



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

December 26, 2021

Front Cover Artwork

Plaque with the Annunciation to the Shepherds, South Netherlandish, ca. 1165; Champlevé enamel, copper alloy, gilt, 4 1/4 x 4 5/16 x 3/16 in.; on view at The Met Fifth Avenue in Gallery 304. In the public domain.

“Related plaques from the same ensemble in this case, depicting other scenes from the life of Jesus, suggest that the group originally decorated a large altar or pulpit. Inscriptions in Latin identify...the angels announcing to the shepherds Jesus’ birth.”

From the Metropolitan Museum of Art, <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/464404>



Hershey Presbyterian Church (PCA) desires to be a welcoming, grace-filled, all-nations community of Jesus Christ in the Presbyterian tradition. We seek to love God and our neighbor as we make disciples of Jesus Christ who are learning to *worship God, proclaim Christ, and love others*.

Preparing to Worship God

Welcome

Welcome to Hershey PCA! We are glad to have you join with us in the worship of God through Jesus Christ, our Savior and King.

Thanks to all those who participate in making this worship service possible (worship service participants may include in alphabetical order): Ephraim Church (violin), Keith Dolon (sound), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Nathanel Marengo (clarinet), Kimberly Robinson (vocals), Lynn Ruhl (cello), Don Wood (vocals), and Nick Yingst (piano).

Today's Communion Servers are Andrew Bosworth and Joe Kearns.

A **Nursery** for children age infant through 4 years old is provided.

Prelude

Praising God

*Call to Worship

Matthew 1:23

*"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"*

Light Text = Read by Leader

Bold Text = Read by All

***Response of Praise:**

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth re - ceive her
 2. Joy to the earth! The Sav - ior reigns: let men their songs em -
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest the
 4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 ploy; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heav'n and na - ture sing,

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith: Westminster Larger Catechism Questions 41-42**

Q. 41. Why was our Mediator called Jesus?

A. Our Mediator was called Jesus, because he saves his people from their sins.

Q. 42. Why was our Mediator called Christ?

A. Our Mediator was called Christ, because he was anointed with the Holy Ghost above measure; and so set apart, and fully furnished with all authority and ability, to execute the offices of prophet, priest, and king of his church, in the estate both of his humiliation and exaltation.

***Doxology**

In this ascription of praise to God comes as a response to God's provision for us. Through it we call everyone in the created order to celebrate and praise our Provider God.

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow:
praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;
praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host:
praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.
A-men.

