

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 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...

Yahweh frequently defies human expectations and gives the most unlikely people all they need to serve him effectively. So he equips Saul. No matter how unlikely in men's eyes, Yahweh is able to make him able.

Dale Ralph Davis

Prelude

Coventry Carol

Robert Croo

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

Ezekiel 36:24-28

²⁴ I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. ²⁸ You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Invocation

Hymn No. 207

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

In Dulci Jubilo

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Earth and heav'n before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

We embrace Christ through His Word

Our Confession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
Of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
Begotten of the Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
Very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
By whom all things were made;
Who for us and for our salvation
Came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
And was made man;
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
And ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
Who spoke by the prophets;
And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Lord Confronts Our Sin (Responsive)

Jeremiah 2:1-9

¹ The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

² **“Go and proclaim in the hearing of Jerusalem, Thus says the Lord,
“I remember the devotion of your youth, your love as a bride,
how you followed me in the wilderness, in a land not sown.**

³ Israel was holy to the Lord, the firstfruits of his harvest.
All who ate of it incurred guilt; disaster came upon them, declares the Lord.”

⁴ Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the clans of the house of Israel.

⁵ **Thus says the Lord: “What wrong did your fathers find in me that they went far from me,
and went after worthlessness, and became worthless?**

⁶ They did not say, ‘Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that none passes through, where no man
dwells?’

⁷ **And I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and its good things.**

But when you came in, you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination.

⁸ The priests did not say, 'Where is the Lord?'

Those who handle the law did not know me; the shepherds transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit.

**⁹ "Therefore I still contend with you, declares the Lord,
and with your children's children I will contend.**

We Individually Confess Our Sins

Our Salvation in Christ

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

¹⁷ 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.

Our Calling in Christ

2 Timothy 4:1-5

¹ I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵ But as for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Hymn No. 224

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Go Tell It

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.**

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent blocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! Above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger our humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

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

RE Mark Werner

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

All Creation Sings

J.S. Bach
The Aisquith Choir

Sun, moon, earth and stars break forth in exultation! All creation sings the glorious resurrection! Christ is risen! Death is vanquished! Heav'n and earth repeat the glad refrain. Mountains, hills and dales ring out with acclamation! Oceans, lakes and valleys all join the glad ovation. Christ is risen! Death is vanquished! All creation sings for joy: Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save. O what glory far exceeding all that eye had yet perceived. Holiest hearts for ages pleading, never had such joy conceived.

The Gloria Patri (Hymnal, pg. 735) and Prayer of Dedication

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.

We are nourished by God's Word

Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 10:9-16

Pew Bible pg. 232

⁹ When he turned his back to leave Samuel, God gave him another heart. And all these signs came to pass that day. ¹⁰ When they came to Gibeah, behold, a group of prophets met him, and the Spirit of God rushed upon him, and he prophesied among them. ¹¹ And when all who knew him previously saw how he prophesied with the prophets, the people said to one another, "What has come over the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?" ¹² And a man of the place answered, "And who is their father?" Therefore it became a proverb, "Is Saul also among the prophets?" ¹³ When he had finished prophesying, he came to the high place.

¹⁴ Saul's uncle said to him and to his servant, "Where did you go?" And he said, "To seek the donkeys. And when we saw they were not to be found, we went to Samuel." ¹⁵ And Saul's uncle said, "Please tell me what Samuel said to you." ¹⁶ And Saul said to his uncle, "He told us plainly that the donkeys had been found." But about the matter of the kingdom, of which Samuel had spoken, he did not tell him anything.

Sermon

"The Truth, The Whole Truth, and Nothing but The Truth"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 368

The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear (with The Doxology)

Vision

The ends of all the earth shall hear and turn unto the Lord in fear;
all kindreds of the earth shall own and worship him as God alone.

**All earth to him her homage brings,
The Lord of lords, the King of kings.**

For his the kingdom, his of right, he rules the nations by his might;
All earth to him her homage brings, the Lord of lords, the King of kings.

Both rich and poor, both bond and free, shall worship him on bended knee,
And children's children shall proclaim the glorious honor of his name.

(The Lord's unfailing righteousness, all generations shall confess,
From age to age shall men be taught, what wondrous works the Lord has wrought.)

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.

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

Danish

Postlude

In The Bleak Mid-Winter

Christine Rossetti

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

Announcements

The Christmas Card box is in the narthex for you to drop off Christmas cards for members of the congregation (Please do not include cards for former members or shut-ins). Please deposit cards in the box. Pastor Ceselsky will arrange the cards each week (**do not sort cards yourself!**). Please check each week to see if you have any cards.

2026 Giving Envelopes are available with the Christmas cards in the narthex. If you do not currently have envelopes but would like them in 2026, please speak to Pastor Ceselsky.

We will be holding a Cookie Exchange TODAY to raise money for the roof project. After worship, anyone may purchase a tin of the cookies of your choice for \$10 each. It's a great way to support the church and to get a variety of cookies for Christmas.

Our Christmas Offering this year will once again go to the Ministerial Relief Fund of the PCA. This fund is used to assist widows of pastors and missionaries, as well as retired pastors and missionaries, who face difficult financial circumstances.

In the case of bad weather on days when we have Bible studies, or on Sundays; notifications of cancellations or schedule changes will be made via blast email, text alerts, a bar at the top of the main page of our website, and on the church's answering system.

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

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Tuesday (December 16) is Shannon Bell's Birthday and Friday (December 19) is Norm Norris' Birthday.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Mrs. Robin Holloway and the friends of Mac Holloway, including RE Riley Franklin, as they mourn Mac's passing. We do rejoice in this brother's entry into his Lord & Savior's immediate presence.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for Betty Jo Norris as she recovers from multiple recent hospital stays.

3. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Beachmont Christian Ministries – Please be in prayer for the staff and the many children that Beachmont serves throughout the region. As 2025 was a tremendous success, please pray as preparations are made for their 2026 events.
4. Please continue to be in prayer for those in our congregation who have on-going health concerns: Yoshio Amano (Yuki Fisher’s father), Drew Calhoun (Mark Fisher’s father), Joyce Donohue, Evelyn King, Libby Soule, Robert Willis (Rick’s brother) & 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
	12:00 PM	Cookie Exchange – Room 11
	12:30 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 26-27
Tuesday:	6:30 PM	Men’s Bible Study Dinner – Silver Spring Mining Company
Wednesday:	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Practice – Room 28
NEXT Sunday	10:30 AM	Lord’s Day Worship Service
	12:00 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 26-27

Coming Soon

Christmas Eve Worship Service – Wednesday, December 24 – 6:30 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: December 14, 2025

Text: 1 Samuel 10:9-16

Sermon Title: “The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing but The Truth”

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: As believers in Jesus Christ, we must prophetically speak the truth of God’s Word to all.

Main Point 1: Is Saul a believer? (v. 10)

Main Point 2: Is Saul a prophet?

Point 1: The group of prophets.

Point 2: A worldly disdain for prophecy. (vv. 11-13)

Main Point 3: Is Saul truthful?

Point 1: A Prophet and some donkeys. (vv. 14-16a)

Point 2: Failure to tell of the kingdom. (v. 16b)