

The Lord's Day

September 14, 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...

Our sin causes infinite offense to God's holy justice, and thus we can be forgiven and cleansed only by an infinitely valuable sacrifice. Richard Phillips

Prelude *No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus* G. F. Weigle
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 Psalm 19:1-4a,14

- ¹ The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.
³ There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.
^{4a} Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.
- ¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Invocation

Hymn No. 110 *Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah* Praise Jehovah

Hallelujah, praise Jehovah, from the heavens praise his name;
Praise Jehovah in the highest, all his angels, praise proclaim,
All his hosts, together praise him, sun and moon and stars on high;
Praise him, O you heav'ns of heavens, and you floods above the sky.

*Let them praises give Jehovah, for his name alone is high,
And his glory is exalted, and his glory is exalted,
and his glory is exalted far above the earth and sky.*

Let them praises give Jehovah, they were made at his command;
Them forever he established, his decree shall ever stand.
From the earth, O praise Jehovah, all you seas, you monsters all,
Fire and hail and snow and vapors, stormy winds that hear his call.

All you fruitful trees and cedars, all you hills and mountains high,
Creeping things and beasts and cattle, birds that in the heavens fly,
Kings of earth, and all you people, princes great, earth's judges all;
Praise his name, young men and maidens, aged men, and children small.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalms 5

¹ Give ear to my words, O Lord; consider my groaning.

² **Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you do I pray.**

³ O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.

⁴ **For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you.**

⁵ The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.

⁶ **You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.**

⁷ But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house.

I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.

⁸ Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.

⁹ **For there is no truth in their mouth; their inmost self is destruction;**

their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue.

¹⁰ **Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own counsels;**

because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against you.

¹¹ **But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy,**

and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you.

¹² **For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover him with favor as with a shield.**

Individual Confession of Sin

Our Assurance in Christ

1 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶ It is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." ¹⁷ And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰ He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Our Calling in Christ

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in

Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Hymn

Bought by the Blood

Highland Cathedral

Bought by the blood of heaven's perfect Lamb,
Freed from the bonds of earth by pierced hand,
He all my worthiness and I his sin,
Nailed to a cross by pow'r of God's love.

*Though his call take me far away,
Tho' it cost my name, comfort and gain,
I will serve him all my days,
My life now his, my Lord.*

Bold I approach my King's eternal throne,
Robed in a righteousness that's not my own.
Filled with his Spirit for a holy cause,
Bearing his cross by pow'r of God's love.

Lord, now grant me for the Gospel strife,
Grace for the morning and the fearful night,
Strengthen my zeal for my dear Savior's reign
Raising his cross by pow'r of God's love.

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

The Heavens Resound

Beethoven
Arr. Robert C. Van Howten
The Aisquith Choir

The heav'ns resound with the Lord's pow'r and glory, Through all the earth His praise abounds.
The seas reecho His marvelous glorious; Let all, repeat, His praises sound! The stary vastness He
orders and numbers, He cares for all upon the earth, The myriad stars bow in praise and
submission, The stary hosts, His hands unfurled, the stary hosts, His hands unfurled. The Lord
our God is the king of creation, In His right hand He holds all things. His people worship in
praise and devotion, Before His might and power come. He is our maker whose love shall not
waver, Our God of wisdom, ever kind; The heavens resound with the earth into glory, To serve
the Lord and sing His praise, To serve the Lord and sing His praise.