Facing Up to Our Sin before God

Reading of God's Standard

James 5:13-18

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

Confession of Sin

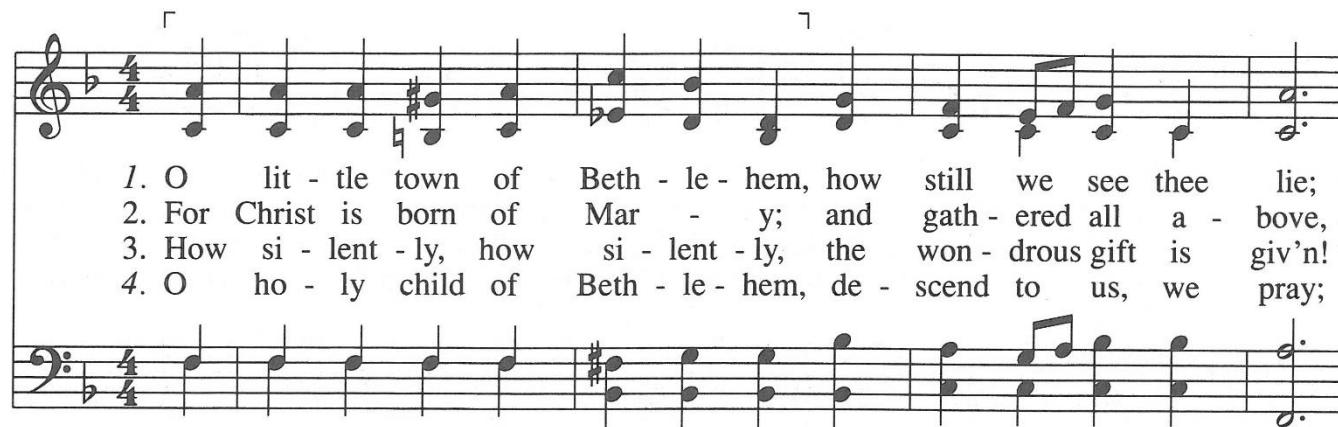
Assurances of Pardon in Christ

Acts 2:38-39

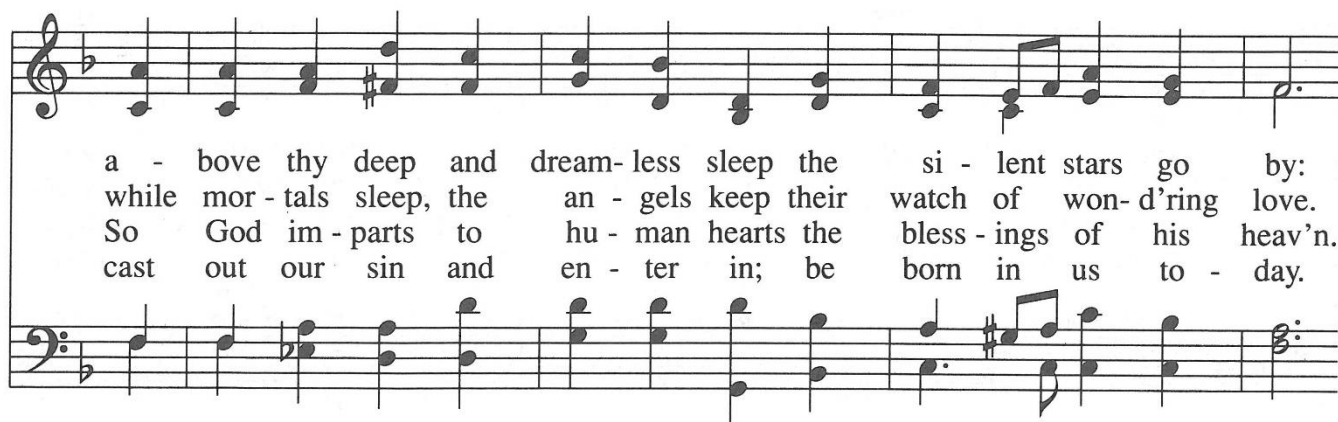
And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

