

The Lord's Day

August 31, 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...

Sometimes God must depart from us in order that we might seek him rightly. And in the meantime we do well to ponder what a tragedy it is when the presence of God no longer abides among the people of God. Could 'Ichabod' be justly written over many of our church sanctuaries?

Dale Ralph Davis

Prelude

Mrs. Wendy Wickham

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 1

What is the chief end of man?

Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.

Gloria Patri (Hymnal No. 735)

Greatorex

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.

Psalms 86:8-12

⁸ There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.

⁹ All the nations you have made shall come
and worship before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.

¹⁰ For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God.

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord,
that I may walk in your truth;
unite my heart to fear your name.

¹² I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.

Invocation

Hymn No. 55

To God Be The Glory

To God Be The Glory

To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that we may go in.

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,
And give him the glory, great things he has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offended who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus forgiveness receives.

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Confession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith II.2

God has all life, glory, goodness, blessedness, in and of Himself; and is alone in and unto Himself all-sufficient, not standing in need of any creatures which He has made, nor deriving any glory from them, but only manifesting His own glory in, by, unto, and upon them; He is the alone foundation of all being, of whom, through whom, and to whom, are all things; and has most sovereign dominion over them, to do by them, for them, or upon them, whatsoever pleases Himself. In His sight all things are open and manifest; His knowledge is infinite, infallible, and independent upon the creature; so as nothing is to Him contingent or uncertain. He is most holy in all His counsels, in all His works, and in all His commands. To Him is due from angels and men, and every other creature, whatsoever worship, service, or obedience He is pleased to require of them.

Confession of Sin (Responsive)

Romans 1:18-25

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

¹⁹ **For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them**

²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.

So they are without excuse.

²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, **but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.**

²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools,

²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

²⁴ Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,

²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

Individual Confession of Sin

Assurance of God's Grace (Responsive)

Ephesians 2:1-10

¹ And you were dead in the trespasses and sins

² in which [we] once walked,

following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience

³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us,

⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ
by grace you have been saved

⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

⁸ For by grace [we] have been saved through faith.

And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,

⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Hymn No. 9(HMR)

Alive in Christ

Sola Gratia

I once was rebellious, corrupted by sin, pursuing the devil's dark path,
Oblivious, dead to the state I was in, an object of God's dreadful wrath.

But God who is rich in compassion and love, not leaving my soul to the grave,
Has given me life; born again from above, by God's sovereign grace I've been saved.

God lifted me up to the heavenly realms where seated with Christ I am free;
In ages to come he will show me more grace—so great is his kindness to me.

Since grace is the source of the life that is mine—and faith is a gift from on high—
I'll boast in my Savior, all merit decline, and glorify God 'til I die.

Yet now I am living with work to be done for I am God's workmanship too,
Created in Christ with a race to be run, which God has ordained me to do.

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

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 4:19-22

Pew Bible pg. 227

¹⁹ Now [Eli's] daughter-in-law, the wife of Phinehas, was pregnant, about to give birth. And when she heard the news that the ark of God was captured, and that her father-in-law and her husband were dead, she bowed and gave birth, for her pains came upon her. ²⁰ And about the time of her death the women attending her said to her, "Do not be afraid, for you have borne a son." But she did not answer or pay attention. ²¹ And she named the child Ichabod, saying, "The glory has departed from Israel!" because the ark of God had been captured and because of her father-in-law and her husband. ²² And she said, "The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured."

Sermon

"Where is the Glory?"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn

All Glory Be To Christ Our King

Dustin Kensrue (Auld Lang Syne)

Should nothing of our efforts stand no legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house in vain its builders strive
To you who boast tomorrow's gain tell me what is your life
A mist that vanishes at dawn all glory be to Christ

**All glory be to Christ our King all glory be to Christ
His rule and reign will ever sing all glory be to Christ**

His will be done His kingdom come on earth as is above
Who is Himself our daily bread praise Him the Lord of love
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price
We'll take a cup of kindness yet all glory be to Christ

When on the day the great I Am the faithful and the true
The Lamb who was for sinners slain is making all things new
Behold our God shall live with us and be our steadfast light
And we shall ere his people be all glory be to Christ

Postlude

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

Announcements

We welcome Mrs. Wendy Wickham who will be playing the organ for us this morning as Dr. Dean is on vacation.

The Choir and Handbell Choir will be resuming shortly. Anyone interested in taking part in these activities should contact Dr. Dean.

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

We will be having a Church Picnic on Sunday, September 21 (Rain Date is September 28) at 1:30 PM (The meal will be promptly served beginning at 1:45) at John & Julie's Home. **ALL ARE INVITED!** The church will be providing the main course (Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Sausages, and BBQ Chicken) and the Drinks. Each family unit is asked to bring either a side dish (vegetable, fruit, or salad) or a dessert. There is a RSVP sign up in the narthex so that we will know you are coming and what food you will be bringing (so that we don't overly duplicate).

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 this 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 10:30 AM doing an overview of the whole Bible.

A Grief Share Session will be beginning on September 16 (meeting from 12 PM to 2 PM) at Valley Presbyterian Church. You can find details at www.griefshare.org.

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: Wednesday (September 3) is Jim & Nancy Moultrup's Anniversary, and next Sunday (September 7) is both Kenji Fisher's and Libby Soule's Birthday.

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 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.
3. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Linda Karner (MTW - Japan) – “please pray for me to be well-enough prepared for teaching and to connect well with the students; to take the opportunities that arise to point them to God; to continue to grow in grace and in the knowledge the Lord Jesus Christ, to be convicted of sin, righteousness and judgement and to see Him high and lifted up and greatly exalted.”
4. Please be in prayer for those in our congregation who have on-going health concerns: Joyce Donohus, Evelyn King, Libby Soule & Ken Wilson.
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
	12:00 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 36-37

Coming Soon

Sunday, September 21 – Church Picnic at John & Julie’s (Rain date is September 28)

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 31, 2025

Text: 1 Samuel 4:19-22

Sermon Title: “Where is the Glory?”

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: God’s Glory is to be brightly reflected in/through His people.

Main Point 1: An inglorious end to an inglorious day.

Main Point 2: Where is the Glory?

Main Point 3: The manifestation of God's Glory.

Point 1: The Ark of the Covenant.

Point 2: The Christ of the Covenant.