

The Lord's Day

March 15, 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...

There is no sin little, because no little god to sin against.

Matthew Henry

Prelude

Here In His Presence

Franz Abt

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 31:23-24

²³ Love the Lord, all you his saints!
The Lord preserves the faithful
but abundantly repays the one who acts in pride.
²⁴ Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the Lord!

Invocation

Hymn No. 320

Rejoice, All Ye Believers

Lancashire

Rejoice, all ye believers, and let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near:
The Bridegroom is arising, and soon he draweth nigh;
Up, pray, and watch, and wrestle: at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning; replenish them with oil;
And wait for your salvation, the end of earthly toil.
The watchers on the mountain proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go meet him as he cometh, with alleluias clear.

Ye saints, who here in patience your cross and sufferings bore,
Shall live and reign forever, when sorrow is no more:
Around the throne of glory the Lamb ye shall behold,
In triumph cast before him your diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;

Arise, thou sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption that brings us unto thee.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Our Confession of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 14

What is sin?

Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalms 53

¹ The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is none who does good.

² God looks down from heaven on the children of man

to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.

³ They have all fallen away; together they have become corrupt;

there is none who does good, not even one.

⁴ Have those who work evil no knowledge, who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon God?

⁵ **There they are, in great terror, where there is no terror!**

For God scatters the bones of him who encamps against you;

you put them to shame, for God has rejected them.

⁶ Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!

When God restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

Individual Confession of Our Sinfulness

We Confess Christ

2 Corinthians 5:21

**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 Assurance and Calling

Colossians 1:21-23a

²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven.

Hymn No. 354

Jesus, Christ, Our Sure Foundation

Oakbrook

Jesus Christ, our sure foundation, he whose purpose stays the same,
Building for himself a nation, giving those he calls his name.
Praise we now and ever more, Jesus we adore!
God has giv'n to us salvation, Jesus Christ has borne our blame.

Shepherd, Guardian, he who teaches, on whose grace the church depends,
Tending it through hist'ry's reaches, and will keep it to the end.
Praise we now and ever more, Jesus we adore!

He who from the first did seek us, Savior, Ruler, Guide and Friend.

Jesus, come, your kingdom bringing, how we long to see its sight!
Ev'ry saint, Christ's praises singing, stands before th'eternal Light.
Praise we now and ever more, Jesus we adore!
Exaltation ever ringing, Christ, our King, return in might.

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

We Prepare to Enter God's Presence

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 102

What do we pray for in the second petition?

In the second petition, which is, *Thy kingdom come*, we pray that Satan's kingdom may be destroyed; and that the kingdom of grace may be advanced, ourselves and others brought into it, and kept in it; and that the kingdom of glory may be hastened.

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

RE Jeff Soule

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus

William J. Kirkpatrick
The Aisquith Choir

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take him at his word. Just to rest upon his promise, just to know, "Thus saith the Lord." Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more! O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust his cleansing blood, just in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing cleansing flood! Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him, only trust him, only trust him, only trust him, So glad I trust him now. I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend: And I know that thou art with me, will be with me to the end. Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er! Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace O for grace, O for grace to trust him, more, for grace, for grace to trust him, trust him more.

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 13:8-14

Pew Bible pg. 235

⁸ He waited seven days, the time appointed by Samuel. But Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and the people were scattering from him. ⁹ So Saul said, "Bring the burnt offering here to me, and the peace offerings." And he offered the burnt offering. ¹⁰ As soon as he had finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came. And Saul went out to meet him and greet him. ¹¹ Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "When I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines had mustered at

Michmash, ¹² I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not sought the favor of the Lord.' So I forced myself, and offered the burnt offering." ¹³ And Samuel said to Saul, "You have done foolishly. You have not kept the command of the Lord your God, with which he commanded you. For then the Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. ¹⁴ But now your kingdom shall not continue. The Lord has sought out a man after his own heart, and the Lord has commanded him to be prince over his people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you."

Sermon

"No More Excuses"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 92

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Ein' Feste Burg

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

And though this world with devils filled should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure,
For lo! His doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them abideth;
The spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill:
God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

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

Danish

Postlude

Hymn To Joy

Ludwig van Beethoven

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 TODAY!

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.”

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Saturday (March 21) is JonCarlos Ley’s’s Birthday.

Prayer Requests

1. Please be in prayer for Rick Willis as he continues to do therapy to rehab a knee injury.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for George Johnson’s family in Israel. Jesse, George’s grand-nephew has been recalled into the Army and is currently deployed to the border with Lebanon. George’s grand-niece, Annalee, has been stranded in Thailand, while the rest of the family has repeatedly been forced to go to bomb shelters.
3. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Larry & Sandy Rockwell, MTW Peru – Larry was blessed to participate in a local pastor’s conference in Yanama at the end of February – please pray that the Lord would use these “pastors,” and the training they received, to b a blessing to their small churches scattered throughout the region. Please pray as well that details can be worked out for a team that was coming to do a pastor’s training seminar soon.
4. Please continue to be in prayer for those in our congregation who have on-going health concerns: Evelyn King, Betty Jo Norris, 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
Tuesday:	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Practice – Room 28
	7:00 PM	Men’s Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare Lesson 87 on Daniel 7:1-28 (Pages 71-78))
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Women’s Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare pages 117-123 of the Chronological Guide to the Bible)
	6:00 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 26-27
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

Coming Soon

Thursday, April 2 at 7:00 PM – Maundy Thursday Worship Service – Loch Raven Presbyterian Church
Friday, April 3 at 7:00 PM – Good Friday Worship Service

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: March 15, 2026

Text: 1 Samuel 13:8-14

Sermon Title: "No More Excuses"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: There are no excuses for sin.

Main Point 1: Saul's Sin. (vv. 8, 9)

Point 1: A challenging situation.

Point 2: An impatient sacrifice.

Main Point 2: Saul's Excuse. (vv. 11, 12)

Point 1: Explanations don't excuse sin.

Point 2: Blame-shifting.

Point 3: Ritual above obedience.

Main Point 3: Saul's Consequences. (vv. 13, 14)

Point 1: What could have been.

Point 2: Samuel's verdict.

Point 3: What will be.