***Song of Thanksgiving:**

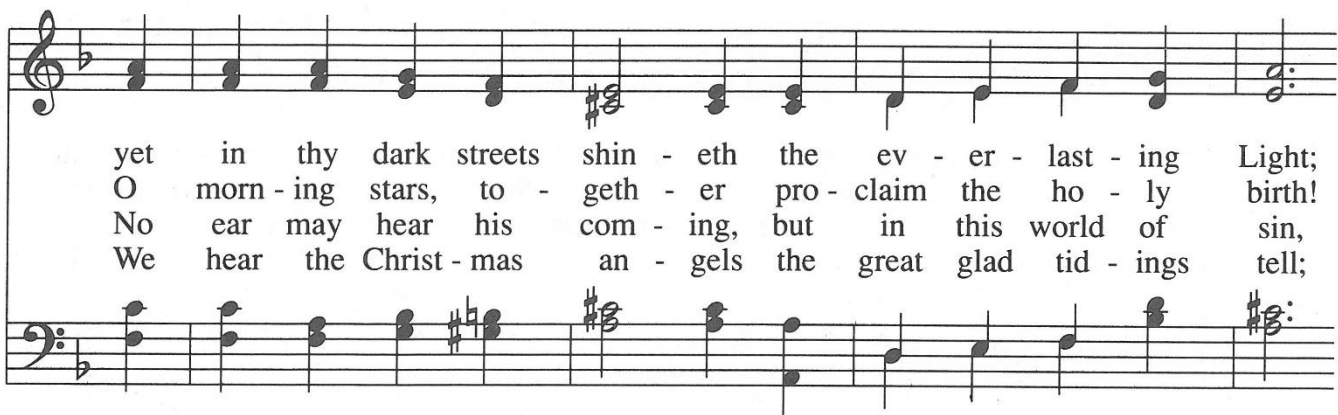
O Little Town of Bethlehem



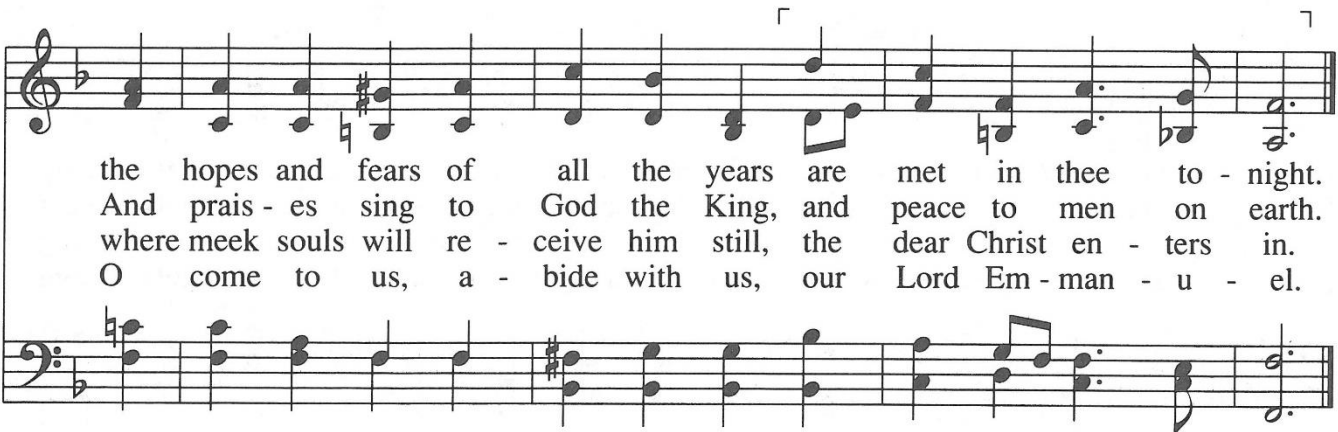
1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4. O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by:
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of December 26, 2021-January 1, 2022

Intercession for the World:

- **The Hershey Community** (to learn about local township news, subscribe to the Derry Township Weekly eNews at www.derrytownship.org/community/weekly-eneews)
Hershey Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief Patrick Leonard
- **Civil Government** (those in authority over us):
US Supreme Court Justices
- **Countries of Origin of our Church Members and Friends.** Did you come from a country different from the ones that we regularly pray for? Please let us know and we will add your country of origin to our list:
China
- **Unreached People Group** (includes 6,693 people groups or 40.4% of the world's people groups (approximately 3,109,034,000 persons). In these people groups, there are "few evangelicals and few who identify as Christians." There is "little, if any, history of Christianity" within the people group. See www.joshuaproject.net). "...pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matt. 9:38)
Balanta, Mane of Guinea-Bissau
Population: 30,000; Language: Balanta-Kentohe; Religion: Islam

Intercession for the Church (God's People):

- **Health issues:**
Ken
- **Those Who Serve in our Local Church** (our ordained officers and non-ordained ministry leaders):
Deacon Josh Franklin
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Member Church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery (PCA):
Hope Reformed Presbyterian Church, Shippensburg, PA
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:**
Anees and Fareda, serving in a sensitive area

The Lord's Prayer: Our time of intercession will close with this version of the Lord's Prayer in unison.

