



**HersheyPresbyterian**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

January 7, 2024

## Front Cover Artwork

Henry Ossawa Tanner. *The Three Wise Men*, c. 1925, Oil on canvas Height: 63.5 cm (25 in.), Width: 88.9 cm (35 in.), Private collection. In the public domain.

Henry Ossawa Tanner was born in Pittsburgh in 1859, the first of five children born to Rev. Benjamin Tucker Tanner, a future bishop in the AME Church, and Sarah Tanner, a woman who had escaped her enslavers via the Underground Railroad. The family settled in Philadelphia in 1868, and in 1879 Tanner enrolled in the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, where he studied under the direction of Thomas Eakins.

In 1891 Tanner proceeded to Paris and commenced study at the Académie Julian. Tanner's choice of subject matter was influenced by a growing consciousness of his racial identity. His concern during this period for creating dignified and sympathetic portrayals of Black people in art is exemplified by *The Banjo Lesson* (1893, Hampton University Museum, Virginia).

After returning to Paris in 1894 one of Tanner's paintings was accepted for exhibition at that year's Salon. He abandoned genre works focusing on Black subjects and began painting the biblical scenes for which he became best known. After *Daniel in the Lions' Den* (1895, location unknown) won honorable mention in the 1896 Salon, Tanner began to enjoy increased recognition, and museums started to acquire his paintings. The following year, Tanner embarked on the first of several long trips to the Middle East. These trips were made in order to familiarize himself with the topography and appearance of people there, thus increasing the visual appeal of his biblical subjects by scrupulous attention to original settings and naturalistic details. It was also in 1897 that Tanner's *Resurrection of Lazarus* (1896, Musée d'Orsay, Paris) won a third-class medal at the Salon and was purchased by the French Government for the Luxembourg Gallery.

Tanner maintained close ties to the United States and remained concerned about the African American struggle for equality. Booker T. Washington visited him in Paris [in 1899], and Tanner painted Washington's portrait. In 1909 he was made an associate member of the National Academy of Design, along with Mary Cassatt, and he was elected to full membership in 1927. He achieved one of his greatest distinctions in 1923, when the French government named him chevalier of the Legion of Honor. He died in Paris in 1937.

For more on Tanner, see: <https://www.nga.gov/collection/artist-info.1919.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): Ephraim Church (violin), Keith Dolon (sound), Joe Kearns (leading worship), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Jared Salyards (piano), and Don Wood (vocals).

A **Nursery** for children age infant through 3 years old is provided in Room 110.

**Junior Church** for children aged 4-Grade 3 is held in Room 111 during the sermon and communion time. Children are dismissed during the hymn before the sermon and will return to their parents during the final hymn.

**Today's Communion Servers** are Ephraim Church and Dave Eakin.

## Prelude

# Praising God

**\*Call to Worship:**

**Isaiah 60:1-3**

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
**and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**

<sup>2</sup>For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
**and thick darkness the peoples;**

but the LORD will arise upon you,  
**and his glory will be seen upon you.**

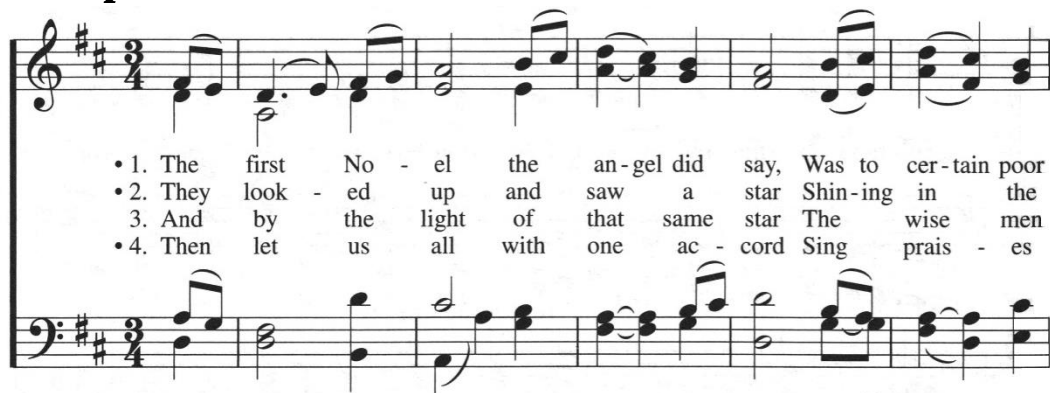
<sup>3</sup>And nations shall come to your light,  
**and kings to the brightness of your rising.**

