

The Lord's Day

October 25, 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...

It well becomes us, however God has advanced us, always to have low thoughts of ourselves. ... And, if David thus magnified the honor of being son-in-law to the king, how shall we magnify the honor of being sons (not in law, but in gospel) to the King of kings!

Matthew Henry

Prelude

All The Way My Savior Leads Me

Richard Lowery

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 55:6-9

⁶ “Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷ let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Invocation

Hymn No. 128

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

Dundee

God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform;
He plants his footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines of never-failing skill
He treasures up his bright designs, and works his sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy, and shall break in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, but trust him for his grace
Behind a frowning providence he hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding ev'ry hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flow'r.

Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan his work in vain;
God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain.

We embrace Christ through His Word

We Confess our Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
Of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
Begotten of the Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
Very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
By whom all things were made;
Who for us and for our salvation
Came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
And was made man;
And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
And ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
Who spoke by the prophets;
And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
And we look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen.

We Confess Our Sin (Responsive)

Psalm 32

¹ Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

² **Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

³ For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

⁴ **For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

⁶ Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

⁷ You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

⁹ Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you.

¹⁰ Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

¹¹ Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

Individual Confession of Sin

Our Assurance of Grace

1 Peter 2:21-25

²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Our Future Hope (Responsive)

Revelation 19:6-8

⁶ Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out,

**“Hallelujah!
For the Lord our God
the Almighty reigns.
⁷ Let us rejoice and exult
and give him the glory,
for the marriage of the Lamb has come,
and his Bride has made herself ready;
⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself
with fine linen, bright and pure”**

Hymn

There Is A Higher Throne

Getty

There is a higher throne than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand, made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace; Salvation comes.

**Hear heaven's voices sing; Their thund'rous anthems ring
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies; Their praises rise.**

**All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength, thanks and honor are to God,
Our King who reigns on high forevermore.**

And there we'll find our home; Our life before the throne.
We'll honor Him in perfect song where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye as thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb become our Shepherd King; We'll reign with Him.

Chorus 2x

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

Missions Report

Chuy & Amy Acosta

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

How Sweet The Name of Jesus Sounds

John Newton
The Aisquith Choir

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear! It soothes my sorrows, heals my wounds and drives away my fear. It makes the wounded spirit whole, and calms the troubled breast; it satisfies the hungry soul and gives the weary rest. O dear name, the rock on which I build, my shield and my hiding place, my never failing treasury filled with boundless stores of grace, O my Jesus, Savior, Shepherd, Friend, my Prophet, Priest and King, my Lord, my life, my way, my end, accept the praise I bring. Weak is the effort of my heart and cold my warmest thought; but when I see You as You are, I'll praise You as I ought. Alleluia! Alleluia! In praise, I will lift my voice, I will lift my voice! Alleluia! Alleluia! Forever I will rejoice! Till then I would Your love proclaim with ev'ry fleeting breath; and may the music of Your name refresh my soul in life and death. Alleluia, amen.

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 18:17-30

Pew Bible pg. 241

¹⁷ Then Saul said to David, "Here is my elder daughter Merab. I will give her to you for a wife. Only be valiant for me and fight the Lord's battles." For Saul thought, "Let not my hand be against him, but let the hand of the Philistines be against him." ¹⁸ And David said to Saul, "Who am I, and who are my relatives, my father's clan in Israel, that I should be son-in-law to the king?" ¹⁹ But at the time when Merab, Saul's daughter, should have been given to David, she was given to Adriel the Meholathite for a wife.

²⁰ Now Saul's daughter Michal loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. ²¹ Saul thought, "Let me give her to him, that she may be a snare for him and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." Therefore Saul said to David a second time, "You shall now be my son-in-law." ²² And Saul commanded his servants, "Speak to David in private and say, 'Behold, the king has delight in you, and all his servants love you. Now then become the king's son-in-law.'" ²³ And Saul's servants spoke those words in the ears of David. And David said, "Does it seem to you a little thing to become the king's son-in-law, since I am a poor man and have no reputation?" ²⁴ And the servants of Saul told him, "Thus and so did David speak." ²⁵ Then Saul said, "Thus shall you say to David, 'The king desires no bride-price except a hundred foreskins of the Philistines, that he may be avenged of the king's enemies.'" Now Saul thought to make David fall by the hand of the Philistines. ²⁶ And when his servants told David these words, it pleased David well to be the king's son-in-law. Before the time had expired, ²⁷ David arose and went, along with his men, and killed two hundred of the Philistines. And David brought their foreskins, which were given in full number to the king, that he might become the king's son-in-law. And Saul gave him his daughter Michal for a wife. ²⁸ But when Saul saw and knew that the Lord was with David, and that Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him, ²⁹ Saul was even more afraid of David. So Saul was David's enemy continually.

³⁰ Then the commanders of the Philistines came out to battle, and as often as they came out David had more success than all the servants of Saul, so that his name was highly esteemed.

