



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

March 10, 2024

Front Cover Artwork

Johannes Vermeer, *Woman Holding a Balance*. c. 1664, Oil on canvas. painted surface: 15 5/8 in. x 14 in.); framed: 24 3/4 in. x 23 in. x 3 in.). National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., Widener Collection. Accession Number 1942.9.97. In the public domain.

Woman Holding a Balance is an interesting painting as we consider the topic of repentance and faith throughout March.

Woman Holding a Balance is a superb example of Johannes Vermeer's exquisite sense of stability and rhythm. A woman dressed in a blue jacket with fur trim stands serenely at a table in a corner of a room. The scales in her right hand are at equilibrium, suggestive of her inner state of mind. A large painting of the Last Judgment, framed in black, hangs on the back wall of the room. A shimmering blue cloth, open boxes, two strands of pearls, and a gold chain lie on the sturdy table. Soft light comes in through the window and illuminates the scene. The woman is so pensive that the viewer almost hesitates to intrude on her quiet moment of contemplation.

The visual juxtaposition of the woman and the Last Judgment is reinforced by thematic parallels: to judge is to weigh. [We are encouraged to] ...examine [our] conscience and weigh [our] sins as if facing Judgment Day. ... *Woman Holding a Balance* thus allegorically urges us to conduct our lives with temperance and moderation. The woman is poised between the earthly treasures of gold and pearls and a visual reminder of the eternal consequences of her actions.

Vermeer emphasized this message through his superbly refined composition and lighting. The hand holding the balance, for example, occupies a position directly in front of the frame's dark corner, while the scales are set off against the bare plaster wall—an effect that Vermeer created through subtle spatial manipulation. Note, for instance, that the bottom of the Last Judgment's frame is slightly higher to the left of the woman than it is behind her back, creating room for the balance.

Edited from: <https://www.nga.gov/collection/art-object-page.1236.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), Keith Dolon (sound), Dave Eakin (vocals), Peter Gible (viola), Paul Hepperle (leading worship), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (clarinet), Don Wood (vocals), and Nick Yingst (piano).

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 Dave Eakin and Joe Kearns.

Prelude

Praising God

*Call to Worship:

Isaiah 40:7-11

*The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.*

*⁸ The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.*

*⁹ 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!"*

*¹⁰ Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;*

*behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.*

*¹¹ He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;*

*he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.*

Light Text = Read by Leader

Bold Text = Read by All

*Response of Praise:

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

1. Sav - ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
 2. We are thine; do thou be - friend us, be the guard- ian of our way;
 3. Thou hast prom- ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor; ear - ly let us do thy will;

in thy pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre - pare:
 keep thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray:
 thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our bo - soms fill:

bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
 bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray;
 bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, let us ear - ly turn to thee;
 bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still;

bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.
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***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith:**

from 1 Peter 2:9-10

Leader:

Brothers and sisters, the Word of God tells us that the Lord has chosen a people for himself and has called them to faith in Jesus Christ.

In Christ, he has given us a new identity and calling. This is not because of our deserving, but because of his sovereign mercy.

Let's confess today what Peter tells us about this new identity and calling in Christ Jesus.

Congregation:

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that we may proclaim the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once we were not a people, but now we are God's people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.

***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

Psalms 115:2-11

Today's reading continues to explore in Scripture the Second Commandment about making idols (Exodus 20:4-5).

Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?"

³ *Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.*

⁴ *Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands.*

⁵ *They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see.*

⁶ *They have ears, but do not hear; noses, but do not smell.*

⁷ *They have hands, but do not feel; feet, but do not walk;
and they do not make a sound in their throat.*

⁸ *Those who make them become like them;
so do all who trust in them.*

*⁹ O Israel, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.
¹⁰ O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.
¹¹ You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!
He is their help and their shield.*

Confession of Sin

We humbly admit before you, O God, that we have failed to keep the second commandment that forbids us from making or worshipping you by images of things found in your creation.

