

The Lord's Day

August 24, 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...

With these prophecies (from the man of God in 2:33-34 and Samuel in 3:13) ringing in his ears, we understand why Eli trembled on the day that his two sons had taken the ark into battle. Could this be the day when God's judgment would fall? The hearts of sinful men are always uneasy in time of danger because their consciences testify to their guilt before God.

Richard Phillips

Prelude

Give Me Jesus

(American Negro Spiritual) arr. Alma Blackman
Mrs. Donna Moore-Green

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Nehemiah 9:5b-6

^{5b} Stand up and bless the Lord your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

⁶ You are the Lord, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.

Invocation

Hymn No. 53

Praise to The Lord the Almighty

Lobe Den Herren

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee,
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;

Ponder anew what the Almighty will do,
If with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,
Decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee.
How oft in grief hath not he brought thee relief,
Spreading his wings to o'er shade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
Gladly for e'er we adore him.

We embrace Christ through His Word

The Promise of God's Providence

Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him,
who have been called according to his purpose.

God's Calling upon His People

James 1:2 (NIV)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds,

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalms 73

- ¹ Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.
² **But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped.**
³ For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
⁴ **For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek.**
⁵ They are not in trouble as others are; they are not stricken like the rest of mankind.
⁶ **Therefore pride is their necklace; violence covers them as a garment.**
⁷ Their eyes swell out through fatness; their hearts overflow with follies.
⁸ **They scoff and speak with malice; loftily they threaten oppression.**
⁹ They set their mouths against the heavens, and their tongue struts through the earth.
¹⁰ **Therefore his people turn back to them, and find no fault in them.**
¹¹ And they say, "How can God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
¹² **Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches.**
¹³ All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence.
¹⁴ **For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning.**
¹⁵ If I had said, "I will speak thus," I would have betrayed the generation of your children.
¹⁶ **But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task,**
¹⁷ until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.
¹⁸ **Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin.**
¹⁹ How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors!
²⁰ **Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as phantoms.**
²¹ When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart,
²² **I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you.**
²³ Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand.
²⁴ **You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.**

²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

²⁶ **My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.**

²⁷ For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.

²⁸ **But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.**

The Promise of the Gospel (Unison)

Romans 8:1

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Hymn No. 455

And Can It Be That I Should Gain

Sagina

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis myst'ry all! Th' Immortal dies: who can explore his strange design?
In vain the first born seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above (so free, so infinite his grace!),
Humbled himself (so great his love!), and bled for all his chosen race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free; for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread, Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th' eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ my own.

We acknowledge God's blessings

The Prayers of God's People and the Lord's Prayer (**in unison**)

RE Mark Werner

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Until Then

Stuart Hamblen

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 4:12-18

Pew Bible pg. 227

¹² A man of Benjamin ran from the battle line and came to Shiloh the same day, with his clothes torn and with dirt on his head. ¹³ When he arrived, Eli was sitting on his seat by the road watching, for his heart trembled for the ark of God. And when the man came into the city and told the news, all the city cried out. ¹⁴ When Eli heard the sound of the outcry, he said, "What is this uproar?" Then the man hurried and came and told Eli. ¹⁵ Now Eli was ninety-eight years old and his eyes were set so that he could not see. ¹⁶ And the man said to Eli, "I am he who has come from the battle; I fled from the battle today." And he said, "How did it go, my son?" ¹⁷ He who brought the news answered and said, "Israel has fled before the Philistines, and there has also been a great defeat among the people. Your two sons also, Hophni and Phinehas, are dead, and the ark of God has been captured." ¹⁸ As soon as he mentioned the ark of God, Eli fell over backward from his seat by the side of the gate, and his neck was broken and he died, for the man was old and heavy. He had judged Israel forty years.

Sermon

"The End of an Era"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 108

Whate'er My God Ordains Is Right

Was Gott Tut

Whate'er my God ordains is right: his holy will abideth;
I will be still whate'er he doth, and follow where he guideth.
He is my God; though dark my road, he holds me that I shall not fall:
Wherefore to him I leave my all.

