

The Lord's Day

February 22, 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...

How much better ... for Christians simply to resolve to fear, honor, trust, and obey the Lord; then, under whatever circumstances we find ourselves, we can be confident of lives that bear the mark of peace with God and the joy of the strength of the Lord.

Richard Phillips

Prelude

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

Don Wyrzten

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 111

- ¹ Praise the Lord!
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- ² Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who delight in them.
- ³ Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.
- ⁴ He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the Lord is gracious and merciful.
- ⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.
- ⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.
- ⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy;
- ⁸ they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- ⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name!
- ¹⁰ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

Invocation

Hymn No. 6

O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord

Tidings

O come, my soul, bless thou the Lord thy Maker,
And all within me bless his holy name;
Bless thou the Lord, forget not all his mercies,
His pard'ning grace and saving love proclaim.

***Bless him forever, wondrous in might,
Bless him, his servants that in his will delight.***

Good is the Lord and full of kind compassion,
Most slow to anger, plenteous in love;
Rich is his grace to all that humbly seek him,
Boundless and endless as the heav'ns above.

His love is like a father's to his children,
Tender and kind to all who fear his name;
For well he knows our weakness and our frailty,
He knows that we are dust, he knows our frame.

We fade and die like flow'rs that grow in beauty,
like tender grass that soon will disappear;
but evermore the love of God is changeless,
still shown to those who look to him in fear.

High in the heav'ns his throne is fixed forever,
His kingdom rules o'er all from pole to pole;
Bless ye the Lord through all his wide dominion,
Bless his most holy name, O thou my soul.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Our Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Question 72

What is justifying faith?

Justifying faith is a saving grace, wrought in the heart of a sinner by the Spirit and Word of God, whereby he, being convinced of his sin and misery, and of the disability in himself and all other creatures to recover him out of his lost condition, not only assents to the truth of the promise of the gospel, but receives and rests upon Christ and his righteousness, therein held forth, for pardon of sin, and for the accepting and accounting of his person righteous in the sight of God for salvation.

The Victory of Faith (Responsive)

Hebrews 11

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

² **For by it the people of old received their commendation.**

³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

⁴ **By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain,**

through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts.

And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks.

⁵ By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him.

Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God.

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

⁷ **By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household.**

By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

⁸ **By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance.**

And he went out, not knowing where he was going.

⁹ **By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land,**

living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise.

¹⁰ **For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God.**

¹¹ By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised.

¹² **Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.**

¹³ These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

¹⁴ **For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.**

¹⁵ If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return.

¹⁶ **But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one.**

Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

¹⁷ **By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac,**

and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named."

¹⁹ **He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.**

²⁰ By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau.

²¹ **By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff.**

²² By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

²³ **By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents,** because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

²⁴ **By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,**

²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

²⁶ **He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.**

²⁷ By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

²⁸ **By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.**

²⁹ By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned.

³⁰ **By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days.**

³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

³² **And what more shall I say?**

For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets

³³ **who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,**

³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

³⁵ **Women received back their dead by resurrection.**

Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life.

³⁶ **Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.**

³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword.

They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated

³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy

wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

³⁹ And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised,

⁴⁰ **since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.**

The Calling of Faith

Hebrews 12:1-2

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hymn No. 2 (HMR)

How Marvelous, How Wise, How Great

Spruce Street

How marvelous, how wise, how great,
how infinite to contemplate: Jehovah's saving plan.
He saw me in my lost estate yet purposed to regenerate
this faithless, fallen man.

Foreknown before the world began,
according to his gracious plan, God destined I must be
conformed to Jesus Christ, the man, who lived and loved as no man can;
a glorious decree.

He bore my sin on Calvary's tree
and righteousness bestowed on me that I might see his face.
God justified me, set me free, and glorified I soon will be:
how marvelous this grace.

What have I now but to embrace
the God who saved me from disgrace and love him evermore;
and with contentment run my race my eyes fixed ever on his face
to praise him and adore.

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

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

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Softly and Tenderly

Stewart Landon
The Aisquith Choir

Come unto me, come unto me, And I will give you rest. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you and for me; See, at the portals he's waiting and watching, Watching for you and
for me. Come home, come home, Ye who are weary, come home; Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is
calling, Calling, O sinner, come home! Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised, Promised for
you and for me! Tho' we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, Pardon for you and for me.
Come home, come home, Ye who are weary, come home; Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling, O sinner, come home, Calling, O sinner, come home.