Our Lord, we have broken your law by creating and serving the idols of our hearts as though they were “gods.” We have treated good things as ultimate; being more devoted to our possessions, our wealth, our goals, our entertainments, our family members, our friends, and all kinds of other things above seeking to bring you glory.

Forgive us, we pray, in the name of our merciful and faithful high priest, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

Psalms 103:8-12

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

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of March 10-16, 2024

Intercession for the World:

- **The Hershey Community:** Life Lion Emergency Medical Services and Critical Care
- **Civil Government:** US Vice President Kamala Harris
- **Countries of Origin of Our Church Members and Friends:** Honduras
- **Unreached People Group:** Bashkar of Pakistan
Population: 226,000; Language: Hindko, Northern; Religion: Islam

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:** Trudy K.
- **Those Who Serve in Our Local Church:** Women's Ministry Leadership Team
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Carlisle Reformed Presbyterian Church, Carlisle, PA
(A sister church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery)
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Covenant College

The Lord's Prayer: We will close with this version of the Lord's Prayer in unison.

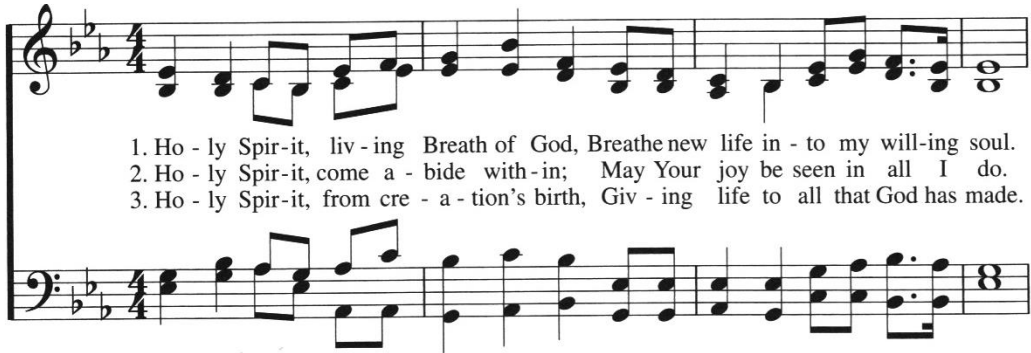
"Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings

