



May 7, 2023

#### **Front Cover Artwork**

Henry Ward Ranger (1858-1916), American. *Spring Woods*, ca. 1895-1900. Oil on canvas, 28.25 x 36 in. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. On view at The Met Fifth Avenue in Gallery 774. A Gift of George A. Hearn, 1906. Accession Number: 06.1293. In the public domain. https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/11853.

The landscape painter **Henry Ward Ranger** was born in 1858 in Syracuse, New York. The son of a commercial photographer, he attended Syracuse University from 1873 to 1875. Self-taught and with little or no formal instruction, he began to paint watercolors. Ranger opened a New York City studio in the mid-1870s and exhibited at the American Watercolor Society in 1881.

...Ranger returned to the United States in 1888, and settled in New York City. He began to exhibit at the National Academy of Design in 1887, and the Society of American Artists in 1890. In the summer of 1899 Ranger became one of the founders of the late Barbizon art colony at Old Lyme, Connecticut, that centered around the Florence Griswold house. He was elected an associate member of the National Academy of Design in 1901 and became a full academician in 1906.

...After his return from Europe, Ranger devoted his career to depicting the New England landscape in the conventional, naturalistic Barbizon manner. He specialized in depicting wooded forest interiors, usually verdant spring or golden autumn scenes, in which glimmering light filtered through the treetops. Occasionally he deviated from his Barbizon and Hague School predecessors by conceding to the Impressionist influence and using bright colors. A conservative who valued traditional methods, technical ability, and craftsmanship, his technique was noteworthy for its rich color harmonies, thickly applied and richly textured paint. Around the turn of the century he was influenced by the autumnal colors, soft forms, and poetic mood of George Inness's late landscapes. Although he never accepted pupils, Ranger was an influential figure who by 1906 was the acknowledged leader of the late Tonalist movement, and his autobiographical Art-Talks with Ranger (1914) became the movement's official statement of aesthetic purpose. He died in New York City in 1916.

Edited from https://www.nga.gov/collection/artist-info.1817.html



**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.

**Thank you** to all those who participate in making this worship service possible (worship service participants may include in alphabetical order): Crystal Basom (vocals), Ephraim Church (violin), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Mark Linstedt (usher and vocals), Nathanael Marengo (sound), Jared Salyards (piano), Don Wood (vocals), Nick Yingst (leading worship), and Anees Zaka (preaching).

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

#### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome Anees Zaka!**

Today we welcome PCA Teaching Elder and supported missionary Anees Zaka to our pulpit. Anees's ministry focuses on the "other sheep of John 10:14-16." The ministry includes evangelism, teaching, preaching, discipleship, and church planting.

# **Praising God**

# \*Call to Worship:

Psalm 117

Praise the LORD, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

<sup>2</sup> For great is his steadfast love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Praise the LORD!

Light Text = Read by Leader **Bold Text = Read by All** 



\*Prayer of Adoration & Invocation

### \*Confession of Faith:

# The Apostles' Creed

We confess our faith together using the Apostles' Creed. It is an ancient summary of what the Bible teaches about God, our need of a sufficient Savior, and our dependence on the work of God's Spirit.

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

### \*Gloria Patri

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost: as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end.

A-men, a-men.

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;'Catholic' here means universal; that is, there is one church across all times, places, and peoples."

It is confessed in recognition of the believing church throughout the world; it is not a reference to what is today called the *Roman Catholic Church*.

# Facing Up to Our Sin before God

## **Reading of God's Standard**

**Deuteronomy 5:6, 12-14** 

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. <sup>13</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>14</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you.

#### On the Fourth Commandment from our Shorter Catechism, Q&A 58-59:

**What is required in the fourth commandment?** The fourth commandment requires the keeping holy to God such set times as he hath appointed in his Word; expressly one whole day in seven, to be a holy Sabbath to himself.

Which day of the seven hath God appointed to be the weekly Sabbath? From the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, God appointed the seventh day of the week to be the weekly Sabbath; and the first day of the week ever since, to continue to the end of the world, which is the Christian Sabbath.

For additional Q&As see https://www.pcaac.org/bco/westminster-confession/

## **Confession of Sin**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

## **Hebrews 4:14-16**

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

# Offering Our Prayers to God

## Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of May 7-13, 2023

### **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-enews)

#### Hershey Area Retirement Communities

• **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:

#### Canada

• **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)

#### **Bania Porwal of India**

Population: 391,000; Language: Hindi; Religion: Hinduism

# Intercession for the Church (God's People):

- Health issues: Peter
- Those Who Serve in our Local Church (ordained officers and non-ordained ministry leaders):
   Pastor David Kertland
- Our Denomination (PCA): Member Church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery:

  Manor Presbyterian Church, Cochranville, PA
- Supported Missionary or Organizations:
   Anees and Fareda Zaka, serving in a sensitive area

# **The Lord's Prayer:** We 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.

# Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings Offertory

# \*Song of Preparation:

## **Christ for the World We Sing**



# 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:

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

<sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

<sup>3</sup> A voice cries:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup> A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass,

and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

<sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades

when the breath of the LORD blows on it;

surely the people are grass.

