, no church in council, no minister of any denomination, can take away from the sinner's conscience the load of guilt, and give him peace with God. ... This is the peculiar prerogative of God, and prerogative which He has put in the hands of His Son Jesus Christ. J.C. Ryle

Prelude

In God, My Faithful God, I Trust

J.S. Bach

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 (Responsive)

Psalm 95:1-3,6,7

¹ Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

³ **For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.**

⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

⁷ For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Invocation

Hymn No. 17

Praise the Lord: Ye Heavens Adore Him

Faben

Praise the Lord: ye heav'ns adore him; praise him, angels, in the height;
Sun and moon, rejoice before him; praise him all ye stars and light.
Praise the Lord, for he hath spoken; worlds his mighty voice obeyed:
Laws which never shall be broken for their guidance hath he made.

Praise the Lord, for he is glorious; never shall his promise fail:
God hath made his saints victorious; sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation; hosts on high, his pow'r proclaim;
Heav'n and earth and all creation, laud and magnify his name.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing, Lord, we offer unto thee;
Young and old, thy praise expressing, in glad homage bend the knee.
All the saints in heav'n adore thee; we would bow before thy throne:
As thine angels serve before thee, so on earth thy will be done.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalm 41

¹ Blessed is the one who considers the poor!
In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him;
² the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; you do not give him up to the will of his enemies.
³ **The Lord sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health.**
⁴ As for me, I said, "O Lord, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against you!"
⁵ **My enemies say of me in malice, "When will he die, and his name perish?"**
⁶ And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.
⁷ **All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.**
⁸ They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies."
⁹ **Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.**
¹⁰ But you, O Lord, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!
¹¹ **By this I know that you delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.**
¹² But you have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in your presence forever.
¹³ **Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!**
(Unison) **Amen and Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Psalm 103:8-12

⁸ The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
⁹ He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Question 70

What is justification?
Justification is an act of God's free grace unto sinners, in which he pardons all their sins, accepts and accounts their persons righteous in his sight; not for any thing wrought in them, or done by them, but only for the perfect obedience and full satisfaction of Christ, by God imputed to them, and received by faith alone.

Hymn

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Townend

How deep the Father's love for us,

How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross,
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life;
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything;
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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 *I Need Thee Every Hour* (Tune: Need) – Robert Lowery

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

Mark 2:1-12

Pew Bible pg. 837

¹ And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. ³ And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. ⁴ And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above

him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ “Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” ⁸ And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, “Why do you question these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, take up your bed and walk’? ¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the paralytic— ¹¹ “I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home.” ¹² And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!”

Sermon

“Opposition to His Method”

Pastor Bell

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

We respond to God’s Grace

Hymn No. 647

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

St. Peter

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer’s ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast;
‘tis manna to the hungry soul, and to the weary rest.

Dear Name! the rock on which I build, my shield and hiding place,
My never failing treas’ry filled with boundless stores of grace.

Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend, my Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart, and cold my warmest thought;
But when I see thee as thou art, I’ll praise thee as I ought.

Till then I would thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath;
And may the music of thy name refresh my soul in death.

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

Danish

Postlude

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

(Ode to Joy) - Beethoven

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

Announcements

We welcome our Pastor Emeritus, Robert Bell as he opens God’s Word for us this morning.

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

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Monday (July 28) is Jack Wickham's birthday; and Tuesday (July 29) is Bryan Lee'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: Larry & Sandy Rockwell – Larry and Sandy give praise that they were able to get the new tires that they needed for their truck so that they can safely travel through the mountainous terrain in Peru. This has enabled them to reestablish contact with many of the locals in the Yanama area that they had been separated from for over 4 months. Please pray that the Lord would bless their efforts as they share the Gospel with the Quechua peoples throughout the area.
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
NEXT Sunday 10:30 AM Lord's Day Worship Service with The Lord's Supper

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 27, 2025

Text: Mark 2:1-12

Sermon Title: "Opposition to His Method"

Delivered By: Pastor Robert Bell

Proposition: Our Savior claims to have the authority to forgive sins, and he heals a paralyzed man to prove the reality of that authority.

Main Point 1: The predicament of the paralytic.

Main Point 2: The pronouncement of pardon: All suffering is rooted in man's separation from God.

Main Point 3: The power of prerogative: Jesus' healing of the paralytic verified his claim to be able to grant forgiveness.