Light Text = Read by Leader

**Bold Text = Read by All**

## \*Response of Praise:

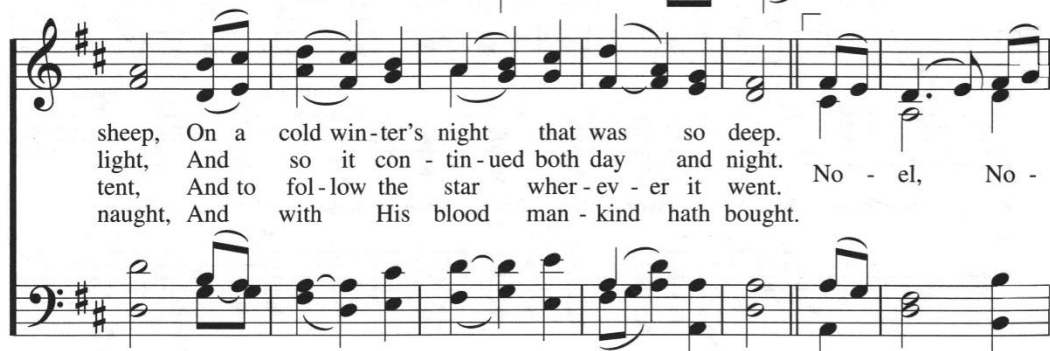
## The First Noel



1. The first No - el the an - gel did say, Was to cer - tain poor  
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin - ing in the  
 3. And by the light of that same star The wise men  
 4. Then let us all with one ac - cord Sing prais - es



shep - herds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay keep - ing their  
 east, be - yond them far; And to the earth it gave great  
 came from coun - try far; To seek for a king was their in -  
 to our heav - en - ly Lord Who hath made heav'n and earth of



sheep, On a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.  
 light, And so it con - tin - ued both day and night. No - el, No -  
 tent, And to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.  
 naught, And with His blood man - kind hath bought.



el, No - el, No - el, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Song Ending

Words: Traditional English Carol

Music: Traditional English Carol; Last chorus setting and chorale ending by Dennis Allen

Arr. © 2008 Van Ness Press, Inc. (ASCAP) (admin. by Lifeway Worship c/o Music Services, www.music-services.org). All rights reserved.

## **\*Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

### **\*Gospel Lesson**

### **Matthew 2:1-11**

*Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men<sup>[a]</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:*

*<sup>6</sup> “‘And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.’”*

*<sup>7</sup> Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” <sup>9</sup> After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.*

### **\*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

## 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

*For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written,*

*“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”*

*<sup>20</sup> Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.*

*<sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup> And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup> so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”*

## **Confession of Sin:**

**from Psalm 51:1-4, 10-12**

***Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.  
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!  
For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.  
Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you may be justified in your words  
and blameless in your judgment.***

***Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with a willing spirit.***

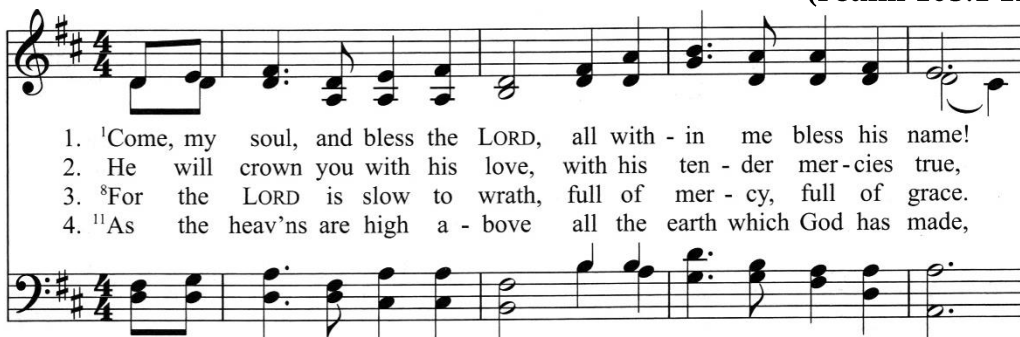
## **Declaration of Pardon in Christ**

**Psalm 103:8-12**

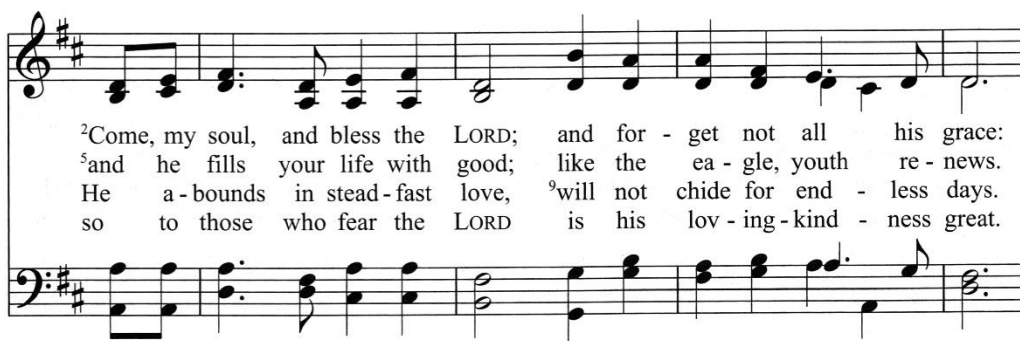
*The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
    <sup>9</sup> He will not always chide,  
    nor will he keep his anger forever.  
<sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
    nor repay us according to our iniquities.  
<sup>11</sup> For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;  
    <sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,  
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.*




**\*Song of Thanksgiving: Come, My Soul, and Bless the Lord**  
(Psalm 103:1-12)



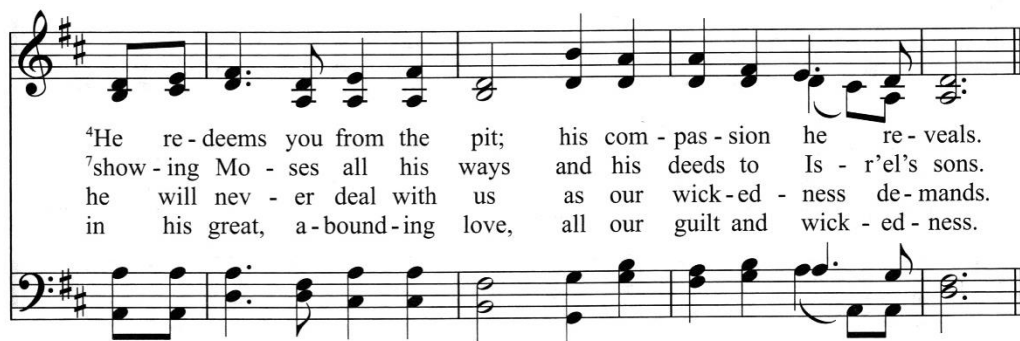
1. <sup>1</sup>Come, my soul, and bless the LORD, all with - in me bless his name!  
 2. He will crown you with his love, with his ten - der mer - cies true,  
 3. <sup>8</sup>For the LORD is slow to wrath, full of mer - cy, full of grace.  
 4. <sup>11</sup>As the heav'ns are high a - bove all the earth which God has made,



<sup>2</sup>Come, my soul, and bless the LORD; and for - get not all his grace:  
<sup>5</sup>and he fills your life with good; like the ea - gle, youth re - news.  
 He a - bounds in stead - fast love, <sup>9</sup>will not chide for end - less days.  
 so to those who fear the LORD is his lov - ing - kind - ness great.



<sup>3</sup>all your sins the LORD for - gives, all your sick - ness - es he heals.  
<sup>6</sup>God, the righ - teous judge, de - fends all op - pressed and bro - ken ones,  
 God will not re - tain his wrath, <sup>10</sup>he will not re - pay our sins;  
<sup>12</sup>Far as east is from the west, he re - moves so far from us,



<sup>4</sup>He re - deems you from the pit; his com - pas - sion he re - veals.  
<sup>7</sup>show - ing Mo - ses all his ways and his deeds to Is - r'el's sons.  
 he will nev - er deal with us as our wick - ed - ness de - mands.  
 in his great, a - bound - ing love, all our guilt and wick - ed - ness.

KEESE 7.7.7.7.D.

