

The Lord's Day

August 30, 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...

David's experience reminds us that we do not know what challenges may await us on any given day. Little did David realize, as he 'rose early in the morning and left the sheep with a keeper and took the provisions and went', that the defining challenge of his life was a mere few hours ahead.

Richard Phillips

Prelude

A Wonderful Savior is Jesus My Lord (Tune: Kirkpatrick) Fanny Crosby
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 34:1-9 (Responsive)

¹ I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

² **My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

³ Oh, magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together!

⁴ **I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.**

⁵ Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.

⁶ **This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him
and saved him out of all his troubles.**

⁷ The angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

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. 201

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Our Calling in Christ (Responsive)

2 Corinthians 5:6-9

⁶ So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord,

⁷ **for we walk by faith, not by sight.**

⁸ Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

⁹ **So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.**

God's Purpose in Our Trials

James 1:2-4

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Our Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 1

What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Savior Jesus Christ; who, with His precious blood, has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, and therefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto him.

Our Assurance in Christ (Responsive)

Romans 5:1-5

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,

we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand,

and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings,

knowing that suffering produces endurance,

⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,

⁵ **and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.**

Hymn No. 606

Teach Me Thy Way, O Lord

Camacha

Teach me thy way, O Lord; teach me thy way!
Thy guiding grace afford; teach me thy way!
Help me to walk aright, more by faith less by sight;
Lead me with heav'nly light; teach me thy way!

When I am sad at heart, teach me thy way!
When earthly joys depart, teach me thy way!
In hours of loneliness, in times of dire distress,
In failure or success, teach me thy way!

When doubts and fears arise, teach me thy way!
When storms o'er spread the skies, teach me thy way!
Shine through the cloud and rain, thro' sorrow, toil and pain;
Make thou my pathway plain; teach me thy way!

Long as my life shall last, teach me thy way!
Where'er my lot be cast, teach me thy way!
Until the race is run, until the journey's done,
Until the crown is won, teach me thy way!

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

Rejoice, The Lord Is King

(Tune: Darwall's 148th) Darwall

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 17:12-24

Pew Bible pg. 239

¹² Now David was the son of an Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, named Jesse, who had eight sons. In the days of Saul the man was already old and advanced in years. ¹³ The three oldest sons of Jesse had followed Saul to the battle. And the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, and next to him Abinadab, and the third Shammah. ¹⁴ David was the youngest. The three eldest followed Saul, ¹⁵ but David went back and forth from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem. ¹⁶ For forty days the Philistine came forward and took his stand, morning and evening.

¹⁷ And Jesse said to David his son, "Take for your brothers an ephah of this parched grain, and these ten loaves, and carry them quickly to the camp to your brothers. ¹⁸ Also take these ten cheeses to the commander of their thousand. See if your brothers are well, and bring some token from them."

¹⁹ Now Saul and they and all the men of Israel were in the Valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. ²⁰ And David rose early in the morning and left the sheep with a keeper and took the provisions and went, as Jesse had commanded him. And he came to the encampment as the host was going out to the battle line, shouting the war cry. ²¹ And Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. ²² And David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage and ran to the ranks and went and greeted his brothers. ²³ As he talked with them, behold, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him.

²⁴ All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were much afraid.

Sermon

"Faith over Fear"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn

O Church Arise

Getty

O church, arise and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our captain;
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!"
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died—
An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet,

As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This vict'ry march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride,
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

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

Danish

Postlude *Though I May Speak With Bravest Fire* (Tune: Gift of Love) Hal Hopson

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

Announcements

Do you know someone in need of a burial plot? Gus DeFord has a premium burial plot for sale at Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Finksburg, Maryland. Please speak to Gus if you, or someone you know, may be interested.

Adult & Children's Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 13. RE Riley B. Franklin will be leading the adult class in a study of the Minor Prophets.

The Men's and Women's Bible Studies will resume on September 15 and 16 respectively. The men will conclude the study on the prophecy of Daniel (from the Spring) and then move on to a study of the Book of Romans – please speak with Pastor Ceselsky if you have any questions. The women's study will be on the Parables of Jesus – please speak with Julie Ceselsky if you have any questions or need a copy of the materials.

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: Thursday (September 3) is Jim & Nancy Moultrup's Anniversary.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Libby Soule as she continues with a new physical therapy regimen. Please pray especially for a reduction of dizziness, confusion, daily migraines, and chronic fatigue.

2. Please continue to be in prayer for Judi Mason's (and her daughter Katie's) friend, Mike Rourke as he recovers from a blackout and accident while doing yard work. Pray for a full recovery and for doctors to be able to determine the cause of the blackout.
3. Please continue to be in prayer for Candy Short's son-in-law's mother, Betty Walter. Please pray for the Lord's mercies and for her recovery from a recent fall.
4. Please continue to be in prayer for the Gerben family as they mourn John's passing last weekend.
5. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Our Children & Vocational Teachers – Please pray for our youngest missionaries (Tatiana, Naomi, Daniela, Damian, Liam, Brenna, Caeden, Maddox, Lieseli, Gregory, & Verena) as they begin school this week. Whether they are homeschooled (and will interact with other homeschoolers), go to a Christian school (where we can't assume that everyone is a believer or even church), or public school – we should keep each student in prayer. Pray that the Lord would draw our students closer to himself, that he would keep them faithful, and that through them, the Gospel would shine brightly to other students, teachers, and staff. Please also pray for our teachers: Angela Andrade, John & Gwen Cicone, Christine Clark, Brenda Franklin, Jonathan Frank, & Raj Mohan. Please pray that they will model Christ to their students in their lessons and personal interactions.
6. 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; Alice Orie, Robert Willis (Rick's brother), & Ken Wilson.
7. 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 School – Sunday, September 13, 9 AM
 Men's Bible Study – Tuesday, September 15, 7 PM
 Women's Bible Study – Wednesday, September 16, 10:30 AM

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: August 30, 2026
 Text: 1 Samuel 17:12-24
 Sermon Title: "Faith over Fear"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: The Christian must live by faith.

Main Point 1: A Time of Testing.

Point 1: For Israel. (vv. 12,13,16)

Point 2: For David. (vv. 14,15)

Main Point 2: A Father's Provision.

Point 1: Pride in His 3 Oldest Sons. (v. 19)

Point 2: 3 Commands for His Youngest Son. (vv. 17,18)

Main Point 3: A Champion's Hearing.

Point 1: The Sheep and the Provisions are Kept. (vv. 20,22)

Point 2: The Shepherd Runs to the Danger. (vv. 20,21)

Point 3: The Philistine is heard. (vv. 23,24)