Whate'er my God ordains is right: he never will deceive me;
He leads me by the proper path; I know he will not leave me.
I take, content, what he hath sent; his hand can turn my griefs away,
And patiently I wait his day.

Whate'er my God ordains is right: though now this cup, in drinking,
May bitter seem to my faint heart, I take it, all unshrinking.
My God is true; each morn anew sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart,
And pain and sorrow shall depart.

Whate'er my God ordains is right: here shall my stand be taken;
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, yet am I not forsaken.
My Father's care is round me there; he holds me that I shall not fall:
And so to him I leave it all.

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

Danish

Postlude

It Is Well With My Soul

(Tune: Ville Du Havre) Horatio G. Spafford

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

Announcements

We welcome Mrs. Donna Moore-Green who will be playing the piano for us this morning as Dr. Dean is on vacation.

A New Members Class will begin shortly. Please contact Pastor Ceselsky if you are interested in taking this class.

Donations for the Roof repair can be made through the ARC Fund. Please use a pink envelope and label it "ARC" or "Roof."

The Center for Pregnancy Concerns will be holding their 45th Anniversary Gala at 8 PM on Thursday, September 4 at the Sheraton in Towson. Admission is Free. Steven Holland (a pro-life speaker who was conceived via rape, and a worship leader) will be the speaker. While admission is free, you **MUST** sign up online to attend the gala. You may do so at this website:
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/k4r8hp5>

Discipleship Ministries here at Aisquith will be resuming soon! Sunday School for all ages will begin on Sunday, September 14 with Sandy Jones and Betty Werner teaching the children and RE Riley Franklin leading the adult class in a study of the Book of Galatians. The men's Bible Study will resume on **TUESDAY** (new night) September 16 at 7 PM studying the Book of Daniel; while the women's Bible Study will resume Wednesday, September 17 at 10 AM doing an overview of the whole Bible.

A Podcast challenging us to grow up into Christ has been made available by LB (Bruce) Graham, Anna's son. The podcast is called "*Further Up Further In*" and can be found weekly at this link:
<https://blog.lbgraham.com/category/podcasts/>

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Tuesday (August 26) is Norm & Betty Jo Norris' Anniversary, and Thursday (August 28) is Paul & Karen Wallace's Anniversary.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for George and Ruth Ellen Beerli – George is recovering from foot surgery and Ruth Ellen from a fall and broken thumb. Please pray as well for their daughter Marlies and her 3 children as they seek to care, not only for George and Ruth Ellen, but also for George's sister, Sylvia Barfield.
2. Please be in prayer for RE Riley Franklin as he preaches the Word this morning at Emmanuel Baptist Church.
3. Please continue to be in prayer for Betty Jo Norris as she recovers from her recent broken wrist.
4. Please continue to be in prayer for Drew Calhoun, Mark Fisher's stepfather, who has been diagnosed with, and is receiving treatment for Metastatic cancer. Please pray for comfort and for wisdom for those who will be caring for him.
5. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Cheryl Erb (Engaging Disabilities) – Please pray for Cheryl and the Engaging Disabilities ministry as they are working with churches who desire to

nurture children with disabilities into the church's worship. Give thanks as well for the safety of staff members as they have been traveling a great deal lately.

6. Please be in prayer for two of our shut-ins who are now requiring more care: Joyce Donohue is now receiving home hospice care at Oakcrest and Ken Wilson has been moved into full-care at Quarryville.
7. 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

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 24, 2025

Text: 1 Samuel 4:1b-11

Sermon Title: "The End of an Era"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: We must respond with trusting faith in whatever the Lord's hand of providence delivers.

Main Point 1: The Bearer of the News. (v. 12)

Main Point 2: The Content of the News. (v. 17)

Main Point 3: The Response to the News.

Point 1: Shiloh. (v. 13)

Point 2: Eli. (v. 18)