

The Lord's Day

May 3, 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...

Just as a riddle about eating honey in a Philistine context got Samson into trouble, so also tasting honey in a Philistine context almost cost Jonathan his life.

Ronald Youngblood

Prelude

Just As I Am

William Bradbury

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 34:8-9

⁸ Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!

Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

⁹ Oh, fear the Lord, you his saints,

for those who fear him have no lack!

Invocation

Hymn No. 168

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

Toulon

I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
my only trust and Savior of my heart,
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.

Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
Reigning omnipotent in every place:
So come, O King, and our whole being sway;
Shine on us with the light of thy pure day.

Thou art the life, by which alone we live,
and all our substance and our strength receive;
O comfort us in death's approaching hour,
strong-hearted then to face it by thy pow'r.

Thou has the true and perfect gentleness,

no harshness hast thou and no bitterness:
make us to taste the sweet grace found in thee
and ever stay in thy sweet unity.

Our hope is in no other save in thee;
Our faith is built upon thy promise free;
O grant to us such stronger hope and sure
That we can boldly conquer and endure.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Our Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Question 3

What is the Word of God?

The holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, the only rule of faith and obedience.

The Command of God

Revelation 22:18-19

¹⁸ I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalms 119:1-16

¹ Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord!

² **Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart,**

³ who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!

⁴ **You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.**

⁵ Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

⁶ **Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.**

⁷ I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous rules.

⁸ **I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me!**

⁹ How can a young man keep his way pure?

By guarding it according to your word.

¹⁰ With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments!

¹¹ **I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.**

¹² Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes!

¹³ **With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth.**

¹⁴ In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches.

¹⁵ **I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways.**

¹⁶ I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

Individual Prayer of Confession

Christ's Prayer for His People (Responsive)

John 17:6-19

⁶ "I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world.

Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

⁷ Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you.

⁸ For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you;

and they have believed that you sent me.

⁹ I am praying for them.

I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours.

¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them.

¹¹ And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.

Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

¹² While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me.

I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

¹³ But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

¹⁵ I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.

¹⁶ They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

¹⁷ Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Hymn No. 140

O Word of God Incarnate

Munich

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
We praise thee for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The church from her dear Master received the gift divine,
And still that light she lifteth o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the golden casket, where gems of truth are stored;
It is the heav'n-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.

It floateth like a banner before God's host unfurled;
It shineth like a beacon above the darkling world.
It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging sea,
'mid mists and rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.

O make thy church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold,
To bear before the nations thy true light, as of old.
O teach thy wand'ring pilgrims by this their path to trace,
Till, clouds and darkness ended, they see thee face to face.

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

How Great Thou Art

Carl Boberg

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy pow'r thro' out the universe displayed.

***Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee:
How great thou art, how great thou art! (2x)***

And when I think that God his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art.

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 and Sacrament

Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 14:24-30

Pew Bible pg. 236

²⁴ And the men of Israel had been hard pressed that day, so Saul had laid an oath on the people, saying, "Cursed be the man who eats food until it is evening and I am avenged on my enemies." So none of the people had tasted food. ²⁵ Now when all the people came to the forest, behold, there was honey on the ground. ²⁶ And when the people entered the forest, behold, the honey was dropping, but no one put his hand to his mouth, for the people feared the oath. ²⁷ But Jonathan had not heard his father charge the people with the oath, so he put out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and dipped it in the honeycomb and put his hand to his mouth, and his eyes became bright. ²⁸ Then one of the people said, "Your father strictly charged the people with an oath, saying, 'Cursed be the man who eats food this day.'" And the people were faint. ²⁹ Then Jonathan said, "My father has troubled the land. See how my eyes have become bright because I tasted a little of this honey. ³⁰ How much better if the people had eaten freely today of the spoil of their enemies that they found. For now the defeat among the Philistines has not been great."

Sermon

"Turning Deliverance into Distress"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

Hymn No. 646

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Quebec

Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts, thou fount of life, thou light of men,
From the best bliss that earth imparts we turn unfilled to thee again.

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; thou savest those that on thee call;
To them that seek thee thou art good, to them that find thee all in all.

We taste thee, O thou living bread, and long to feast upon thee still;
We drink of thee, the fountain-head, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.

Our restless spirits yearn for thee, where'er our changeful lot is cast;
Glad when thy gracious smile we see, blest when our faith can hold thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay, make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away, shed o'er the world thy holy light.

Celebration of The Lord's Supper

We respond to God's Grace

The Doxology (Hymnal, pg. 731)

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.

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

Danish

Postlude

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

(Austrian Hymn) arr. K. Dean

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

Announcements

Next Sunday we will welcome Calvin & Geeta as they give an update on their work in South Asia.

Donations for the Roof repair can be made through the ARC Fund. Please use a pink envelope and label it "ARC" or "Roof." The project total was \$126,505 and the total raised so far is \$62,278.20 (49%).

The Help Fund is in need of some special donations if you are able to give to help members of the church with current financial needs.

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Wednesday (May 6) is Ruth Ellen Beerli's Birthday.

Prayer Requests

1. Please pray for Candy Short as she prepares for surgery on Tuesday to fix a detached lens in her left eye.
2. Please be in prayer for Brenda Franklin as she has been in a great deal of pain from Medial Epicondylitis in her right elbow. Please pray for Brenda as she cannot work, drive, or take her graduate school classes for 12 weeks.

3. Please continue to be in prayer for Debbie DeFord as she recovers from knee-replacement surgery. Please pray for a full and speedy recovery.
4. Please continue to be in prayer for Norm & Betty Jo Norris. Betty Jo was in the hospital earlier this week with pneumonia and a UTI. She has been home for a couple of days – please pray for a complete recovery and pray for Norm as he seeks to care for her at home.
5. Please continue to be in prayer for Debbie Miller (a friend of the Moutrup family) as she needs to have surgery to remove a large tumor.
6. Please continue to be in prayer for Mark & Betty Werner’s son-in-law, Tim’s, sister (Sarah) as she has returned to in the hospital because of her bleeding issues. Pray as well for her family as they are becoming overwhelmed by the situation.
7. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Beachmont Christian Ministries – please pray for those who serve at Beachmont as they prepare for their summer camps. Please pray that the Lord would be pleased to use this important ministry to share the Gospel with children from throughout the region.
8. Please continue to be in prayer for those in our congregation who have on-going health concerns: Evelyn King; Maisie Manning’s daughter, Yvonne; Betty Jo Norris; Robert Willis (Rick’s brother) & Ken Wilson.
9. 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
Tuesday:	7:00 PM	Men’s Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare Lesson 10 on Daniel 9:1-27 (Pages 87-94))
Wednesday:	10:30 AM	Women’s Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare pages 159-169 of the Chronological Guide to the Bible)
	6:00 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 26-27
NEXT Sunday	10:30 AM	Lord’s Day Worship Service with Calvin & Geeta.

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: May 3, 2026

Text: 1 Samuel 14:24-30

Sermon Title: "Turning Deliverance into Distress"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: We must not run ahead of God's Word.

Main Point 1: A foolish oath. (v. 24)

Point 1: Hard pressed.

Point 2: Saul's self-centeredness.

Main Point 2: An ignorant taste,

Point 1: God's provision. (vv. 25,26a)

Point 2: Taste and See. (v. 27)

Point 3: The people's reaction. (vv. 26b,28,29)

Main Point 3: A better way. (v. 30)

Point 1: What could have been.

Point 2: What will be.