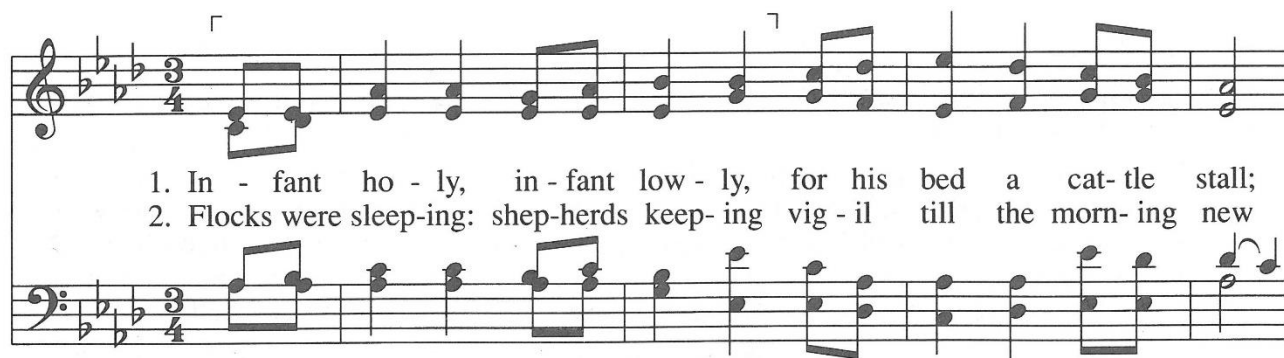
"Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

Our Tithes & Offerings

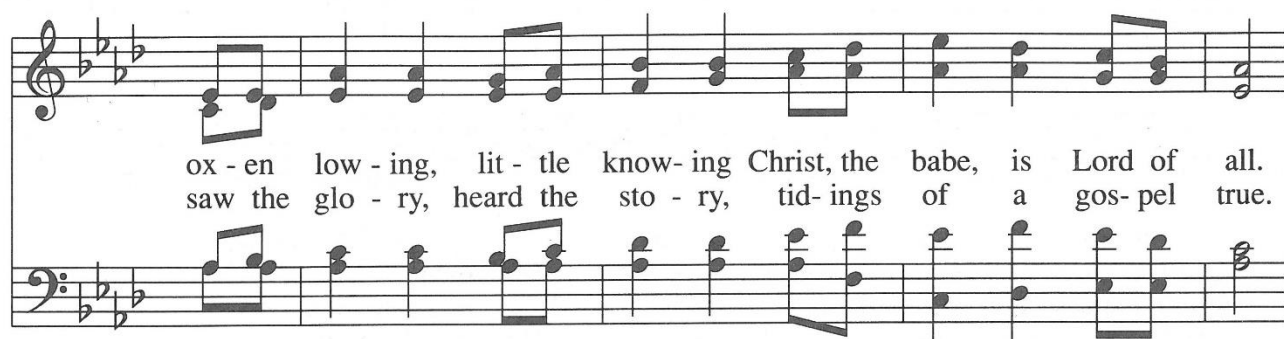
This is the time in our service when our tithes and offerings are presented to God as an act of our worship. You can drop your offering in the designated place. If you are worshipping with us online, you can present your tithes and offerings to God by mailing them to Hershey PCA, 1521 Sand Hill Road, Hummelstown, PA 17036, or by making an online donation through our website at hersheypca.com.

***Song of Preparation:**

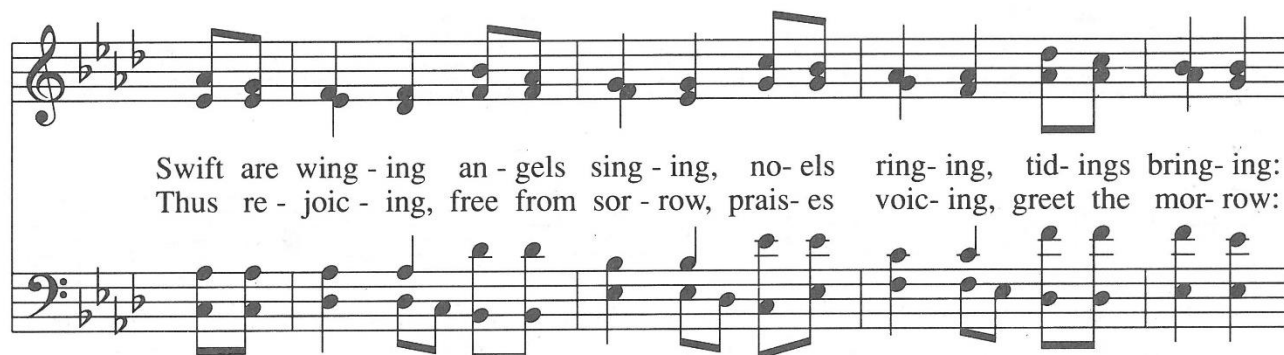
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



