



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

September 17, 2023

Front Cover Artwork

Barbara Kenworthy Kearns, Meditation: *Light Dispels the Darkness*. 2023. Watercolor with gold leaf on paper. 4 inches × 5 inches. Used by permission of the artist.

On the artist: Barb is an artist and member of Hershey PCA. To view her recent work, you can find her on Facebook at Barbara Kenworthy Kearns. Thank you to Barb for graciously allowing us to use this meditation on our worship booklet this month!



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): Ephraim Church (violin), Laura Church (vocals), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (leading worship), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (clarinet), Chris Peter (preaching), Brad Weaver (sound), Don Wood (vocals), and Nick Yingst (piano).

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

Today's Communion Servers are Ephraim Church and Keith Dolon.

Prelude

Public Reception of New Members: Today we publicly receive new members Les and Ruth Adams, Jo Albrite, and Jeff and Brenda Barnhart.

Guest Preacher: We welcome supported missionary Chris Peter to the pulpit this morning. Chris serves with Reformed University Fellowship, our denomination's college campus ministry, at Millersville University. Chris is married to Kelsey; they have a young daughter named Elliana.

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 124:8

*Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.*

*Response of Praise:

Let All Things Now Living

Capo 3: 1 F(D) Gm(Em) C(A) 7

1. Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing
2. His law he en - forc - es: the stars in their cours - es,

F(D) Bb(G) F(D) C7(A7) F(D)

to the God the Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
the sun in its or - bit, o - be - dient - ly shine;

Gm(Em) C(A)

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us,
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains,

F(D) Bb(G) F(D) C7(A7) F(D)

who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
the deeps of the o - cean pro - claim him di - vine.

His ban - ners are o'er us, his light goes be - fore us,
 We too should be voic - ing our love and re - joic - ing,

a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
 with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise,

'til shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished,
 'til all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing

as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
 to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith:**

The Nicene Creed

We confess our common faith today with the Nicene Creed, a summary of the Bible's teaching about God, our need of a sufficient Savior, and our dependence on the work of the Spirit. From the Trinity Hymnal: "The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicea (325), and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon (451). It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ."

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 his 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.

* "'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*.

***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**

Reading of God's Standard

Ephesians 4:28

Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 4:32

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of September 17-23, 2023

Intercession *for the World*:

- **The Hershey Community:** Life Lion Emergency Medical Services and Critical Care
- **Civil Government:** Derry Township PA State Representative Thomas Mehaffie
- **Countries of Origin of Our Church Members and Friends:** India
- **Unreached People Group:** Baonuo of China
Population: 33,000; Language: Bunu, Bu-Nao; Religion: ethnic religions

Unreached people group list 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)

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

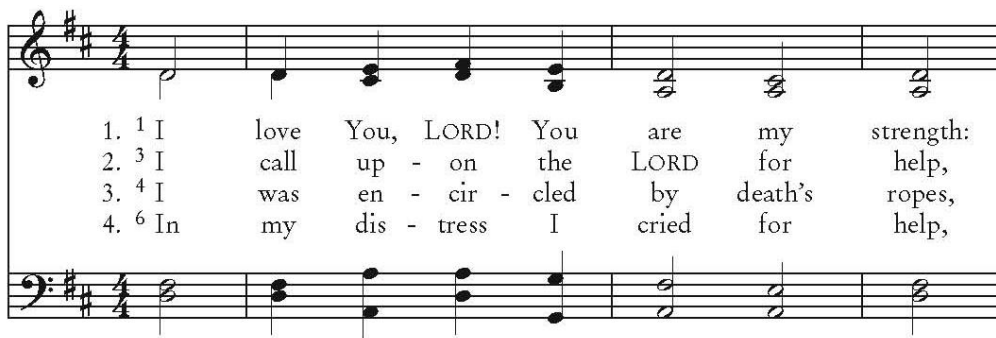
- **Health issues:** Catherine S.
- **Those Who Serve in Our Local Church:** Deacon Keith Dolon
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Bellefonte Presbyterian Church, Bellefonte, PA (Church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery)
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Covenant Theological Seminary

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.

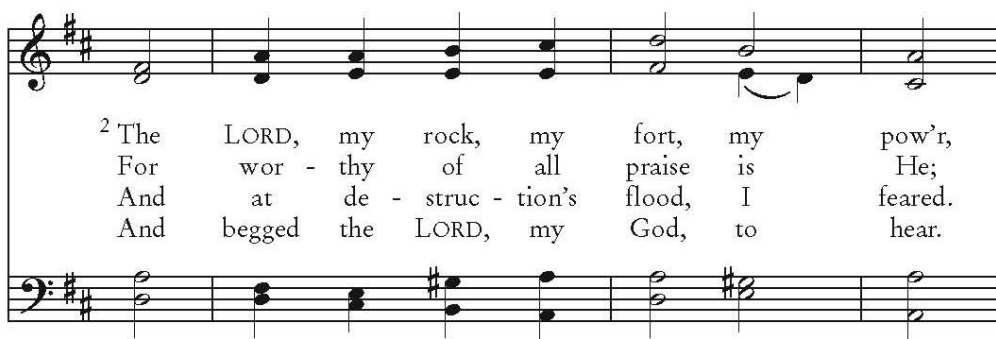
Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