Fred and Ruth Coleman  
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# Offering Our Prayers to God

## Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of January 7-13, 2024

### Intercession *for the World*:

- **The Hershey Community:** Derry Township Chief of Police Garth Warner
- **Civil Government:** PA State Senator John DiSanto
- **Countries of Origin of Our Church Members and Friends:** Honduras
- **Unreached People Group:** Barke of Nigeria  
Population: 32,000; Language: Mburku; Religion: ethnic religions

Unreached people groups make up 42.4% of the world's population (approximately 3.4 billion 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](http://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:** Lois K.
- **Those Who Serve in Our Local Church:** Elder Greg Moore
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Bethany Presbyterian Church, Oxford, PA  
(A sister church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery)
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Committee on Discipleship Ministries (CDM)

**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:**

# **Savior of the Nations, Come**



1. Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, vir - gin's Son, make here thy home!
2. Not by hu - man power or seed did the wom - an's womb con-ceive;
3. Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child of the vir - gin un - de - filed!
4. From the Fa - ther forth he came and re - turn - eth to the same,



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
 born of Ma - ry ev - er blest, God in flesh is man - i - fest.  
 Though by all the world dis - owned, still to be in heav'n en - throned.  
 cap - tive lead - ing death and hell, high the song of tri - umph swell!



5. Thou, the Father's only Son,  
 hast o'er sin the vict'ry won.  
 Boundless shall thy kingdom be;  
 when shall we its glories see?

6. Praise to God the Father sing,  
 Praise to God the Son, our King,  
 Praise to God the Spirit be  
 ever and eternally.

Ambrose of Milan, 340–397  
 Tr. Martin Luther, 1524  
 Tr. William M. Reynolds, 1860; alt.

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND 7.7.7.7.  
 Adapted from *Geistliches Gesangbüchlein*, Wittenberg, 1524

# 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 8:1, 4-15**

*Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him...*

*And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, <sup>5</sup>“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. <sup>6</sup>And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. <sup>7</sup>And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. <sup>8</sup>And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”*

*<sup>9</sup>And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, <sup>10</sup>he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’” <sup>11</sup>Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup>The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. <sup>13</sup>And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. <sup>14</sup>And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. <sup>15</sup>As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

**Sermon:**

**The Light Has Come**

Today's Text: Luke 8:1, 4-15

Pastor David Kertland

1. The Light has been \_\_\_\_\_ .
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. The Light \_\_\_\_\_ to shine today.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. A \_\_\_\_\_ life.

**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.'*

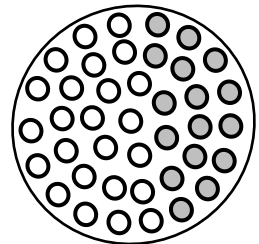
*In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'*

*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.