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 6:2-12

Pew Bible pg. 229

² And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners and said, "What shall we do with the ark of the Lord? Tell us with what we shall send it to its place." ³ They said, "If you send away the ark of the God of Israel, do not send it empty, but by all means return him a guilt offering. Then you will be healed, and it will be known to you why his hand does not turn away from you." ⁴ And they said, "What is the guilt offering that we shall return to him?" They answered, "Five golden tumors and five golden mice, according to the number of the lords of the Philistines, for the same plague was on all of you and on your lords. ⁵ So you must make images of your tumors and images of your mice that ravage the land, and give glory to the God of Israel. Perhaps he will lighten his hand from off you and your gods and your land. ⁶ Why should you harden your hearts as the Egyptians and Pharaoh hardened their hearts? After he had dealt severely with them, did they not send the people away, and they departed? ⁷ Now then, take and prepare a new cart and two milk cows on which there has never come a yoke, and yoke the cows to the cart, but take their calves home, away from them. ⁸ And take the ark of the Lord and place it on the cart and put in a box at its side the figures of gold, which you are returning to him as a guilt offering. Then send it off and let it go its way ⁹ and watch. If it goes up on the way to its own land, to Beth-shemesh, then it is he who has done us this great harm, but if not, then we shall know that it is not his hand that struck us; it happened to us by coincidence." ¹⁰ The men did so, and took two milk cows and yoked them to the cart and shut up their calves at home. ¹¹ And they put the ark of the Lord on the cart and the box with the golden mice and the images of their tumors. ¹² And the cows went straight in the direction of Beth-shemesh along one highway, lowing as they went. They turned neither to the right nor to the left, and the lords of the Philistines went after them as far as the border of Beth-shemesh.

Sermon

"Speaking Cows, Mice, & Tumors"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 500

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

New City Fellowship

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfil thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;

Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

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

Danish

Postlude

Variations on: LAUDES DOMINI (When Morning Gilds the Skies)

arr. K. Dean

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

Announcements

We will be having a Church Picnic NEXT 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). The deadline to RSVP is THIS Wednesday, September 17.

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

Discipleship Ministries here at Aisquith will be resuming soon! Sunday School for all ages began THIS Sunday, 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, please join us in the future. The men's Bible Study will resume on TUESDAY (new night) at 7 PM studying the Book of Daniel; while the women's Bible Study will resume Wednesday at 10:30 AM doing an overview of the whole Bible.

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

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Thursday (September 18) is Brigitte Schumann's Birthday, and Friday (September 19) is Marlies Beerli's Birthday and Ken & Brigitte Schumann's Anniversary.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Rick Willis' brother as he recovers from a stroke this past week. Please also be in prayer for Rick's sister who will have surgery later this month to remove a blood clot as well.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for John Clark and his family, and especially for John's mother as she is receiving hospice care.
3. Please continue to be in prayer for Dina Sunderland. Her last chemo treatment was on August 20 but the doctors are still recommending a surgery for her in January. She had her post chemo PET scan this past week and will be meeting with her doctor this week – please pray that the scan will show that the cancer is now gone.

4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Stephen Rarig (MTW – Australia) – Continue to pray for Stephen as he seeks to share and model the gospel in a land which is hostile to the truths of Christ.
7. Please continue to be in prayer for those in our congregation who have on-going health concerns: Joyce Donohue, Evelyn King, Libby Soule & Ken Wilson.
8. 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:	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages Children – Rooms 16-17 Adults – Room 11
	10:30 AM	Lord’s Day Worship Service
Tuesday:	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Practice – Room 28
	7:00 PM	Men’s Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare the Introduction and Lesson1 on Daniel 1:1-21 (Pages 14-22)
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Women’s Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare pages 2-3 of the Chronological Guide to the Bible)
NEXT Sunday	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages Children – Rooms 16-17 Adults – Room 11
	10:30 AM	Lord’s Day Worship Service
	1:30 PM	Church Picnic – John & Julie’s House

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: September 14, 2025

Text: 1 Samuel 6:2-12

Sermon Title: “Speaking cows, Mice, & Tumors”

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: We have offended Yahweh, and therefore we must offer Him reparations.

Main Point 1: The cows speak: Yahweh is offended.

Point 1: Have we really offended Yahweh? (v. 9)

Point 2: An improbable test. (vv. 7-9)

Point 3: Make straight the highway for the Lord. (vv. 10-12)

Main Point 2: The Mice and tumors Speak: We must make a reparation to Yahweh.

Point 1: How do we approach an angry God? (v. 2)

Point 2: A Guilt Offering. (vv. 3-5)