Song of Preparation:*I Love You, Lord (Psalm 18:1-6)**

1. ¹ I love You, LORD! You are my strength:
2. ³ I call up - on the LORD for help,
3. ⁴ I was en - cir - cled by death's ropes,
4. ⁶ In my dis - tress I cried for help,

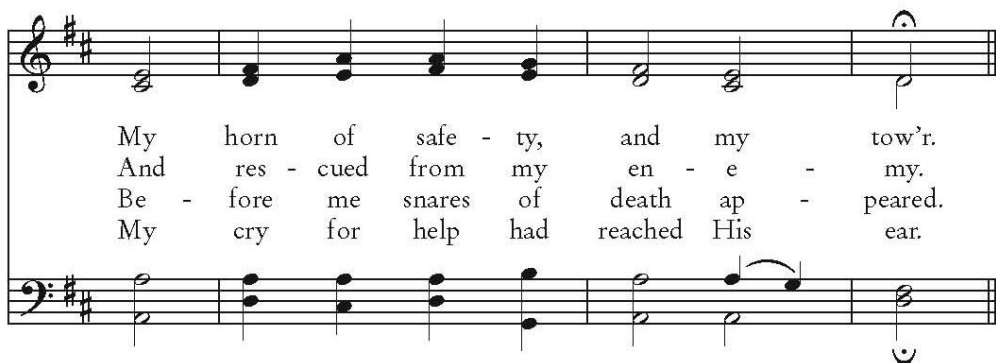
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² The LORD, my rock, my fort, my pow'r,
For wor - thy of all praise is He;
And at de - struc - tion's flood, I feared.
And begged the LORD, my God, to hear.



My God, my hid - ing place, my shield,
And in this way I will be saved
⁵ The ropes of She - ol wrapped a - round;
He from His tem - ple heard my voice;



My horn of safe - ty, and my tow'r.
And res - cued from my en - e - my.
Be - fore me snares of death ap - peared.
My cry for help had reached His ear.

Lowell Mason, 1830

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:

Acts 1:6-11

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." ⁹ And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

***Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon:

Resurrection Restoration

Today's Text: Acts 1:6-11

Chris Peter

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 hold out your empty and faltering hands to him, to receive grace from 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 invite you to stay and observe this part of the service, but ask that you do not participate. It is a celebration of the Christian's union with the risen Jesus. 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.'

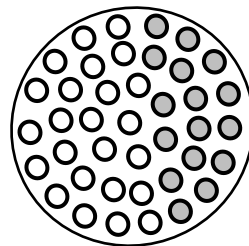
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

Prayer

Receiving of the Elements

About the elements: Our communion servers will be handing out the elements, which are in two stacked communion cups. The top cups have the juice or wine, and the bottom cups all have gluten-free bread. As a server comes to you, please take a cup of your preference. The clear cups are filled with grape juice; the purple-tinted cups are filled with wine.

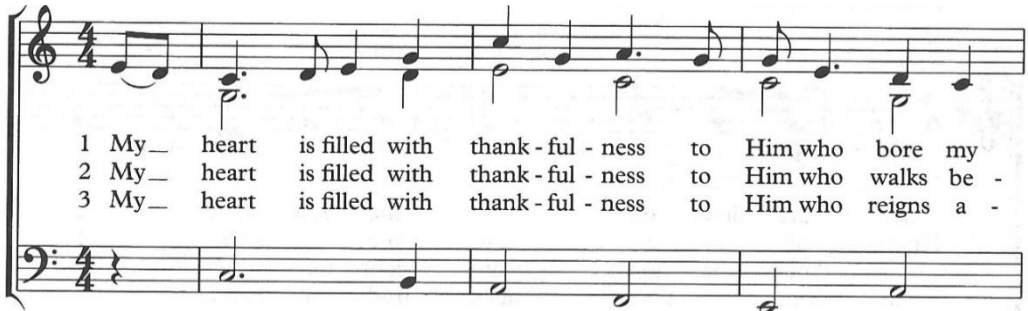
Prayer



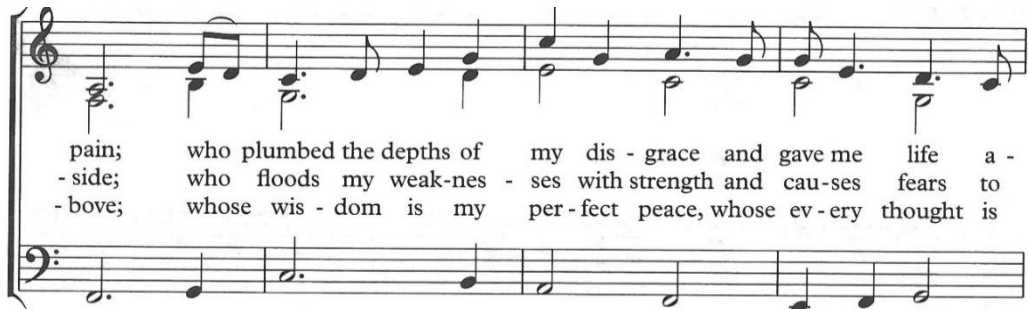
white circles = grape juice
gray circles = wine