1. In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2. Flocks were sleep - ing: shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift are wing - ing an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

Polish carol
Paraphrased by Edith M. G. Reed, ca. 1925

W ZLOBIE LEZY 8.7.8.7.8.8.7.
Traditional Polish melody
Arr. in *The Kingsway Carol Book*

Listening to God's Word

***Prayer for Illumination**

In this prayer, we ask the Lord to open our eyes and hearts to his Word.

***Reading of Scripture:**

Luke 2:21-39

And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

*²⁹ "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;*

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

*³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."*

³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother,

"Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶ And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon:

Simeon and Anna's Lesson to Us

Today's Text: Luke 2:25-38

Pastor David Kertland

1. _____ *in* faith

2. _____ *by* faith

3. _____ *from* faith

Prayer of Application

The sermon concludes with a prayer asking the Lord to help us to be those who listen to his word and obey it.

"...be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." (James 1:22)

Receiving Provision from God

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation & Warning

Hershey Presbyterian Church (PCA) welcomes to receive the Holy Supper all baptized Christians who actively trust in Jesus Christ for salvation, who are willing to forsake their sin and obey Christ, and who are members in good standing of an evangelical church that proclaims the gospel or who have been approved by our Session after indicating a desire to participate (BCO 58-4). Children should await communicant membership before participating.

Let this table, and our communion together, point you to Jesus—to receive grace from him, to hold out your empty and faltering hands to him, to allow him to feed and strengthen you, and to remind you that, if you are in Christ, He is *for you* and *will help you* as you seek to follow him this week.

If you are not a believer in Jesus today, we are glad that you are here with us this morning! We do invite you to stay and observe this part of the service, which is a celebration of the Christian's union with the risen Jesus, but that you do not participate. As the bread and wine are received by the congregation, we invite you to cry out to Jesus and pray the following prayer (or one like it):

Prayer of Belief: "Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared to admit, but in Jesus I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you and rest on you alone for my salvation."

Have you prayed this prayer for the first time this morning? If so, let someone near you know! Also, feel free to talk with our pastor who can suggest ways for you to take next steps in the faith.

Words of Institution:

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

"[T]he Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said,

'This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying,

'This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

Prayer

Receiving of the Elements

About the elements: Our communion servers will be handing out the elements, which is in a chalice-style cup having the grape juice or wine on one side and the bread on the other. Be sure to note that **only the grape juice** has **gluten-free bread** and is marked with "**gluten-free**" on the seal.

As a server comes to you, please indicate your preference of either: Grape juice with the *gluten-free* bread or the wine with bread/wafer (has gluten).

