

The Lord's Day

August 3, 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...

That God should require his creatures to honor him, to give him weight, is no more vainglorious than that the law of gravity requires to be acknowledged. Simply put, God has weight! To neglect this fact is to lose one's own center of gravity. ... As our hearts are gripped with the magnitude of what God has done for his people in the gospel of grace, we are compelled to gladly ascribe all honor and glory to God alone.

ESV Study Bible

Prelude

Chorale: If Thou But Suffer God To Guide Me

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

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Hebrews 10:19-25

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Invocation

Hymn No. 693

Blessed Assurance

Assurance

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in his blood.

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long!**

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest;

Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

We embrace Christ through His Word

The Exclusivity of Christ's Requirements

Matthew 10:37-39

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalms 78:1-8, 56-66

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth!
² **I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,**
³ things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us.
⁴ **We will not hide them from [our] children, but tell to the coming generation**
the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.
⁵ **He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel,**
which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children,
⁶ **that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn,**
and arise and tell them to their children, ⁷ so that they should set their hope in God
and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;
⁸ and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation,
a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.
⁵⁶ Yet they tested and rebelled against the Most High God and did not keep his testimonies,
⁵⁷ **but turned away and acted treacherously like their fathers; they twisted like a deceitful bow.**
⁵⁸ For they provoked him to anger with their high places; they moved him to jealousy with their idols.
⁵⁹ **When God heard, he was full of wrath, and he utterly rejected Israel.**
⁶⁰ He forsook his dwelling at Shiloh, the tent where he dwelt among mankind,
⁶¹ **and delivered his power to captivity, his glory to the hand of the foe.**
⁶² He gave his people over to the sword and vented his wrath on his heritage.
⁶³ **Fire devoured their young men, and their young women had no marriage song.**
⁶⁴ Their priests fell by the sword, and their widows made no lamentation.
⁶⁵ **Then the Lord awoke as from sleep, like a strong man shouting because of wine.**
⁶⁶ And he put his adversaries to rout; he put them to everlasting shame.

The Certainty of God's Promises (Responsive)

Hebrews 6:13-20

¹³ For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear,
he swore by himself, ¹⁴ saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you."
¹⁵ And thus Abraham, having patiently waited, obtained the promise.
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.**

Our Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Question 79

May not true believers, by reason of their imperfections, and the many temptations and sins they are overtaken with, fall away from the state of grace?

True believers, by reason of the unchangeable love of God, and his decree and covenant to give them perseverance, their inseparable union with Christ, his continual intercession for them, and the Spirit and seed of God abiding in them, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

Hymn of Assurance

Before the Throne

Sovereign Grace Music

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)

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

Consecrated, Lord, To Thee

(Tune: Hendon) Wagner/Dean

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 and Sacrament

Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 2:27-3:1a

Pew Bible pg. 226

²⁷ And there came a man of God to Eli and said to him, "Thus says the Lord, 'Did I indeed reveal myself to the house of your father when they were in Egypt subject to the house of Pharaoh?' ²⁸ Did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to go up to my altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? I gave to the house of your father all my offerings by fire from the people of Israel. ²⁹ Why then do you scorn my sacrifices and my offerings that I commanded for my dwelling, and honor your sons above me by fattening yourselves on the choicest parts of every offering of my people Israel?' ³⁰ Therefore the Lord, the God of Israel, declares: 'I promised that your house and the house of your father should go in and out before me forever,' but now the Lord declares: 'Far be it from me, for those who honor me I will honor, and those who despise me shall be lightly esteemed. ³¹ Behold, the days are coming when I will cut off your strength and the strength of your father's house, so that there will not be an old man in your house. ³² Then in distress you will look with envious eye on all the prosperity that shall be bestowed on Israel, and there shall not be an old man in your house forever. ³³ The only one of you whom I shall not cut off from my altar shall be spared to weep his eyes out to grieve his heart, and all the descendants of your house shall die by the sword of men. ³⁴ And this that shall come upon your two sons, Hophni and Phinehas, shall be the sign to you: both of them shall die on the same day. ³⁵ And I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who shall do according to what is in my heart and in my mind. And I will build him a sure house, and he shall go in and out before my anointed forever. ³⁶ And everyone who is left in your house shall come to implore him for a piece of silver or a loaf of bread and shall say, 'Please put me in one of the priests' places, that I may eat a morsel of bread.'"

^{3:1a} Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord in the presence of Eli.

Sermon

"True to His Word"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

Celebration of The Lord's Supper

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 679

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Trust in Jesus

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word;
Just to rest upon his promise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

***Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more.***

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing cleansing flood!

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cleanse;
Just from Jesus simply taking life and rest and joy and peace.

I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.

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

Danish

Postlude

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

(Tune: Austria) F.J. Haydn

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

Announcements

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: tomorrow (August 4) is Gus DeFord's birthday.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Betty Jo Norris as she recovers from her recent broken wrist.
2. 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.
3. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: John & Gwen Cicone – Give praise with John & Gwen that Amy and Tekle have finally arrived at the village to partner with John and Gwen. Amy is working with the early childhood and primary schools, and Tekle is overseeing the facilities and maintenance. Please also pray for the students at the Rafiki Village as they have now begun the second semester of the school year.
4. 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 with The Lord's Supper
	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: August 3, 2025

Text: 1 Samuel 2:27-3:1a

Sermon Title: "True to His Word

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: The Lord is **always** faithful to His Word.

Main Point 1: God's past promises.

Point 1: The priestly line. (vv. 27-28a)

Point 2: The priestly provision. (vs. 28b)

Main Point 2: The House of Eli's present failure. (vs. 29)

Point 1: The sin of Hophni and Phineas.

Point 2: The sin of Eli.

Main Point 3: The Lord's future certainty.

Point 1: Righteous Judgment. (vv. 30-34)

Point 2: Gracious Intercession. (vv. 35-3:1a)