

The Lord's Day

January 25, 2026 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...

Israel cannot afford to miss the point: Salvation came not because Israel had a king but because the king had Yahweh's Spirit; it is not the institution of kingship but the power of the Spirit that brings deliverance. Ralph Davis

Prelude

Jesu, Deine Passion

J.S. Bach

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 103:20-22

²⁰ Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his word,
obeying the voice of his word!
²¹ Bless the Lord, all his hosts,
his ministers, who do his will!
²² Bless the Lord, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.
Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Invocation

Hymn No. 672

Trust and Obey

Trust and Obey

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his Word,
What a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will, he abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

***Trust and obey, for there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.***

Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,
But his smile quickly drives it away;
Not a doubt or a fear, not a sigh nor a tear,
Can abide while we trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
But our toil he doth richly repay;
Not a grief nor a loss, not a frown or a cross,
But is blest if we trust and obey.

But we never can prove the delights of his love
Until all on the altar we lay;
For the favor he shows, and the joy he bestows,
Are for them who will trust and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet,
Or we'll walk by his side in the way;
What he says we will do, where he sends we will go,
Never fear, only trust and obey.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Jesus' Summation of the Law

Matthew 5:48

You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

We Confess Our Falling Short

Christ's Promise of the Holy Spirit (Responsive)

John 14:15-21

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

¹⁶ **And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,**

¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him.

You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

¹⁹ **Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me.**

Because I live, you also will live.

²⁰ **In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.**

²¹ Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me.

And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

Our Calling from Christ

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Hymn No. 453

All Authority and Power

Neander

All authority and power, ev'ry status and domain,
Now belongs to him who suffered our redemption to obtain;
Angels, demons, kings and rulers, over all shall Jesus reign!

All the nations owe him worship, ev'ry tongue shall call him Lord;
How are men to call upon him if his name they have not heard?
Therefore go and make disciples, preach his gospel, spread his word.

All the clear commands of Jesus must be heeded and obeyed;
Full provision for our weakness in his teaching he has made;
In the Gospel words and symbols, saving truth to us conveyed.

All the time he will be with us, always to the end of days,
With his own believing people who keep steadfast in his ways;
God the Father, Son and Spirit, bless us, and to him the praise!

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

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

RE Riley B. Franklin

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

People Need The Lord

McHugh
The Aisquith Choir

Ev'ry day they pass me by, I can see it in their eyes. Empty people filled with care, headed who knows where. On they go through private pain, living fear. Laughter hides the silent cries only Jesus hears. People need the Lord, people need the Lord. At the end of broken dreams He's the open door. People need the Lord, people need the Lord. When will we realize people need the Lord. We are called to take His light to a world where wrong seems right. What could be too great a cost for sharing life with one who's lost? Through His love our hearts can feel all the grief they bear. They must hear the words of life only we can share. People need the Lord, people need the Lord. At the end of broken dreams He's the open door. People need the Lord, people need the Lord. When will we realize that we must give our lives, for people need the Lord. People need the Lord.

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 11:1-11

Pew Bible pg. 233

¹ Then Nahash the Ammonite went up and besieged Jabesh-Gilead, and all the men of Jabesh said to Nahash, "Make a treaty with us, and we will serve you." ² But Nahash the Ammonite said to them, "On this condition I will make a treaty with you, that I gouge out all your right eyes, and thus bring disgrace on all Israel." ³ The elders of Jabesh said to him, "Give us seven days' respite that we may send messengers through all the territory of Israel. Then, if there is no one to save us, we will give ourselves up to you." ⁴ When the messengers came to Gibeath of Saul, they reported the matter in the ears of the people, and all the people wept aloud.

⁵ Now, behold, Saul was coming from the field behind the oxen. And Saul said, “What is wrong with the people, that they are weeping?” So they told him the news of the men of Jabesh. ⁶ And the Spirit of God rushed upon Saul when he heard these words, and his anger was greatly kindled. ⁷ He took a yoke of oxen and cut them in pieces and sent them throughout all the territory of Israel by the hand of the messengers, saying, “Whoever does not come out after Saul and Samuel, so shall it be done to his oxen!” Then the dread of the Lord fell upon the people, and they came out as one man. ⁸ When he mustered them at Bezek, the people of Israel were three hundred thousand, and the men of Judah thirty thousand. ⁹ And they said to the messengers who had come, “Thus shall you say to the men of Jabesh-Gilead: ‘Tomorrow, by the time the sun is hot, you shall have salvation.’” When the messengers came and told the men of Jabesh, they were glad. ¹⁰ Therefore the men of Jabesh said, “Tomorrow we will give ourselves up to you, and you may do to us whatever seems good to you.” ¹¹ And the next day Saul put the people in three companies. And they came into the midst of the camp in the morning watch and struck down the Ammonites until the heat of the day. And those who survived were scattered, so that no two of them were left together.