<sup>8</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades,

but the word of our God will stand forever.

<sup>9</sup> Go on up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Behold your God!"
<sup>10</sup> Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
<sup>11</sup> He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and qently lead those that are with young.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

\*Congregation: Thanks be to God!

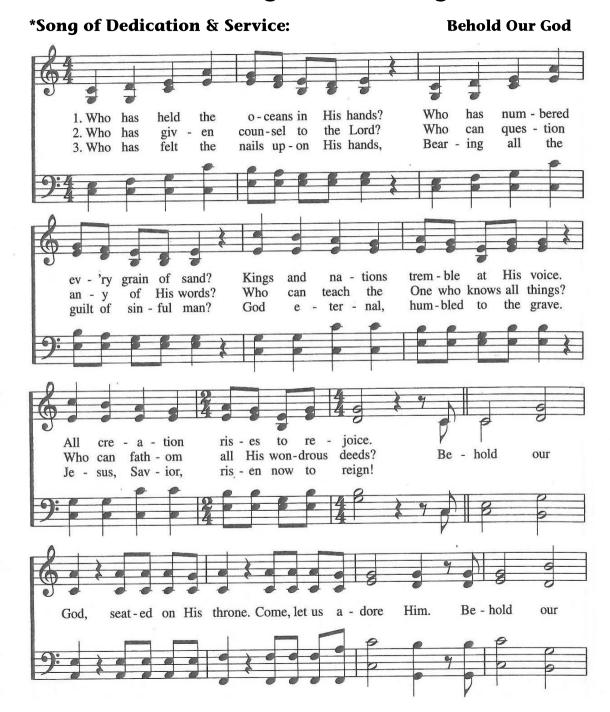
**Sermon:** Your God Comforts His People

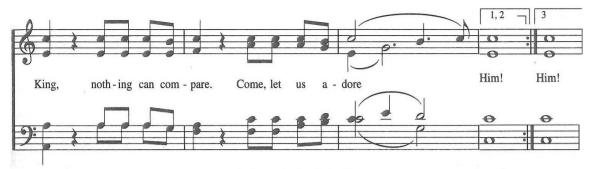
Today's Text: Isaiah 40:1-11 Anees Zaka

# **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 God's Blessing**





Words and Music: Ryan Baird, Jonathan Baird, Meghan Baird and Stephen Altrogge

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# 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

**To our guests this morning:** We are very glad that you have joined us for worship today. We hope you can stay a little while for conversation with our pastor and other Hershey PCA members and friends.

**After the service, greet someone that you don't know.** If you see someone sitting or standing alone, welcome them in the name of Christ! The time after worship is a great time for mutual, one-another ministry in Christ, feel free to sit down with someone for conversation or prayer.

<sup>\*</sup> Congregation standing

### **Today's Service Information**

- Artwork: Front Cover: Henry Ward Ranger (1858-1916), American. Spring Woods, ca. 1895-1900. Oil on canvas, 28.25 x 36 in. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. On view at The Met Fifth Avenue in Gallery 774. A Gift of George A. Hearn, 1906. Accession Number: 06.1293. In the public domain. https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/11853.
- 2) Music: "We Gather Together" (363) and "Christ for the World We Sing" (447) are reprinted from The Trinity Hymnal (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). "Behold Our God" (126) is reprinted from Hymns of Grace (Los Angeles, CA: The Master's Seminary Press, 2015). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes:** Page 2: from https://www.nga.gov/collection/artist-info.1817.html. 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).



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



The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), was formed in 1973 to be a denomination that is "Faithful to the Scriptures, True to the Reformed Faith, and Obedient to the Great Commission." Various organizations of the PCA include:



**Mission to the World** (www.mtw.org): international missions in keeping with the Great Commission



**Mission to North America** (www.pcamna.org): North American missions in keeping with the Great Commission.



#### **Committee on Discipleship Ministries**

(www.pcacdm.org, www.cepbookstore.com, www.gcp.org): Curriculum and other resources to assist leaders in the local church as they make disciples (Matthew 28:19) among children, youth, and adults in the congregation.



### **Covenant College** (www.covenant.edu):

our denominational college on Lookout Mountain, Ga (overlooking Chattanooga, TN)



### **Covenant Theological Seminary**

(<u>www.covenantseminary.edu</u>): our denominational seminary in St. Louis, MO.



**Reformed Universities Ministries** (www.ruf.org): the PCA college campus ministry



#### Ridge Haven Camp, Conference Center, Retreat Center, and Residential Community

(<u>www.ridgehaven.org</u>): providing camps, retreats, conferences, and etc.



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



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