

The Lord's Day

September 13, 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...

We should probably consider the offer of Saul's armor as one of the greatest trials of David's faith. The sight of Goliath did not daunt the young hero: he knew how God would handle a blaspheming Philistine, just like a bear or lion seeking after God's sheep. But the far more subtle temptation was the offer to step into the shoes – that is, the armor – of the disgraced king. David's faith knew how to say 'Yes' to a daunting challenge: it was equally important that his faith knew how to say 'No' to worldly compromise and unbelieving help.

Richard Phillips

Prelude

Crown Him With Many Crowns (Tune: Diademata) George J. Elvey
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 12:1-2

¹ You will say in that day:
"I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

² "Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation."

Invocation

Hymn No. 575

Soldiers of Christ, Arise (Alternate Wording)

Diademata

Soldiers of Christ, arise, and put your armor on,
Strong in the strength which God supplies through his eternal Son,
Strong in the Lord of Hosts, and in his mighty pow'r,
Who in the strength of Jesus trusts is more than conqueror.

Stand then in his great might, with all his strength endued;
And take, to arm you for the fight, the panoply of God.

From strength to strength go on; wrestle and fight and pray;
Tread all the pow'rs of darkness down, and win the well-fought day.

Leave no unguarded place, no weakness of the soul;
Take every virtue, ev'ry grace, and fortify the whole.
That having all things done, and all your conflicts past,
Ye may o'ercome through Christ alone and stand complete at last.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Confession of Faith (Unison)

The Shema

Deuteronomy 6:4

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Our Confession of Faith in Christ (Unison)

John 14:1

**Let not your hearts be troubled
Believe in God; believe also in me.**

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalms 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
² **He makes me lie down in green pastures.**
He leads me beside still waters.
³ **He restores my soul.**
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
⁴ **Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,**
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Our Calling in Christ (Responsive)

Ephesians 6:10-18a

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might.
¹¹ **Put on the whole armor of God, that [we] may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.**
¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.
¹³ **Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that [we] may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.**
¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,
¹⁵ **and, as shoes for [our] feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.**
¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;
¹⁷ **and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,**
¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, ye soldiers of the cross;
 Lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss:
 From vict'ry unto vict'ry his army shall he lead,
 Till ev'ry foe is vanquished, and Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey;
 Forth to the mighty conflict in this his glorious day:
 Ye that are men now serve him against unnumbered foes;
 Let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in his strength alone;
 The arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own:
 Put on the gospel armor, each piece put on with pray'r;
 Where duty calls, or danger, be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the strife will not be long;
 This day the noise of battle, the next the victor's song:
 To him that overcometh a crown of life shall be;
 He with the King of glory shall reign eternally.

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

Special Announcement

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

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er The Son

(Tune: Duke Street) John Hatton

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 17:31-40

Pew Bible pg. 240

³¹ When the words that David spoke were heard, they repeated them before Saul, and he sent for him. ³² And David said to Saul, "Let no man's heart fail because of him. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine." ³³ And Saul said to David, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth, and he has been a man of war from his youth." ³⁴ But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, ³⁵ I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and

struck him and killed him. ³⁶ Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God.” ³⁷ And David said, “The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” And Saul said to David, “Go, and the Lord be with you!”

³⁸ Then Saul clothed David with his armor. He put a helmet of bronze on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail, ³⁹ and David strapped his sword over his armor. And he tried in vain to go, for he had not tested them. Then David said to Saul, “I cannot go with these, for I have not tested them.” So David put them off. ⁴⁰ Then he took his staff in his hand and chose five smooth stones from the brook and put them in his shepherd's pouch. His sling was in his hand, and he approached the Philistine.

Sermon

“Facing Giants – Part 2: David vs. Saul”

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 32

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee;
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

***Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
all I have needed thy hand hath provided—
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!***

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

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

Danish

Postlude

Variations on: *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus* (George Webb) arr. K. Dean

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

Announcements

Adult & Children's Sunday School resumed this morning. If you were unable to attend, please plan to attend next week!

Dr. Dean will be performing at the Music at the Monastery concert series, TODAY at 4 PM at the Franciscan Monastery located at 1400 Quincy Street NE, Washington DC. The event is free but there will be a free-will offering taken.

Join Us for a Fellowship Pot-Luck lunch following the worship service on Sunday, March 27 – this promises to be a special time in the life of our church body. The church will provide the main course and the drinks – you are asked to provide a side and/or dessert to share. Please set this time aside to join in fellowship with your church family.

Amy & Chuy Acosta are in need of a safe, reliable, and reasonably priced car for them to purchase for the times that they are in the US. If you, or someone you know has such a vehicle available, please contact Pastor Ceselsky.

The Men's and Women's Bible Studies will resume this week. 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. (Ladies, please pick up a copy of the schedule from the tables in the narthex.)

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: Friday (September 18) is Brigitte Schumann's Birthday, is Saturday (September 19) is Marlies Beerli's Birthday, and Ken & Brigitte Schumann's Anniversary.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Libby Soule as she has discontinued her physical therapy regimen due to lack of progress. Libby is continuing to work on neurological rest and home exercises. Please pray especially for a reduction of dizziness, confusion, daily migraines, and chronic fatigue as well as her ability to perform regular activities. Please pray as well for patience and joy in the midst of her adversity.
2. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Amy & Chuy Acosta (Lanam - Mexico) – Please pray for Amy & Chuy, as well as their staff, as school is now back in session. Pray that the Lord would be glorified through the teaching of those under their care. Please pray as well for Amy and Chuy as they are currently traveling throughout the United States.
3. 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.
4. 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.

Coming Soon

Congregational Pot-Luck Lunch – Sunday, September, 27 – 12 PM
Joint Reformation Service, Sunday, November 1 – 3:30 PM – Broadneck EP Church

Weekly Calendar

TODAY:	9:30 AM	Sunday School 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 #11 – Daniel 10:1-11:1 (pgs. 95-102))
Wednesday	10:30 AM	Women's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare the Introduction and Kingdom of Heaven (pgs. 3-9))
NEXT Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday School Children: Rooms 16,17 Adults – Room 11
10:30 AM		Lord's Day 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: September 13, 2026

Text: 1 Samuel 17:31-40

Sermon Title: "Facing Giants – Part 2: David vs. Saul"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: In life's battles, we must trust the Lord's faithfulness and not the things of this world.

Main Point 1: Saul interviews David.

Point 1: David takes control. (v. 32)

Point 2: Saul's worldly point of view. (v. 33)

Point 3: David's godly point of view.

A. David's past experience. (vv. 34-35)

B. Israel's present circumstance.

C. David's future assurance. (vv. 36-37a)

Point 4: Saul's ironic blessing. (v. 37b)

Main Point 2: Saul clothes David.

Point 1: The little Saul-Goliath). (vv. 38-39)

Point 2: The godly shepherd. (v. 40)