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 12:12-18

Pew Bible pg. 234

¹² And when you saw that Nahash the king of the Ammonites came against you, you said to me, 'No, but a king shall reign over us,' when the Lord your God was your king. ¹³ And now behold the king whom you have chosen, for whom you have asked; behold, the Lord has set a king over you. ¹⁴ If you will fear the Lord and serve him and obey his voice and not rebel against the commandment of the Lord, and if both you and the king who reigns over you will follow the Lord your God, it will be well. ¹⁵ But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord, but rebel against the commandment of the Lord, then the hand of the Lord will be against you and your king. ¹⁶ Now therefore stand still and see this great thing that the Lord will do before your eyes. ¹⁷ Is it not wheat harvest today? I will call upon the Lord, that he may send thunder and rain. And you shall know and see that your wickedness is great, which you have done in the sight of the Lord, in asking for yourselves a king." ¹⁸ So Samuel called upon the Lord, and the Lord sent thunder and rain that day, and all the people greatly feared the Lord and Samuel.

Sermon

"Keep Your Eye on the Ball"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 565

All for Jesus!

Wycliff

All for Jesus! All for Jesus! All my being's ransomed pow'ers,

All my thoughts and words and doings, all my days and all my hours.

Let my hands perform his bidding, let my feet run in his ways;
Let my eyes see Jesus only, let my lips speak forth his praise.

Worldlings prize their gems of beauty, cling to gilded toys of dust,
Boast of wealth and fame and pleasure; only Jesus will I trust.

Since my eyes were fixed on Jesus, I've lost sight of all beside;
So enchained my spirit's vision, looking at the Crucified.

O what wonder! How amazing! Jesus, glorious King of kings,
Deigns to call me his beloved, lets me rest beneath his wings.

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

Danish

Postlude

Arioso

J.S. Bach

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

Announcements

Easter Tulips may be ordered again this year. The book to sign up is located in the narthex. The cost is \$10 (please use a pink envelope and label it "Flowers") and the deadline to sign up is Sunday, March, 15.

Donations for Pastor Ceselsky to attend General Assembly may be made using the pink envelopes in the pews – please label the donation as "General Assembly" or "GA" for short.

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

Aisquith will be hosting a 3rd Movie and Fellowship Afternoon on Saturday, March 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.

Loch Raven Presbyterian Church will be hosting a dinner for China Outreach Ministries on Friday, March 13 at 6 PM. Information for the event and to RSVP can be found on the flyers in the narthex.

Office Supply lists are available in the narthex if you would like to help cover the cost of these regular expenses. Please give any donations to Pastor Ceselsky.

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Thursday (February 26) is both Terri Bryant and Judi Mason's Birthdays.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Jeanne Williams as she recovers from a fall which produced three broken ribs.
2. We give thanks that Nancy Pearre's first surgery went well and continue to pray for her as she has surgery on her second eye Tomorrow.
3. Please be in prayer for Jack Wickham as he recovers from a procedure this past Wednesday on his left eye and as he prepares for the procedure on his right eye on March 2.
4. Please continue to be in prayer for the Andrade family as they rejoice in the birth of Fabiola Atziri Andrade on Tuesday. Please pray for Angela as she recovers and also pray for Noe, Tatiana, Naomi, Daniella, and Damian.
5. Please continue to be in prayer for Pastor Ceselsky's mother as she is now in rehab to try to recover from a recent painful hip injury. Please pray as well for the Lord to bring her into a saving relationship with Himself.
6. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Cheryl Erb – MNA, Disability Ministry – Please pray for Cheryl and her team as the continue to produce and distribute materials to help local churches minister to those with special needs.
7. Please continue to be in prayer for those in our congregation who have on-going health concerns: Evelyn King, Betty Jo Norris, Libby Soule, Robert Willis (Rick's brother) & 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
	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Practice – Room 28
Tuesday:	7:00 PM	Men's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare Lesson 7 on Daniel 6:1-28 (Pages 63-70))
	10:30 AM	Women's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare pages 96-101 of the Chronological Guide to the Bible)
Wednesday:	6:00 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 26-27
	9:00 AM	Sunday School for all ages Children – Rooms 16-17 Adults – Room 11
NEXT Sunday	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service with The Lord's Supper

Coming Soon

Saturday, March 7 at 1:00 PM – Movie & Fellowship Afternoon

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

Women's Care Ministry: Christine Clark, Debbie DeFord, Judi Mason, Fran Oswinkle, & Jeanne Williams (Moderator)

Sermon Notes

Date: February 22, 2026

Text: 1 Samuel 12:12-18

Sermon Title: "Keep Your Eye on the Ball"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: As believers in Jesus Christ, we must keep our eyes always focused on Jesus.

Main Point 1: The Worldly Problem. (vv. 12-13)

Point 1: Looking **At** the World..

Point 2: Looking **To** the World.

Main Point 2: The Heavenly Solution.

Point 1: The Fear of the Lord. (v. 14)

Point 2: The Hand of the Lord. (v. 15)

Main Point 3: The Heavenly Sign.

Point 1: See What God Will Do. (v. 16)

Point 2: The Creator Reigns. (v.17)

Point 3: Misplaced Fear. (v. 18)