



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

February 4, 2024

Front Cover Artwork

Ásgrímur Jónsson. *Mt. Esja, seen from the building Vinaminni*. 1910, Oil on canvas. In the public domain.

Ásgrímur Jónsson (March 4, 1876 – April 5, 1958) was an Icelandic painter, and one of the first in the country to make art a professional living.

He studied at the Royal Academy in Copenhagen between 1900 and 1903 and traveled widely after graduation.

Icelandic nature was Ásgrímur's principal subject from the beginning, and his work formed the foundation of Icelandic landscape art. His vision of nature was shaped by 19th-century romanticism, and he remained faithful to that vision, though his emphases and work methods changed over the course of a career spanning nearly 60 years. Ásgrímur was also a pioneer in the illustration of Icelandic folktales and adventures and remains one of Iceland's most prolific folktale illustrators.

Ásgrímur painted in nature and made a particular effort to interpret the light of the land. He painted both with watercolors and oil paint and occupies a unique place in Icelandic art history as a watercolor artist. He remained true to naturalism to begin with, but toward the end of the 1920s, impressionist influences begin to emerge in his works. After 1940 his work methods became more organic, and his art was characterized by colorful expressionism.

He was also noted for his murals in various churches in Iceland. A number of his works are on display in the National Gallery of Iceland. Ásgrímur influenced many artists in Iceland. He was made honorary professor at the University of Iceland, and in 1933 he was made Grand Knight of the Icelandic Order of the Falcon. He was an honorary member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Arts and Knight of Dannebrog, first class.

Ásgrímur Jónsson died in 1958 and bequeathed all his own works that remained in his possession to the Icelandic nation, along with a property at Bergstaðastræti 74 in Reykjavík. The Ásgrímur Jónsson Collection was opened in his house in 1960. The Ásgrímur Jónsson Collection is now a special division of the National Gallery of Iceland.

Edited from: <https://www listasafn.is/en/visit/home-of-an-artist/> and
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ásgrímur_Jónsson



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), Peter Gibble (viola), Joe Kearns (leading worship), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (sound), 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 Keith Dolon.

Prelude

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 47:6-8

Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

⁷For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm!

⁸God reigns over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.

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

*Response of Praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy

♩ D Bm A D G D 7

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

A D Bm A E7 A

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

D Bm A D G D

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

♩ Bm D G D G A7 D 7

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

***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.**

* "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*.

Reading of God's Standard

Exodus 20:1-3

And God spoke all these words, saying,

² *"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.*

³ *"You shall have no other gods before me.*

Q. 46. What is required in the first commandment?

A. The first commandment requires us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify him accordingly.

Q. 47. What is forbidden in the first commandment?

A. The first commandment forbids the denying, or not worshiping and glorifying, the true God as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other, which is due him alone.

Confession of Sin

Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

Titus 3:4-7

[W]hen the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of February 4-10, 2024

Intercession *for the World*:

- **The Hershey Community:** Derry Township Director of Parks and Recreation
Zachary Jackson
- **Civil Government:** PA Supreme Court Justices
- **Countries of Origin of Our Church Members and Friends:** South Korea
- **Unreached People Group:** Barua of Bangladesh, India, and Myanmar
Population: 38,100; Language: Chittagonian, Bengali, and Rakhine; Religion: Buddhism

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. "...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 Brad Weaver
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Oakwood Presbyterian Church,
State College, PA (A sister church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery.)
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Covenant Theological Seminary
(The seminary of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), our denomination.)

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

During this song, children from 4 years old to 3rd grade are dismissed
to attend Junior Church in Room 111.

