



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

September 24, 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): Crystal Basom (vocals), Ephraim Church (violin), Keith Dolon (sound), Paul Hepperle (preaching), David Kertland (leading worship), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Grace Salyards (French horn), Jared Salyards (piano), and Don Wood (vocals).

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

Today's Communion Servers are Dave Eakin and Nick Yingst.

Prelude

Reception of New Members:

Today we publicly welcome Paul and Yaasha Hepperle (Keziah and Mathias) as new members. They have joined by transfer from New Life in Christ Church (PCA) in Fredericksburg, VA.

Membership Vows for Joining Hershey PCA

To join Hershey PCA, communing members have taken the following vows (from *The Book of Church Order of the PCA*, 57-5) after attending the *Introduction to Hershey PCA Class* or the *Communicants Class* and giving a credible profession of faith in Jesus Christ to our Session:

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners, in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

If you are interested in pursuing membership at Hershey PCA, please talk to Pastor Kertland or one of our Ruling Elders (see back page).

Commissioning of Greg Moore: Greg will be traveling to Africa to participate in a Vision Trip with Mission to the World, Mission Board of the PCA.

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 125:1-2

*Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.*

*² As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
**so the LORD surrounds his people,
from this time forth and forevermore.***

Light Text = Read by Leader

Bold Text = Read by All

***Response of Praise:**

How Great Thou Art

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some words in bold to indicate they should be read by all. The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, key signatures, time signatures, and notes with stems.

1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der
2. When thro' the woods and for - est glades I wan - der
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing,
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion

con - sid - er all the worlds thy hands have made,
and hear the birds sing sweet - ly in the trees,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!

I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing thun - der,
when I look down from loft - y moun - tain gran - deur,
that on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly bear - ing,
Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion,

thy pow'r thro' - out the u - ni - verse dis - played.
and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
he bled and died to take a - way my sin.
and there pro - claim, my God, how great thou art.

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee:

how great thou art, how great thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee:

how great thou art, how great thou art!

O STORE GUD 11.10.11.10.ref.
Swedish folk melody
Arr. by Stuart K. Hine, 1949

Stuart K. Hine, 1949; alt.

The author's original words for "worlds" and "rolling" in st. 1 are "works" and "mighty."
Text and tune © 1953, renewed 1981, Manna Music, Inc. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith:**

Philippians 2:5-11

Leader:

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

Congregation:

**who, though he was in the form of God,
did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,
but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,
being born in the likeness of men.**

**And being found in human form,
he humbled himself by becoming obedient
to the point of death,
even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God has highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

***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

Romans 13:1-10

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.² Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval,⁴ for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.⁵ Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience.⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing.⁷ Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 5:8

...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of September 24-30, 2023

Intercession *for the World*:

- **The Hershey Community:** Ronald McDonald House in Hershey
- **Civil Government:** PA State Senator John DiSanto
- **Countries of Origin of Our Church Members and Friends:** Japan
- **Unreached People Group:** Baori of India
Population: 460,000; Language: Hindi; Religion: Hinduism

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:** Elmer C.
- **Those Who Serve in Our Local Church:** Deacon Brad Weaver
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Carlisle Reformed Presbyterian Church, Carlisle, PA
(Church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery)
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Lebanon Valley Presbyterian Church
(Susquehanna Valley Presbytery Church Plant)

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.

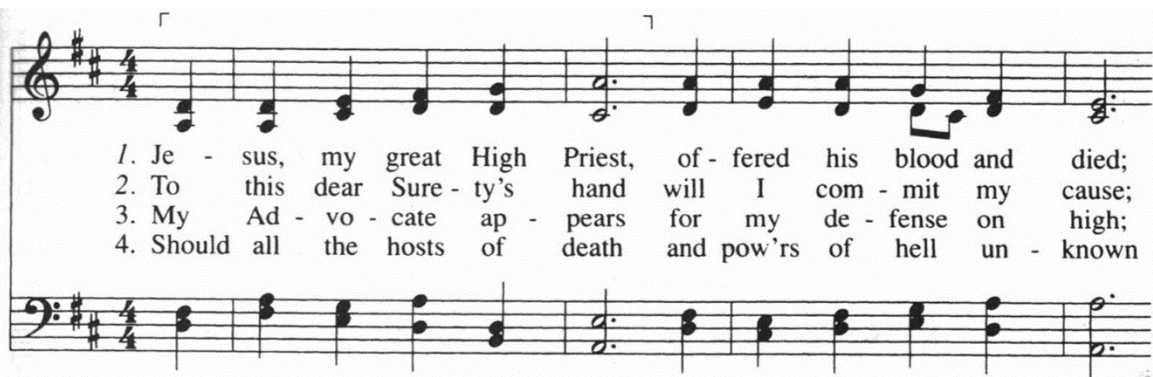
Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory: "Jesus Is All the World to Me"