Sermon

“We are Messengers”

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God’s Grace

Hymn No. 444

O Zion, Haste, Your Mission High Fulfilling

Tidings

O Zion, haste, your mission high fulfilling, to tell to all the world that God is light;
That he who made all nations is not willing one soul should perish, lost in shades of night.

Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace; tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

Behold how many thousands still are lying bound in the darksome prison-house of sin,
With none to tell them of the Savior’s dying, or of the life he died for them to win.

Proclaim to every people, tongue, and nation that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
Tell how he stooped to save his lost creation, and died on earth that man might live above.

Give of your sons to bear the message glorious; give of your wealth to speed them on their way;
Pour out your soul for them in prayer victorious; and all your spending Jesus will repay.

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

Danish

Postlude

God Be With You ‘Till We Meet Again

William Toner, arr. K. Dean

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

Announcements

Contact Information for Pastor Ceselsky: Please note that John & Julie no longer have a home phone number. To reach Pastor Ceselsky, please use his cell number (in the church directory) or call the church.

Aisquith will be hosting a 3rd Movie and Fellowship Afternoon NEXT Saturday, January 31 (Snow Date is February 7) at 1:00 pm. We will be presenting *The King's Speech*. This Academy Award winning film chronicles the British monarchy during the 1930s. In the matter of merely a year, three Kings ruled. The movie focuses on how the new King, George VI, navigated his unexpected role. In the midst of Hitler's rise to power, and the advent of radio broadcasting, the new King finds he must overcome a significant stutter to address the British people. We kindly ask that you bring a snack to share.

Our Annual Congregational Meeting is hereby called for 12:00 PM on Sunday, February 8. The purpose of this meeting is to review the annual reports and vote on changes to Aisquith's By-Laws (copies of the proposed By-Laws may be found in the narthex).

Annual Reports are due to Pastor Ceselsky TODAY!

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."

Prayer Requests

1. Please be in prayer for Angela Andrade as she is expecting to give birth to her fourth daughter at any time. Be in prayer for a safe delivery and for the Lord's blessing upon this covenant child. Please pray as well for Noe, Tatiana, Naomi, Daniella, and Damian.
2. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Greater Baltimore Center for Pregnancy Concerns – Please be in prayer for the GBCPC as they continue to serve women experiencing crisis pregnancies with the Gospel and with meeting their prenatal and post-birth needs.
3. 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, Betty Jo Norris, Libby Soule, Robert Willis (Rick's brother) & Ken Wilson.
4. 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 Lesson 6 on Daniel 5:1-31 (Pages 55-62))
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Women's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare pages 77-81 of the Chronological Guide to the Bible)
Saturday:	1:00 PM	Movie Fellowship Afternoon – <i>The King's Speech</i> – Room 11
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 with The Lord's Supper

Coming Soon

Annual Congregational Meeting – February 8, 2026 – 12:00 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: January 25, 2026

Text: 1 Samuel 11:1-11

Sermon Title: "We are Messengers"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: We are all called to be messengers of the Gospel to the World.

Main Point 1: A Message of Impending Destruction.

Point 1: Nahash and the Ammonites. (vv. 1-3; Dead Sea Scroll 4QSam)

Point 2: Jabesh-Gilead and the Tribe of Benjamin. (v. 4a; Judges 19-21)

Point 3: No One to Save. (vv. 4b-5)

Main Point 2: A Message Requiring Obedience.

Point 1: Empowered by The Holy Spirit. (v. 6)

Point 2: Righteous Anger. (v. 7)

Main Point 3: A Message of Salvation.

Point 1: The Promise of the Lord's Anointed. (vv. 8-9)

Point 2: The Foolishness of the Unbeliever. (v. 10)

Point 3: The Certain Outcome. (v. 11)