***Song of Preparation:**

In Christ Alone

• 1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my
• 2. In Christ a - lone who took on flesh; Full-ness of God in help - less
• 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay; Light of the world by dark - ness
• 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death; This is the power of Christ in

song; This Corn - er - stone, this sol - id ground, Firm through the
babe. This gift of love and right - eous - ness Scorned by the
slain. Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, Up from the
me. From life's first cry to fi - nal breath Je - sus com -

fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of
ones He came to save; 'Til on that cross as Je - sus
grave He rose a - gain! And as He stands in vic - to -
mands my des - ti - ny. No power of hell, no scheme of

peace When fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease; My Com - fort -
 died The wrath of God was sat - is - fied; For ev - ery
 ry Sin's curse has lost its grip on me; For I am
 man Can ev - er pluck me from His hand; 'Til He re -

Song Ending

er, my All in All; Here in the love of Christ I stand.
 sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.
 His and He is mine, Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ!
 turns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend; arr. Bruce Greer

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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:**

John 6:57-71

As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹ Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” ⁶¹ But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? ⁶² Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³ It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴ But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) ⁶⁵ And he said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

⁶⁶ After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹ and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.” ⁷⁰ Jesus answered them, “Did I not choose you, the twelve? And yet one of you is a devil.” ⁷¹ He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the twelve, was going to betray him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

One with the Father (10):

Sermon: A sermon series from chapters 5-6 of John's Gospel

To Whom Shall We Go?

Today's Text: John 6:60-71

Pastor David Kertland

1. You have the words of _____

2. We have _____

3. We have come to know that you are the _____

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.'

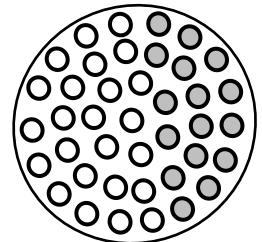
In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

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:**

Lift High the Cross

Unison

(Ref.) Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim,

Fine

till all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1. Come, breth - ren, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod,
2. Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
3. O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4. Thy king - dom come, that earth's de - spair may cease
5. For thy blest cross which doth for us a - tone,

D.C.

our King vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
the hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw men un - to thee.
be - neath the shad - ow of its heal - ing peace.
cre - a - tion's prais - es rise be - fore thy throne.

CRUCIFER Irreg., ref.
Sydney H. Nicholson, 1916

George W. Kitchin, 1887
Rev. by Michael R. Newbolt, 1916; alt. 1990
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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.

Today's Service Information

- 1) **Artwork:** Ásgrímur Jónsson. *Mt. Esja, seen from the building Vinaminni*. 1910, Oil on canvas. In the public domain, US. Information from: <https://www.wikiart.org/en/asgrimur-jonsson/mt-esja-seen-from-the-building-vinaminni-1910>; image from: <https://theintrepidtourist.blogspot.com/2023/09/hus-asgrims-jonssonar-painters-home-in.html>. Image from: <https://theintrepidtourist.blogspot.com/2023/09/hus-asgrims-jonssonar-painters-home-in.html>
- 2) **Music:** "Holy, Holy, Holy" (100) and "Lift High the Cross" (263) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). "In Christ Alone" (177) is reprinted from *Hymns of Grace* (The Master's Seminary Press, Los Angeles, CA, 2015). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes: Page 2:** Information about the artist and the National Gallery of Iceland museums from www.listasafn.is/en/visit/home-of-an-artist/; www.listasafn.is/en/; and en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ásgrímur_Jónsson. 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) **Note from the Pastor:** Along with the Greek and English texts, a variety of commentaries and study aids have been consulted in preparing this and other sermons from the Gospel of John, including: the insights, sermons, and writings of Eric Alexander, Augustine, John Calvin, D. A. Carson, John Chrysostom, Sinclair Ferguson, William Hendriksen, Matthew Henry, Timothy Keller, J. I. Packer, Herman Ridderbos, R. C. Sproul, St Helen's Church, Bishopsgate (Dick Lucas, William Taylor), William Still, and others. Not every commentator or pastor listed is consulted for each sermon, yet many of the insights belong to these and others, while the form and specific use of the Scripture text along with any errors that follow from them are my own.
- 5) 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



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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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