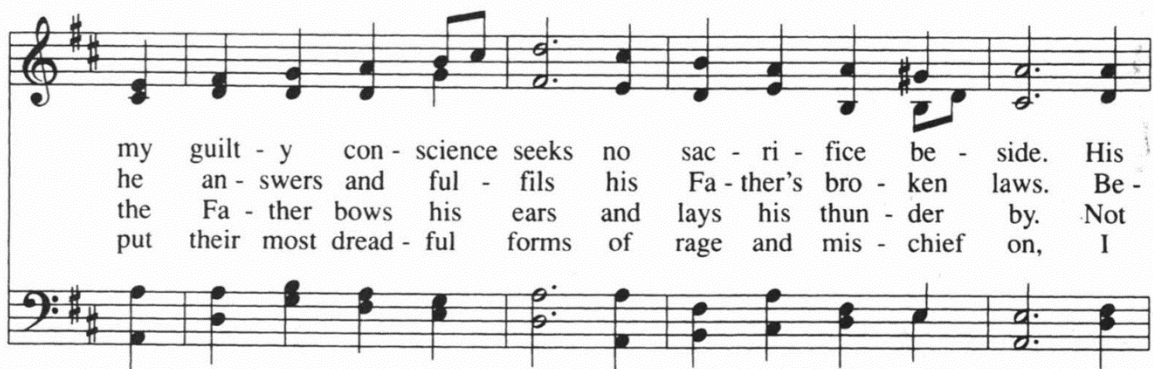
Jared and Grace Salyards
arr. Paul S. Jones

*Song of Preparation:

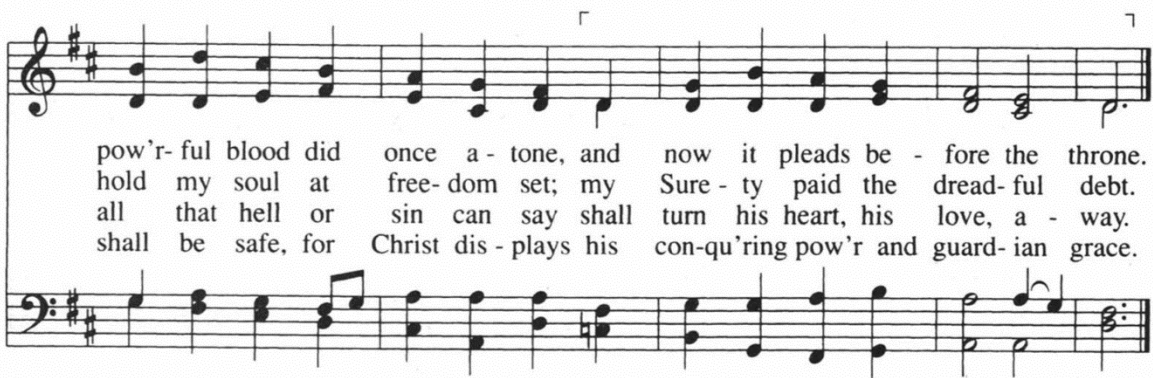
Jesus, My Great High Priest



1. Je - sus, my great High Priest, of - fered his blood and died;
 2. To this dear Sure - ty's hand will I com - mit my cause;
 3. My Ad - vo - cate ap - pears for my de - fense on high;
 4. Should all the hosts of death and pow'rs of hell un - known



my guilt - y con - science seeks no sac - ri - fice be - side. His
 he an - swers and ful - fills his Fa - ther's bro - ken laws. Be -
 the Fa - ther bows his ears and lays his thun - der by. Not
 put their most dread - ful forms of rage and mis - chief on, I



pow'r - ful blood did once a - tone, and now it pleads be - fore the throne.
 hold my soul at free - dom set; my Sure - ty paid the dread - ful debt.
 all that hell or sin can say shall turn his heart, his love, a - way.
 shall be safe, for Christ dis - plays his con - qu'ring pow'r and guard - ian grace.

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:

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 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. 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.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon:

Grace Enthroned

Today's Text: Hebrews 4:16
Paul Hepperle

1. The Great High Priest _____
2. Here is a _____
3. Here is _____

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.'