Receiving God's Blessing

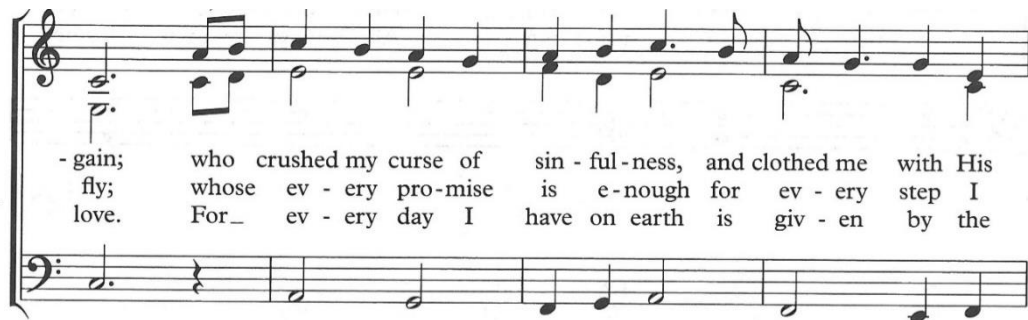
***Song of Dedication & Service: My Heart is filled with Thankfulness**



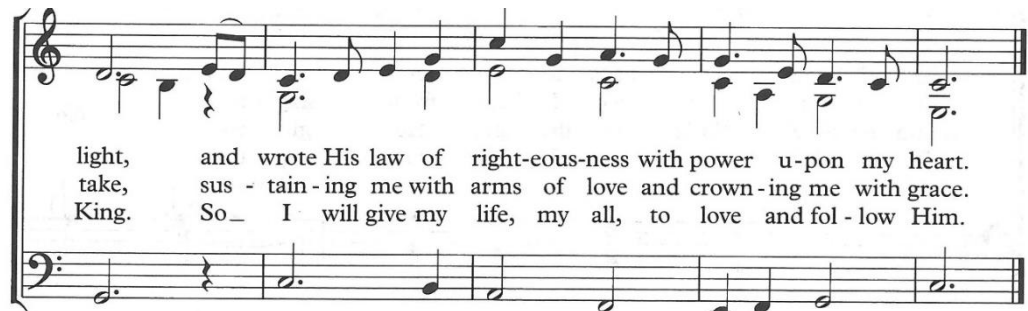
1 My_ heart is filled with thank - ful - ness to Him who bore my
 2 My_ heart is filled with thank - ful - ness to Him who walks be -
 3 My_ heart is filled with thank - ful - ness to Him who reigns a -



pain; who plumbed the depths of my dis - grace and gave me life a -
 - side; who floods my weak-nes - ses with strength and cau-ses fears to
 - bove; whose wis - dom is my per - fect peace, whose ev - ery thought is



- gain; who crushed my curse of sin - ful - ness, and clothed me with His
 fly; whose ev - ery pro-mise is e - nough for ev - ery step I
 love. For_ ev - ery day I have on earth is giv - en by the



light, and wrote His law of right-eous-ness with power u-upon my heart.
 take, sus - tain - ing me with arms of love and crown - ing me with grace.
 King. So_ I will give my life, my all, to love and fol - low Him.

Words and music: Stuart Townend
and Keith Getty

Words and music: © 2003 Thankyou Music, administered by kingswaysongs.com
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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 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.

* Congregation standing

Today's Service Information

- 1) **Artwork:** Front Cover: Barbara Kenworthy Kearns, Meditation: *Light Dispels the Darkness*. 2023. Watercolor with gold leaf on paper. 4 inches x 5 inches. Image provided by the artist. Used by permission.
- 2) **Music:** "Let All Things Now Living" (125) is reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). "I Love You, Lord" (18A) is reprinted from *The Book of Psalms for Worship* (Crown & Covenant Publications, Pittsburgh, PA, 2010). "My Heart is filled with Thankfulness" (1209) is reprinted from *Mission Praise* (Collins, London, England, 2014). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes: Page 2** provided by the artist. Various quotes describing worship elements are from: *Leading in Prayer: A Workbook for Ministers* (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1995). Biblical quotes are from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise noted.
- 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

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

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.



DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

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

Covenant College (www.covenant.edu):

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



Covenant Theological Seminary

(www.covenantseminary.edu): our denominational seminary in St. Louis, MO.



PCA Administrative Committee (www.pcaac.org): promotes the unity, purity, and mission of the PCA.



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



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

(www.ridgehaven.org): providing camps, retreats, conferences, and etc.



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