Prayer

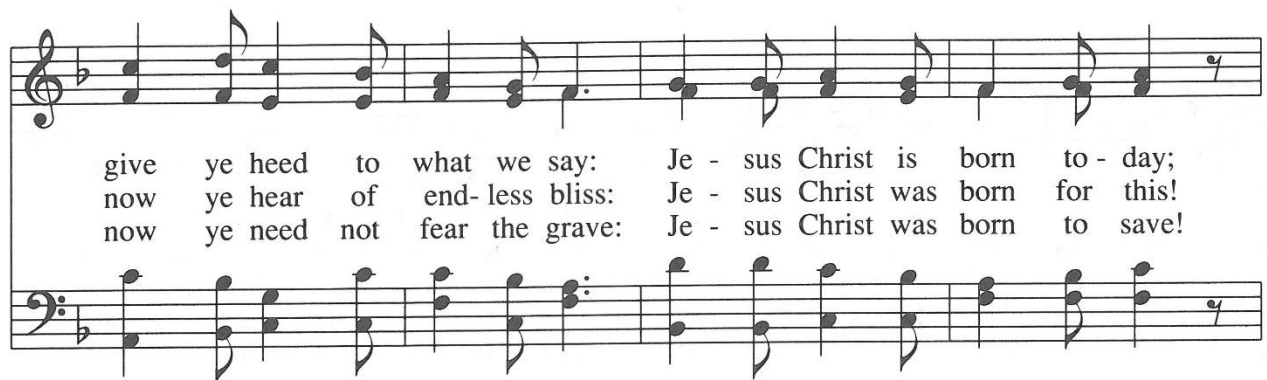
Confessing Our Faith in God

***Song of Dedication and Service:**

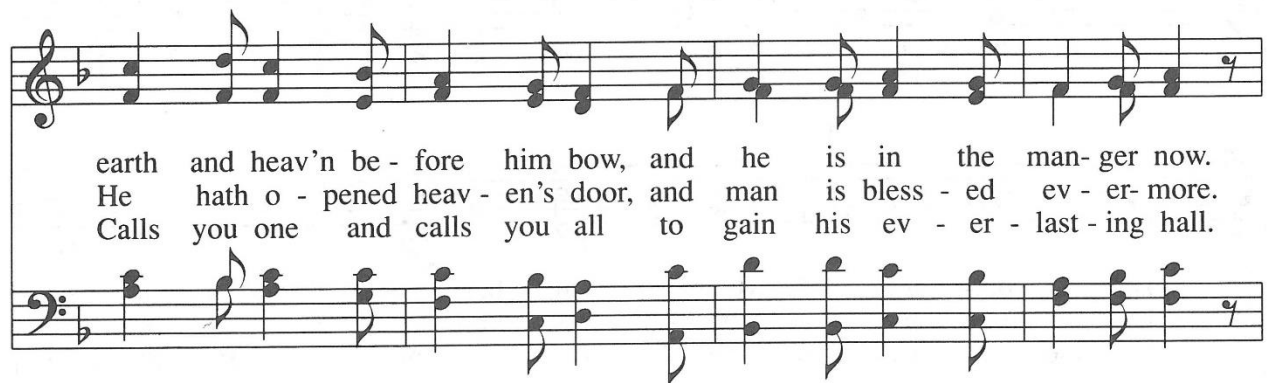
Good Christian Men Rejoice



1. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and voice;
2. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and voice;
3. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice, with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



earth and heav'n be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He hath o - pened heav - en's door, and man is bless - ed ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Receiving God's Blessing

***Benediction:**

2 Corinthians 13:14

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.*

Postlude

**We are glad that you have joined us for worship today
either in person or by livestream.**

If you are new to Hershey PCA, feel free to reach out to Pastor Kertland at pastor@hersheypca.com. We would love to personally welcome you.

Today's Service Information

- 1) **Artwork:** Front Cover: *Plaque with the Annunciation to the Shepherds*, South Netherlandish, ca. 1165; Champlevé enamel, copper alloy, gilt, 4 1/4 x 4 5/16 x 3/16 in.; on view at The Met Fifth Avenue in Gallery 304. In the public domain.
- 2) **Music:** "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come" (195), "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (201), "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" (216), and "Good Christian Men Rejoice" (207) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes:** Page 6: Confession of sin from <http://waysidechurch.org/ministries/corporate-prayers-of-confession>. Biblical quotes are from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise noted. Various quotes describing worship elements are from: *Leading in Prayer: A Workbook for Ministers* (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1995).
- 4) The **"Invitation to the Lord's Supper"** and the communion page information was, in part, modified from the practice of Redeemer PCA in NYC (2008) and Westminster PCA in Lancaster. PA (2015).

Hershey Presbyterian Church (PCA)

is a member congregation of the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery
of the Presbyterian Church in America (www.pcanet.org).



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