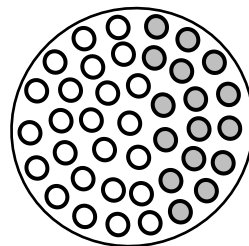
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

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



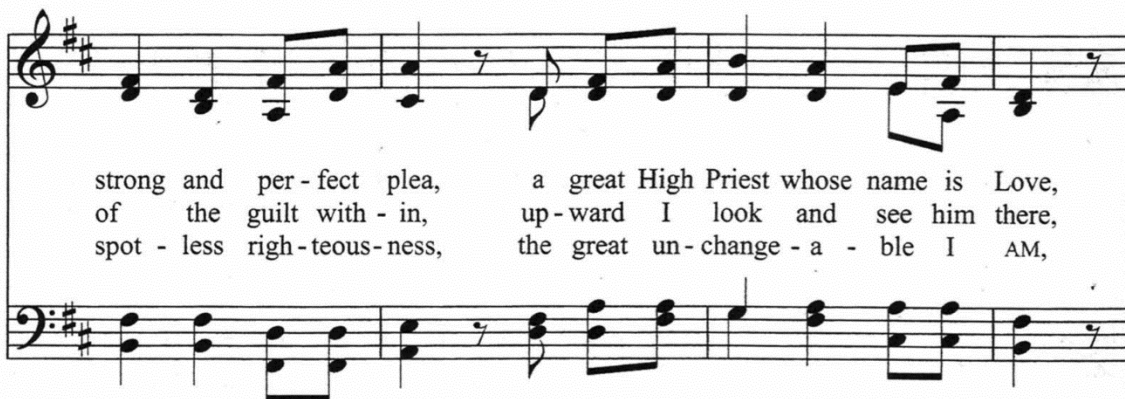
white circles = grape juice
gray circles = wine

Receiving God's Blessing

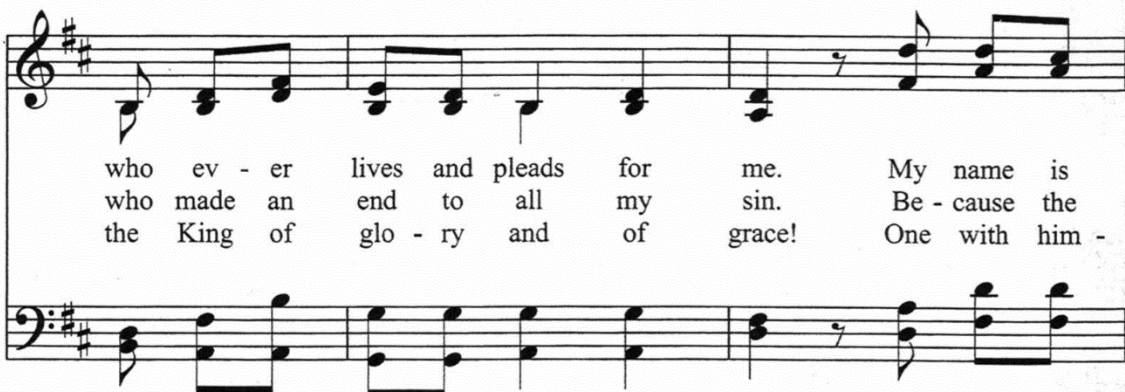
***Song of Dedication & Service: Before the Throne of God Above**



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove, I have a
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair and tells me
3. Be - hold him there, the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect,



strong and per - fect plea, a great High Priest whose name is Love,
of the guilt with - in, up - ward I look and see him there,
spot - less righ - teous - ness, the great un - change - a - ble I AM,



who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is
who made an end to all my sin. Be - cause the
the King of glo - ry and of grace! One with him -

grav - en on his hands, my name is writ - ten on his
 sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed
 self I can - not die. My soul is pur - chased by his

heart. I know that while in heav'n he stands, no tongue can
 free; for God, the just, is sat - is - fied to look on
 blood! My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my

bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
 him and par - don me, to look on him and par - don me.
 Sa - vior and my God, with Christ, my Sav - ior and my God.

Charitie Bancroft, 1863; alt.

BEFORE THE THRONE 8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.

Vikki Cook; arr. Ruth Coleman

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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:** "How Great Thou Art" (44) and "Jesus, My Great High Priest" (306) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000)., 2001). "Before the Throne of God Above" (277) is reprinted from *The Trinity Psalter Hymnal* (Willow Grove, PA: Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture, 2018). 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.



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

(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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