

The Lord's Day

May 17, 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...

If You've Got Nothing Worth Dying For, You've Got Nothing Worth Living For. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Prelude

My Shepherd Will Supply My Every Need

Fred Bock

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

Isaiah 35:10

And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Invocation

Hymn No. 181

We Come, O Christ, to You

Darwall

We come, O Christ, to you, true Son of God and man,
By whom all things consist, in whom all life began;
In you alone we live and move and have our being in your love.

You are the Way to God, your blood our ransom paid;
In you we face our Judge and Maker unafraid.
Before the throne absolved we stand, your love has met your law's demand.

You are the living Truth! All wisdom dwells in you,
The Source of every skill, the one eternal TRUE!
O great I AM! In you we rest, sure answer to our every quest.

You only are true Life, to know you is to live
The more abundant life that earth can never give;
O risen Lord! We live in you; in us each day your life renew!

We worship you, Lord Christ, our Savior and our King,
To you our youth and strength adoringly we bring;
So fill our hearts, that all may view your life in us, and turn to you.

We embrace Christ through His Word

The Command of God

Genesis 2:15-17

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

The Fall of Man

Genesis 3:1-6

Read by: DE Rick Willis

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” ² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

We Acknowledge Our Sinful Estate

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 16

Did all mankind fall in Adam’s first transgression?

The covenant being made with Adam, not only for himself, but for his posterity; all mankind, descending from him by ordinary generation, sinned in him, and fell with him, in his first transgression.

We Acknowledge Our Enemy

1 Peter 5:8 (NIV)

Be alert and of sober mind.

Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

We Confess Our Need for a Redeemer

Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 20

Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?

God, having out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.

We Acknowledge our Ransom (Responsive)

1 Peter 1:17-21

¹⁷ If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile,

¹⁸ **knowing that [we] were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from [our] forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold,**

¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

²⁰ **He was foreknown before the foundation of the world**

but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you ²¹ who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory,

so that your faith and hope are in God.

We Praise Our Redeemer (Unison)

Revelation 5:9-10

⁹ **“Worthy are you to take the scroll**

and to open its seals,

**for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,**

¹⁰ **and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth.”**

Hymn No. 253

There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

Fountain

There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel’s veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day;
And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away:
Washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away;
And there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away.

E’er since by faith I saw the stream your flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die;
And shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song I’ll sing your pow’r to save,
When this poor lisping, stamm’ring tongue lies silent in the grave:
Lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave;
When this poor lisping, stamm’ring tongue lies silent in the grave:

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood shall never lose its pow’r,
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more:
Be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more.

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

Somebody Bigger Than You and I

Johnny Lange

Who made the mountain who made the tree, Who made the river flow to the sea, And who hung the moon in the starry sky? Somebody bigger than you and I. Who makes the flowers bloom in the spring, Who writes the song for the robin to sing, And who sends the rain when the earth is dry? Somebody bigger than you and I. He lights the way when the road is long, Keeps you company; With love to guide you, He walks beside you, Just like He walks with me. When I am weary, filled with despair, Who gives me courage to go on from there, And who gives me faith that will never die? Somebody bigger than you and I.

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 14:36-46

Pew Bible pg. 236

³⁶ Then Saul said, "Let us go down after the Philistines by night and plunder them until the morning light; let us not leave a man of them." And they said, "Do whatever seems good to you." But the priest said, "Let us draw near to God here." ³⁷ And Saul inquired of God, "Shall I go down after the Philistines? Will you give them into the hand of Israel?" But he did not answer him that day. ³⁸ And Saul said, "Come here, all you leaders of the people, and know and see how this sin has arisen today. ³⁹ For as the Lord lives who saves Israel, though it be in Jonathan my son, he shall surely die." But there was not a man among all the people who answered him. ⁴⁰ Then he said to all Israel, "You shall be on one side, and I and Jonathan my son will be on the other side." And the people said to Saul, "Do what seems good to you." ⁴¹ Therefore Saul said, "O Lord God of Israel, why have you not answered your servant this day? If this guilt is in me or in Jonathan my son, O Lord, God of Israel, give Urim. But if this guilt is in your people Israel, give Thummim." And Jonathan and Saul were taken, but the people escaped. ⁴² Then Saul said, "Cast the lot between me and my son Jonathan." And Jonathan was taken.

⁴³ Then Saul said to Jonathan, "Tell me what you have done." And Jonathan told him, "I tasted a little honey with the tip of the staff that was in my hand. Here I am; I will die." ⁴⁴ And Saul said, "God do so to me and more also; you shall surely die, Jonathan." ⁴⁵ Then the people said to Saul, "Shall Jonathan die, who has worked this great salvation in Israel? Far from it! As the Lord lives, there shall not one hair of his head fall to the ground, for he has worked with God this day." So the people ransomed Jonathan, so that he did not die. ⁴⁶ Then Saul went up from pursuing the Philistines, and the Philistines went to their own place.

Sermon

"Worth Dying For"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Townend

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure

That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross,
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life;
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything;
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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

Danish

Postlude

He – Will Always Say I Forgive

Jack Richards

He can turn the tides and calm the angry sea. He alone decides who writes a symphony. He lights eve'ry star that makes our darkness bright. He keeps watch all thro' each long and lonely night. He still finds the time to hear a child's first prayer. Saint or sinner call and always find Him there.

Though it makes Him sad to see the way we live, He'll always say, "I forgive."

He can grant a wish or make a dream come true. He can paint the clouds and turn the gray to blue. He alone knows where to find the rainbow's end. He alone can see what lies beyond the bend. He can touch a tree and turn the leaves to gold. He knows ev'ry lie that you and I have told.

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

Announcements

The Women's Bible Study will be beginning a new study: The Parables of Jesus, in the Fall. Binders for the study for current members are available in the narthex. The group would love to have some new members – if you are interested please see Julie Ceselsky.

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

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: Next Sunday (May 24) is Bryan & Lorna Lee's Anniversary.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to pray for Candy Short as she recovers from her surgery which repaired a detached lens and retina in her left eye.
2. Please continue to 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. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Amy & Chuy Acosta – Ranchito con Esperanza – please pray for Amy & Chuy as they care for the children in their care, as they teach, evangelize, disciple and seek to reach their community (Camichines, MX) with the Gospel. Please also pray for continued peace in the area.
5. 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), Mark & Betty Werner's son-in-law, Tim's, sister (Sarah), & Ken Wilson.
6. 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	7:00 PM	Session Meeting – Pastor's Office
Wednesday:	12:00 PM	Women's Bible Study Luncheon – The Peppermill
	6:00 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 26-27
Thursday	6:30 PM	Men's Bible Study Dinner – Silver Spring Mining Company
NEXT Sunday	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service

Coming Soon

Movie & Fellowship Afternoon – *The Patriot* – Saturday, June 27 – 1:00 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

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

Sermon Notes

Date: May 17, 2026

Text: 1 Samuel 14:36-46

Sermon Title: "Worth Dying For"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: We must be willing to live for Christ.

Main Point 1: Loud silences reveal Saul's losses. (vv. 36-39)

Point 1: His Religion.

Point 2: His People.

Main Point 2: Loud refusal reveals the people's champion.

Point 1: Selection by God. (vv. 40-42)

Point 2: You will surely die. (vv. 43-44)

Point 3: Ransom. (v. 45)

Main Point 3: The enemy is allowed to remain. (v. 46)