

The Lord's Day

October 4, 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...

*Only faith makes us willing to be the lesser. Faith causes us to surrender the rights we pretend to have over
against the Christ, who is truly Israel's king.*

S.G. DeGraaf

Prelude

Blessed Quietness

David Paxton

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

1 John 4:13-19

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷ By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us.

Invocation

Hymn No. 648

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Caritas

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine; for thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me, and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death; and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath;
And say, when the death dew lies cold on my brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight, I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll say with the glittering crown on my brow; if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Christ's Call to Obedience

John 14:23-24

²³ If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

We Acknowledge Our Sin (Unison)

Isaiah 53:6

**All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.**

Individual Confession of Sin.

Our Declaration of Faith (Unison)

Isaiah 53:4-5

**⁴ Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.**

We Acknowledge Christ (Unison)

John 10:14-15

¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.

The Promise of Christ

John 15:13-16a

¹³ Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide.

Hymn No. 599

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

Shepherd

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
In thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy fold prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.

We are thine; do thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
Keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray;

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, let us early turn to thee;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, let us early turn to thee.

Early let us seek thy favor; early let us do thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

The Prayers of God's People and the Lord's Prayer (**in unison**)

RE Jeff Soule

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Jesu, Word of God Incarnate

W.A. Mozart
The Aisquith Choir

Jesu, Word of God Incarnate, Of the Virgin Mary born; On the cross thy sacred body, For us men, with nails was torn. Cleanse us by the blood and water streaming from Thy pierced side. Feed us with Thy body broken, Now and in death's agony, Now, now, now, now and in death's agony.

The Gloria Patri (Hymnal, pg. 734) 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 18:1-5

Pew Bible pg. 241

¹ As soon as he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. ² And Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. ³ Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. ⁴ And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt. ⁵ And David went out and was successful wherever Saul sent him, so that Saul set him over the men of war. And this was good in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.

Sermon

"Friends Are Friends Forever"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

Hymn No. 498

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

Hyfrydol

Jesus! What a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;
Friends may fail me, foes assail me, he, my Savior, makes me whole.

***Hallelujah! What a Savior! Hallelujah! What a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end.***

Jesus! What a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in him;
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, he, my strength, my vict'ry wins.

Jesus! What a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,
Even when my heart is breaking, he, my comfort, helps my soul.

Jesus! What a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high,
Storms about me, night o'er takes me, he, my pilot, hears my cry.

Jesus! I do now receive him, more than all in him I find;
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am his, and he is mine.

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

Cleanse Me O God

John T. Benson

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

Announcements

We welcome the choir back to leading us in worship this morning!

Pastor Ceselsky will be away following the worship service today through next Sunday. Please contact one of the elders with any concerns.

If you donated to the Homecoming Fund via cash last Sunday and would like to have those funds reported on your 2026 giving statement, please speak to Pastor Ceselsky today.

Please plan to join us at the Joint Reformation Service this year (November 1 at 3:30 PM at Broadneck EP Church – 235 Bay Dale Drive, Arnold MD). The speaker this year is Dr. Jonathan Master, President of Greeneville Theological Seminary. Please contact Pastor Ceselsky if you need a ride to this wonderful service.

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: Tomorrow (October 5) is Jeanne Williams' Birthday, Wednesday (October 7) is Jayne Kuegler's Birthday, and Friday (October 9) is John & Julie Ceselsky's Anniversary).

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Karen Wallace's friend, Donna Carroll, as she mourns the sudden loss of her son, Jeff. Please also pray for Jeff's wife, Sarah.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for Christine Clark's school community as they mourn the sudden loss of one of their teachers this past weekend.
3. Please continue to be in prayer for Ron & Lynda Gillis' son-in-law, Josh. Josh is currently deployed in the Middle East. Please pray for safety and that he would be able to safely return soon. Please pray as well for Josh's wife, Sarah, their two small children, and for Ron and Lynda as well.
4. 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.
5. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Beachmont Christian Ministries – Please pray for the volunteers and staff who are serving at this year's Corn Maze at Beachmont. Pray that the Gospel would go forth and that the light of Christ will be seen by all who attend.
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.

Coming Soon

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 (Please read the Book of Amos in preparation for the adult class.)
	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service with The Lord's Supper
Tuesday:	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Practice – Room 28
	7:00 PM	Men's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare Lesson #12 – Daniel 11:2-12:3 (pgs. 103-110))

Wednesday 10:30 AM Women's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16
(Please prepare The Parable of the Mustard Seed (pgs. 19-22))
6:00 PM Choir Practice – Rooms 26, 27
NEXT Sunday 9:30 AM Sunday School
Children: Rooms 16,17
Adults – Room 11
(Please read the Book of Obadiah in preparation for the adult class.)
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, Ken Schumann (President), and Rick Willis

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

Sermon Notes

Date: October 4, 2026

Text: 1 Samuel 18:1-5

Sermon Title: "Friends Are Friends Forever"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: We must lovingly unite ourselves to the Lord's Anointed.

Main Point 1: David and Jonathan.

Point 1: Jonathan's previous Standing. (1 Samuel 13,14)

Point 2: Jonathan's present Submission to David. (vv. 1,3,4)

Main Point 2: David and Saul.

Point 1: Saul Kept David. (v.2; 1 Samuel 8:11; 1 Samuel 14:52)

Point 2: Saul Promoted David. (v. 5a)

Main Point 3: David and the People. (v. 5b)