

# *The Lord's Day*

October 11, 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...*

*The distance between God and the creature is so great, that although reasonable creatures do owe obedience unto him as their Creator, yet they could never have any fruition of him, as their blessedness and reward, but by some voluntary condescension on God's part, which he hath been pleased to express by way of covenant.*

Westminster Confession of Faith, VII.1

Prelude

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Welsh Melody

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

*Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.*

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

RE Mark Werner

## **We praise our great God**

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Based on Isaiah 59,60

We hope for light, and behold, darkness, and for brightness, but we walk in gloom. We hope for justice, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far from us.

**The LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no justice.**

He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no one to intercede; then his own arm brought him salvation, and his righteousness upheld him.

**"And a Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who turn from transgression" declares the LORD.**

Arise, shine for you light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. And nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Invocation

Hymn No. 345

*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

Austrian Hymn

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode;  
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
Well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove:  
Who can faint, while such a river ever flows their thirst t'assuage?  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear  
For a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near:  
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,  
Safe they feed upon the manna which he gives them when they pray.

Savior, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,  
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name:  
Fading is the worldling's pleasure, all his boasted pomp and show;  
Solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know.

### We embrace Christ through His Word

Our Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism, Question 33

How was the covenant of grace administered under the Old Testament?

**The covenant of grace was administered under the Old Testament, by promises, prophecies, sacrifices, circumcision, the Passover, and other types and ordinances, which did all fore-signify Christ then to come, and were for that time sufficient to build up the elect in faith in the promised Messiah, by whom they then had full remission of sin, and eternal salvation.**

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalms 107:1-22

<sup>1</sup> Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

<sup>2</sup> **Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble**

<sup>3</sup> and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>4</sup> **Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in;**

<sup>5</sup> hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

<sup>6</sup> **Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.**

<sup>7</sup> He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

<sup>8</sup> **Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!**

<sup>9</sup> For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

<sup>10</sup> **Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, prisoners in affliction and in irons,**

<sup>11</sup> for they had rebelled against the words of God, and spurned the counsel of the Most High.

<sup>12</sup> **So he bowed their hearts down with hard labor; they fell down, with none to help.**

<sup>13</sup> Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

<sup>14</sup> **He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and burst their bonds apart.**

<sup>15</sup> Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!

<sup>16</sup> **For he shatters the doors of bronze and cuts in two the bars of iron.**

<sup>17</sup> Some were fools through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities suffered affliction;

<sup>18</sup> **they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death.**

<sup>19</sup> Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

<sup>20</sup> **He sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction.**

<sup>21</sup> Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!

<sup>22</sup> **And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!**

Our Assurance of Pardon (Responsive)

Hebrews 11:1,2,13-17

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

**For by it the people of old received their commendation...**

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

**For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.**

If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return.

**But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one.**

Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

Hymn No. 355

*We Are God's People*

Symphony

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,  
Born of his Spirit, established by his Word;  
Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in him we stand;  
O let us live transparently, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,  
For we have known it, the love of God out-poured;  
Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once giv'n;  
O let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleases heav'n.

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,  
Called to obey him, now risen from the dead;  
He wills us be a family, diverse yet truly one;  
O let us give our gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,  
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;  
We die alone for on its own each member loses fire;  
Yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to inspire.

**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

*Eternal Life*

Olive Dungan  
The Aisquith Choir

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

*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

Galatians 3:7-14

Pew Bible pg. 973

<sup>7</sup> Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. <sup>8</sup> And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, "In you shall all the nations be blessed." <sup>9</sup> So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

<sup>10</sup> For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." <sup>11</sup> Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." <sup>12</sup> But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." <sup>13</sup> Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—<sup>14</sup> so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Sermon

"The Story Telling God"

Pastor Bell

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

**We respond to God's Grace**

Hymn No. 546

*The Sands of Time Are Sinking*

Rutherford

The sands of time are sinking, the dawn of heav'en breaks,  
The summer morn I've sighed for, the fair sweet morn awakes;  
Dark, dark hath been the midnight, but dayspring is at hand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth in Emmanuel's land.

The King there in his beauty without a veil is seen;  
It were a well-spent journey though sev'n deaths lay between:  
The Lamb with his fair army doth on Mount Zion stand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth in Emmanuel's land.

O Christ, he is the fountain, the deep sweet well of love!  
The streams on earth I've tasted more deep I'll drink above:  
There to an ocean fullness his mercy doth expand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth in Emmanuel's land.

The bride eyes not her garment, but her dear bridegroom's face;  
I will not gaze at glory, but on my King of grace;  
Not at the crown he gifteth, but on his pierced hand:  
The Lamb is all the glory of Emmanuel's land.

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

Danish

Postlude

*The Lord's Prayer*

Alfred H. Malotte

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

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### **Announcements**

**We welcome** our Pastor Emeritus, Robert Bell as he brings God's Word to us this morning.

**Operation Christmas Child boxes** are available in the Narthex. All boxes need to be returned no later than Sunday, November 22.

**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:** Tuesday (October 13) is Raj Mohan's Birthday, and Wednesday (October 14) is Andrew & Shannon Bell's Anniversary).

### **Prayer Requests**

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Linda Karner (MTW – Japan) – Linda has asked that we pray for the mountainous region of Gifu which for centuries was closed to the gospel. Please pray that the gospel will go out with power and in the Holy Spirit. Pray also that Christians in Japan will be bold and winsome, encouraged in their faith, gathering around the Word of God and learning to accurately handle it.
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; Alice Orie, Robert Willis (Rick's brother), & 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.

### **Coming Soon**

Joint Reformation Service, Sunday, November 1 – 3:30 PM – Broadneck EP Church

**Weekly Calendar**

|             |          |                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TODAY:      | 9:30 AM  | Sunday School<br>Children: Rooms 16,17<br>Adults – Room 11<br>(Please read the Book of Obadiah in preparation for the adult class.) |
|             | 10:30 AM | Lord's Day Worship Service                                                                                                          |
| Tuesday:    | 5:30 PM  | Bell Choir Practice – Room 28                                                                                                       |
|             | 7:00 PM  | Session Meeting – John's Office                                                                                                     |
| Wednesday   | 10:30 AM | Women's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16<br>(Please prepare The Parable of the Leaven (pgs. 23-25))                                        |
|             | 6:00 PM  | Choir Practice – Rooms 26, 27                                                                                                       |
| NEXT Sunday | 9:30 AM  | Sunday School<br>Children: Rooms 16,17<br>Adults – Room 11<br>(Please read the Book of Jonah 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 11, 2026

Text: Galatians 3:7-14

Sermon Title: "The Story Telling God"

Delivered By: Pastor Robert Bell

*Presbyterians speak often of God's Covenant, and they believe that God has chosen to sovereignly administer this relationship of grace and promise (his Covenant) with man in order to display his glory.*

**The Bible is a story, told by God, about Jesus Christ, to you and me.**

- I. The truth that God is a Story-telling God is seen in the Continuity of the Covenant Story.
- II. The truth that God is a Story-telling God is seen in the Climax of the Covenant Story.
- III. The truth that God is a Story-telling God is seen in the Conclusion (or Consummation) of the Covenant Story.

**Conclusion:**

God's promise, which the Covenant Story unfolds for us, is nothing less than Jesus himself. He is the gift we receive as those whom God has chosen and for whom God is working his Story of Redemption.