

The Lord's Day

October 5, 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...

*Christians do not live **in** the past, but we do live **out of** the past: we remember how God has proved his faithfulness and love, and thus we hope anew to arrive safely at home.*

Richard Phillips

Prelude

Consecrated, Lord, to Thee (tune: Hendon) Douglas E. Wagner
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

Psalms 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

² Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

Invocation

Hymn No. 363

We Gather Together

Kremser

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;

He chastens and hastens his will to make known;

The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing;

Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning:
Thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender will be.
Let thy congregation endure thro' tribulation:
Thy name be ever prais'd! O Lord, make us free!

We embrace Christ through His Word

Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Questions, 62 & 63

What is the visible church?

The visible church is a society made up of all such as in all ages and places of the world do profess the true religion, and of their children.

What are the special privileges of the visible church?

The visible church has the privilege of being under God's special care and government; of being protected and preserved in all ages, notwithstanding the opposition of all enemies; and of enjoying the communion of saints, the ordinary means of salvation, and offers of grace by Christ to all the members of it in the ministry of the gospel, testifying, that whosoever believes in him shall be saved, and excluding none that will come unto him.

The Command of Christ

Hebrews 10:24-25

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.

Our Calling in Christ (Responsive)

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine.

Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.

¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection.

Outdo one another in showing honor.

¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.

¹² **Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.**

¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴ **Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.**

¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

¹⁶ **Live in harmony with one another.**

Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly.

Never be wise in your own sight.

¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all.

¹⁸ **If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.**

¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God,
for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

²⁰ To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink;

for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.”

²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Individual Confession of Sin

Our Assurance and Calling

Romans 12:1,2

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Hymn No. 457

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

(Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in blood washed linen, How I'll sing Thy sovereign grace.
Come my Lord, no longer tarry, Take my ransomed soul away;
Send Thine angels now to carry, Me to realms of endless days)

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

We acknowledge God's blessings

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

RE Riley B. Franklin

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

*Herr Christ, der einig Gotts Sohn
The Only Son from Heaven*

J.S. Bach
The Aisquith Choir

The only Son from heaven, Foretold by ancient seers, By God the Father, given, In human form appears;
No sphere His light confining, No star so brightly shining As He, our Morning Star. O Lord, our hearts awaken,
To know and love Thee more, In faith to stand unshaken, In spirit to adore, That we still heav'n-ward hasting,
Yet here Thy joy foretasting, May reap its fullness there.

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 7:5-14

Pew Bible pg. 230

⁵ Then Samuel said, "Gather all Israel at Mizpah, and I will pray to the Lord for you." ⁶ So they gathered at Mizpah and drew water and poured it out before the Lord and fasted on that day and said there, "We have sinned against the Lord." And Samuel judged the people of Israel at Mizpah. ⁷ Now when the Philistines heard that the people of Israel had gathered at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the people of Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines. ⁸ And the people of Israel said to Samuel, "Do not cease to cry out to the Lord our God for us, that he may save us from the hand of the Philistines." ⁹ So Samuel took a nursing lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the Lord. And Samuel cried out to the Lord for Israel, and the Lord answered him. ¹⁰ As Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to attack Israel. But the Lord thundered with a mighty sound that day against the Philistines and threw them into confusion, and they were defeated before Israel. ¹¹ And the men of Israel went out from Mizpah and pursued the Philistines and struck them, as far as below Beth-car.

¹² Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, "Till now the Lord has helped us." ¹³ So the Philistines were subdued and did not again enter the territory of Israel. And the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. ¹⁴ The cities that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath, and Israel delivered their territory from the hand of the Philistines. There was peace also between Israel and the Amorites.

Sermon

"Powerful Religion"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

The great event to which we look in gratitude, memorialized by the Ebenezer stone of the Lord's Supper, is the cross of Jesus Christ.

Richard Phillips

Celebration of The Lord's Supper

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 30

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

St. Anne

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,

From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

The busy tribes of flesh and blood, with all their lives and cares,
Are carried downward by your flood, and lost in foll'wing years.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
O be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

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

Danish

Postlude *Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing* (Sicilian Mariners) Todd Kendall

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

Announcements

Movie & Fellowship Afternoon: Aisquith will be hosting a second movie and fellowship opportunity on Saturday, October 25 at 1 PM. Join us in front of our own big screen (Rm 11) to view *Sergeant York* (1941) starring Gary Cooper, Walter Brennan, and Joan Leslie. This Oscar winning hit chronicles the transformation of Alvin C York from a young, coarse TN farmer to devout Christian and World War I hero. Invite family and friends to join in this fellowship opportunity. The more the merrier! We ask that you bring a snack to share. Kindly direct questions to Jeff or Libby Soule.

Donations for the Roof repair can be made through the ARC Fund. Please use a pink envelope and label it "ARC" or "Roof." As of the end of September, the expected total cost of the project is \$107,185.00; we have currently paid \$37,120.00; and we have raised a total of \$8,655.00

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Today is Jeanne Williams' Birthday, Tuesday (October 7) is Jayne Kuegler's Birthday, and Thursday (October) is John & Julie Ceselsky's Anniversary.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Rick Willis' brother, Robert, as he moves into the Rehab phase of his recovery from a stroke last month.
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: Amy & Chuy Acosta (Mexico) – As the number of children at the Ranchito has decreased, Amy & Chuy (and the children) have returned to a focus on ministry to the community in Camichines. Please pray that the Lord would bless these efforts and produce much fruit.

4. 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.
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:	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages Children – Rooms 16-17 Adults – Room 11
	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service with The Lord's Supper
	12:00 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 26-27
Tuesday:	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Practice – Room 28
	7:00 PM	Men's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare Lesson 3 on Daniel 2:24-49 (Pages 31-38))
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Women's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare pages 15-21 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
	12:00 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 26-27

Coming Soon

Movie & Fellowship Afternoon – Saturday, October 25 – 1 PM
Reformation Worship Service – Broadneck EP Church – Sunday, October 26 – 3:30 PM

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: October 5, 2025
Text: 1 Samuel 7:5-14
Sermon Title: "Powerful Religion"
Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: The whole-hearted worship of God's people is powerful.

Main Point 1: The Church's proper worship.

Point 1: Call to worship. (v. 5)

Point 2: Priestly intercession. (vv. 5,8)

Point 3: Confession of sin. (v. 6)

Point 4: Sacrifice. (v. 9)

Main Point 2: The World's hateful opposition.

Point 1: The enemy's attack. (vv. 7,10a)

Point 2: The Church's faithful perseverance. (V. 10a)

Main Point 3: The Lord's faithful presence.

Point 1: Victory. (vv. 10b,11)

Point 2: A new "Ebenezer." (v. 12)

Point 3: Peace. (vv. 13,14)