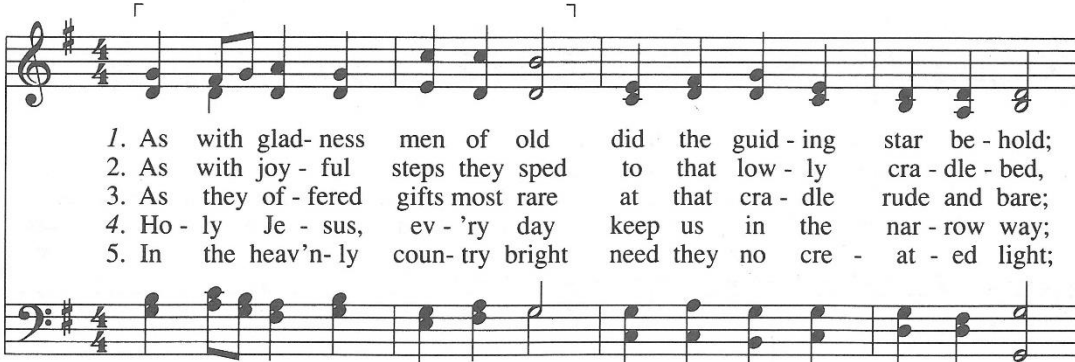


white circles = grape juice  
gray circles = wine

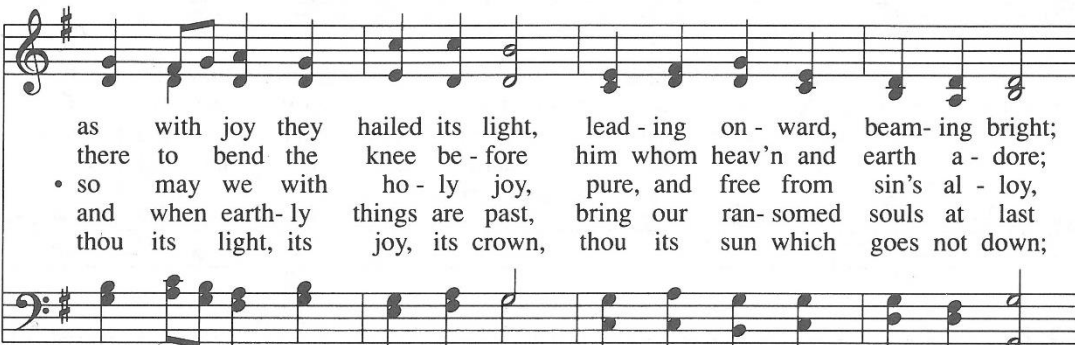
### Prayer

# Receiving God's Blessing

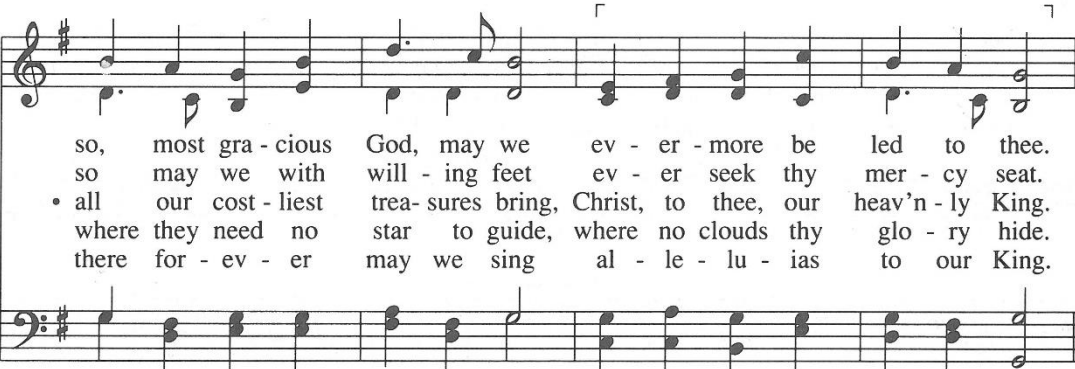
**\*Song of Dedication & Service: As with Gladness Men of Old**



1. As with glad-ness men of old did the guid-ing star be-hold;  
 2. As with joy-ful steps they sped to that low-ly cra-dle-bed,  
 3. As they of-fered gifts most rare at that cra-dle rude and bare;  
 4. Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-'ry day keep us in the nar-row way;  
 5. In the heav'n-ly coun-try bright need they no cre-at-ed light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;  
 there to bend the knee be-fore him whom heav'n and earth a-dore;  
 • so may we with ho-ly joy, pure, and free from sin's al-loy,  
 and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last  
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra-cious God, may we ev-er-more be led to thee.  
 so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek thy mer-cy seat.  
 • all our cost-liest trea-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly King.  
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.  
 there for-ev-er may we sing al-le-lu-ias to our King.

# 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.

### Today's Service Information

- 1) **Artwork:** Henry Ossawa Tanner. *The Three Wise Men*, c. 1925, Oil on canvas Height: 63.5 cm (25 in.), Width: 88.9 cm (35 in.), Private collection. In the public domain. From: [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:The\\_Three\\_Wise\\_Men\\_by\\_Henry\\_Ossawa\\_Tanner\\_\(lower\\_contrast\\_image\).jpg](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:The_Three_Wise_Men_by_Henry_Ossawa_Tanner_(lower_contrast_image).jpg).
- 2) **Music:** "The First Noel" (223) is reprinted from *Hymns of Grace* (The Master's Seminary Press, Los Angeles, CA, 2015). "Come, My Soul, and Bless the Lord" (103C) and "Savior of the Nations, Come" (316) are reprinted from *The Trinity Psalter Hymnal* (Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture (OPC & URCNA), Willow Grove, PA, 2018). The first line of verse 2 of "Savior of the Nations, Come" is reprinted from the version translated by Calvin Seerveld (1984) in *Lift Up Your Hearts: Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs* (Faith Alive Christian Resources, Grand Rapids, MI, 2013). "As with Gladness Men of Old" (226) is 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 2:** Information on the artist from <https://www.nga.gov/collection/artist-info.1919.html>. Various quotes describing worship elements are from: *Leading in Prayer: A Workbook for Ministers* (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. 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).

\* Congregation standing





### **Hershey Presbyterian Church (PCA)**

is a member congregation of the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery  
of the Presbyterian Church in America ([www.pcanet.org](http://www.pcanet.org)).



**Hershey Presbyterian**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

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To contact the church office,  
[office@hersheypca.com](mailto:office@hersheypca.com) or (717) 489-1535.

[hersheypca.com](http://hersheypca.com)