Sermon

"2 Weddings in Hope of 1 Funeral"

Pastor Ceselsky

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

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 108

Whate'er My God Ordains Is Right

Was Gott Tut

Whate'er my God ordains is right: his holy will abideth;
I will be still whate'er he doth, and follow where he guideth.
He is my God; though dark my road, he holds me that I shall not fall:
Wherefore to him I leave my all.

Whate'er my God ordains is right: he never will deceive me;
He leads me by the proper path; I know he will not leave me.
I take, content, what he hath sent; his hand can turn my griefs away,
And patiently I wait his day.

Whate'er my God ordains is right: though now this cup, in drinking,
May bitter seem to my faint heart, I take it, all unshrinking.
My God is true; each morn anew sweet comfort yet shall fill my heart,
And pain and sorrow shall depart.

Whate'er my God ordains is right: here shall my stand by taken;
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine, yet am I not forsaken.
My Father's care is round me there; he holds me that I shall not fall:
And so to him I leave it all.

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

Danish

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

Announcements

We welcome Chuy and Amy Acosta, missionaries in Camichines, Mexico as they worship with us today and give an update on their ministry.

An informational (informal) congregational meeting is hereby called for TODAY, to immediately follow the Lord's Day worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to update the congregation on our current financial standing and 2027 budget planning.

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

Nominations for the offices of Deacon and Elder may be made to Pastor Ceselsky or one of the members of the Session. You may also nominate someone that you believe would be a good addition to the Women's Care Ministry.

The Session would like to send Pastor Ceselsky to the 2027 General Assembly of the PCA (June 14-18). We are not in a position to put such an expense into the budget (just like this year), but if you would like to give for this important event, please make a donation through the pink envelopes in the pew and label them "GA" or "General Assembly." This year, we will need to raise \$2,000.00 as we had a surplus of over \$500.00 from this past year.

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

Timonium Presbyterian Church will be hosting a Reformation Service TODAY at 6 PM with refreshments to follow. Dr. Iain Duguid, Professor of Old Testament and Dean of Online Programs at Westminster Theological Seminary, and pastor at Christ Presbyterian Church in Glenside, Pennsylvania, will be the guest speaker. All are welcome!

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Tuesday (October 27) is Brenna Bell's Birthday, Wednesday (October 28) is Noe & Angela Andrade's Anniversary, Thursday (October 29) is Jacqueline Cade and Ken Schumann's Birthdays, and Next Sunday (November 1) is Riley Franklin's Birthday.

Prayer Requests

1. Please be in prayer for Mary Lou Wickham. Mary Lou fractured a vertebrae this past weekend and has been in significant pain. Please pray for a full and speedy recovery.
2. Please continue to be in prayer for Betty Jo Norris. Betty Jo has been in the hospital as they try to deal with excess fluid in her lungs, around her heart, and body causing breathing issues. She continues to do better, but she and Norm would certainly be blessed by our prayers.

3. 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.
4. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Chuy & Amy Acosta (Lenam – Camichines, Mexico) – Please pray for Chuy and Amy as they continue to travel throughout the United States visiting family and supporting churches.
5. 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.
6. 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:	9:30 AM	Sunday School Children: Rooms 16,17 Adults – Room 11 (Please read the Book of Micah in preparation for the adult class.)
	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service
	12:00 PM	Informational Congregational Meeting
Tuesday:	5:30 PM	Bell Choir Practice – Room 28
	7:00 PM	Men's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare Lesson #13 – Daniel 12:4-13 (pgs. 111-118))
Wednesday	10:30 AM	Women's Bible Study – Rooms 15-16 (Please prepare The Pearl of Great Price (pgs. 29-31))
	6:00 PM	Choir Practice – Rooms 26, 27
NEXT Sunday	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS	
	9:30 AM	Sunday School Children: Rooms 16,17 Adults – Room 11 (Please read the Book of Nahum in preparation for the adult class.)
	10:30 AM	Lord's Day Worship Service with The Lord's Supper
	3:30 PM	Joint Reformation Service – Broadneck EP Church

Coming Soon

Wednesday, November 25 – 7:00 PM – Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service
Saturday, November 28 – 1 PM – Movie & Fellowship Afternoon – *White Christmas*

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 25, 2026

Text: 1 Samuel 18:17-30

Sermon Title: "2 Weddings in Hope of 1 Funeral"

Delivered By: Pastor John Ceselsky

Proposition: The Lord always accomplishes His purposes.

Main Point 1: David and Merab.

Point 1: Saul's Plan. (v. 17)

Point 2: David's Hesitance. (v. 18)

Point 3: Merab's Marriage. (v. 19)

Main Point 2: David and Michal.

Point 1: Saul's Plan Revisited. (vv. 20-22)

Point 2: David's Hesitance Overcome. (vv. 23-26a)

Point 3: Michal's Marriage. (vv. 26b-27)

Main Point 3: David's Esteem.

Point 1: The Lord's Presence. (v. 28a)

Point 2: The Family's Love. (v. 28b)

Point 3: Saul's Fear and Hatred. (v. 29)

Point 4: The Philistines' Failure. (v. 30)