

The Lord's Day

May 31, 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...

O Lord, who has taught us that all our doings without love are worth nothing; Send Your Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, which is humble, meek, kind, long-suffering and patient, the very bond of peace and of all virtues: Grant this for Your only son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer (1689)

Prelude

Jesus Is All The World To Me

Will Thompson

Dr. Kenneth Dean, Jr.; Director of Music Ministries

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

RE Riley B. Franklin

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

96:1-4a

¹ Oh sing to the Lord a new song;

 sing to the Lord, all the earth!

² Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

 tell of his salvation from day to day.

³ Declare his glory among the nations,

 his marvelous works among all the peoples!

⁴ For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

Invocation

Hymn No. 38

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Joanna

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
nor wanting nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,

thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

We embrace Christ through His Word

Psalter Reading / Confession of Sin (Responsive)

Psalms 130

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord!

² **O Lord, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

³ **If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?**

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

⁵ **I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;**

⁶ my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

⁷ **O Israel, hope in the Lord!**

For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

⁸ **And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.**

Our Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 60

How are you made right with God?

Even though my conscience accuses me of having grievously sinned against all God's commandments and of never having kept any of them, and even though I am still inclined toward all evil, nevertheless, without my deserving it at all, out of sheer grace, God grants and credits to me the perfect satisfaction, righteousness, and holiness of Christ, as if I have never sinned nor been a sinner, as if I had been as perfectly obedient as Christ was obedient for me. All I need to do is accept this gift of God with a believing heart.

Assurance of Pardon (Responsive)

1 John 4:7-10

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

In this is love, not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Hymn

Before the Throne

Bancroft/Cook

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart (2X).

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of my guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God, the Just, is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me (2X).

Behold Him there the risen Lamb
My perfect spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of Glory and of Grace
One with Himself I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God (2X)

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

How Great Thou Art (vv. 1,3,4)

O Store Gud
RE Jeff Soule, Bass

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 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

Mark 2:18-22

Pew Bible pg. 837

¹⁸ Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. And people came and said to him, "Why do John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" ¹⁹ And Jesus said to them, "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast. ²⁰ The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in that day. ²¹ No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made. ²² And no one puts new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins—and the wine is destroyed, and so are the skins. But new wine is for fresh wineskins."

Sermon

"Opposition to His Message"

Pastor Bell

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 689

Be Still, My Soul

Finlandia

Be still my soul: the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief and pain; leave to your
God to order and provide; in every change he
Faithful will remain. Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly
Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
To guide the future as he has the past. Your hope, your
Confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious
Shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still
Know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
And all is darkened in the vale of tears, then shall you
Better know his love, his heart, who comes to soothe your
sorrow and your fears. Be still, my soul: your Jesus can re-
pay from his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot,
Love's purest joys restored. Be still my soul: when change and tears are
Past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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

Danish

Postlude

Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus

George Webb

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

Announcements

Today we welcome back our Pastor Emiritus, Bob Bell and look forward to his faithful preaching of God's Word.

Pastor Ceselsky will be away (out of the country) until NEXT Wednesday, June 10. Please contact one of the elders if any concerns arise during that time.

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

Donations are needed for The Help Fund – you can use the pink envelopes in the pew racks and label the donations "Help Fund."

An Informational Congregational Meeting is hereby called by the Session to follow the worship service on Sunday, June 21. The purpose of this meeting is to provide the congregation with an update (as promised our annual meeting in February) on the financial standing of the church.

Our 4th Movie & Fellowship Afternoon will be on Saturday June 27 at 1 PM. We will be watching *The Patriot*. This drama presents a fictional account of an American Revolution series of battles focusing on a devoted father and French and Indian War veteran, and his leading of battles against a ruthless nemesis. (Please note that this film presents graphic war violence and may not be appropriate for younger viewers.) As is our custom, we encourage you to invite others to come and please bring a snack to share.

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Today is Jim Moultrup's Birthday, and Wednesday (June 3) is Ken Wilson's Birthday.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Calvin & Geeta as they have been advised to not to return while the government is investigating some false allegations which have been made against them. Please pray for a just and quick end to this investigation so that Calvin & Geeta may return home.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for Debbie DeFord as she recovers from knee-replacement surgery. Please pray for a full and speedy recovery.
3. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Larry & Sandy Rockwell – MTW Peru – Please pray for Larry & Sandy as they seek to share the Gospel in a spiritually dark and often synchronistic place – pray that the Lord's glory would shine above all of the idols of the people. Please pray as well as a new neighbor has sought to take some of the land of the ministry center in Huaraz – pray for the Lord's safety for Larry and Sandy and this new neighbor's conversion.
4. 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.

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: 10:30 AM Lord's Day Worship Service
NEXT Sunday 10:30 AM Lord's Day Worship Service with The Lord's Supper

Coming Soon

Sunday, June 21 – 12 PM – Informational Congregational Meeting
Saturday, June 27 – 1 PM – Movie & Fellowship Afternoon – *The Patriot*

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 31, 2026
Text: Mark 2:18-22
Sermon Title: "Opposition to His Message"
Delivered By: Pastor Robert Bell

Main Point 1: The Old Repentance Rituals

Let's get this straight right up front. Christianity is not about religious ritual; it's about a right relationship! Don't get so caught up in ceremony that you miss Christ!

Main Point 2: The Present Joyous Relationship

Jesus is both the center and the cause of the joy that his disciples experience.

Main Point 3: The New Radical Reality

The twin parables that Jesus now gives are broader in application than to just fasting. They are a commentary on the significance of Jesus' presence with us.