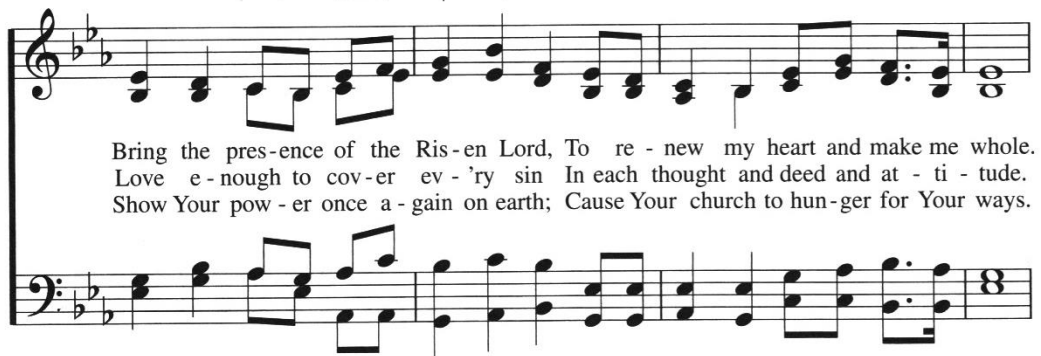
Offertory

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

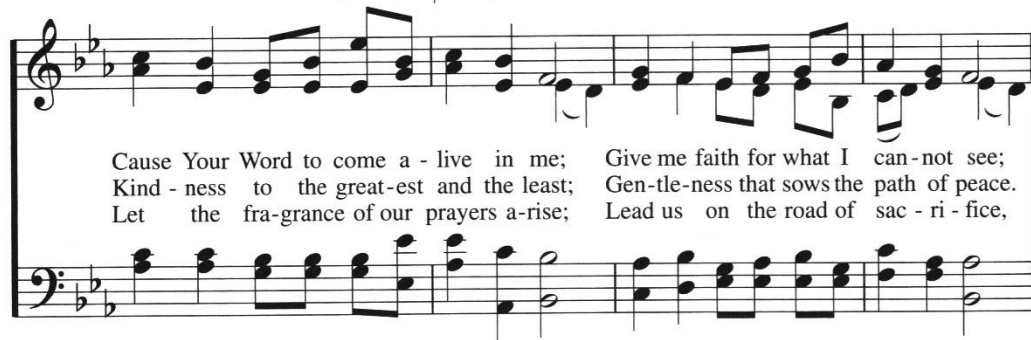
***Song of Preparation: Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God**



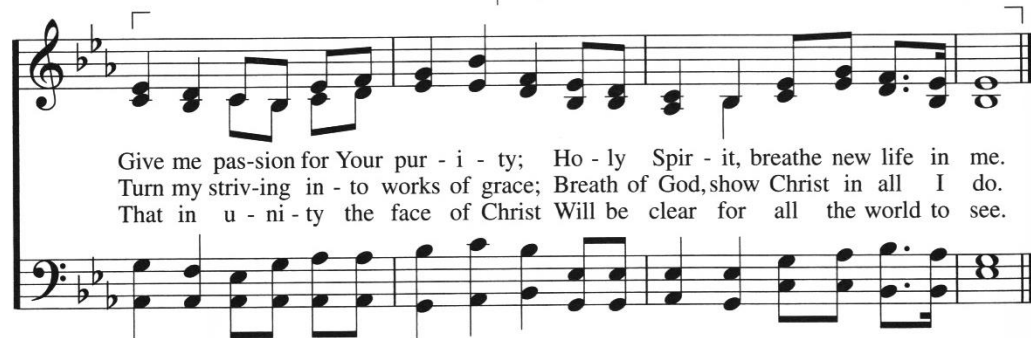
1. Ho - ly Spir-it, liv - ing Breath of God, Breathe new life in - to my will-ing soul.
2. Ho - ly Spir-it, come a - bide with-in; May Your joy be seen in all I do.
3. Ho - ly Spir-it, from cre - a - tion's birth, Giv - ing life to all that God has made.



Bring the pres-ence of the Ris-en Lord, To re - new my heart and make me whole.
Love e - nough to cov-er ev - 'ry sin In each thought and deed and at - ti - tude.
Show Your pow - er once a - gain on earth; Cause Your church to hun-ger for Your ways.



Cause Your Word to come a - live in me; Give me faith for what I can-not see;
Kind - ness to the great-est and the least; Gen-tle-ness that sows the path of peace.
Let the fra-grance of our prayers a-rise; Lead us on the road of sac - ri - fice,



Give me pas-sion for Your pur - i - ty; Ho - ly Spir - it, breathe new life in me.
Turn my striv-ing in - to works of grace; Breath of God, show Christ in all I do.
That in u - ni - ty the face of Christ Will be clear for all the world to see.

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 52:1-10

Awake, awake,
put on your strength, O Zion;
put on your beautiful garments,
O Jerusalem, the holy city;
for there shall no more come into you
the uncircumcised and the unclean.
² Shake yourself from the dust and arise;
be seated, O Jerusalem;
loose the bonds from your neck,
O captive daughter of Zion.

³For thus says the LORD: "You were sold for nothing, and you shall be redeemed without money." ⁴For thus says the Lord GOD: "My people went down at the first into Egypt to sojourn there, and the Assyrian oppressed them for nothing. ⁵Now therefore what have I here," declares the LORD, "seeing that my people are taken away for nothing? Their rulers wail," declares the LORD, "and continually all the day my name is despised. ⁶Therefore my people shall know my name. Therefore in that day they shall know that it is I who speak; here I am."

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Repentance & Faith (3): A Series in Isaiah 51-55

Sermon:

Repent of Gloom and Silence

Today's Text: Isaiah 52:1-10

Pastor David Kertland

1. _____ whose you are.

2. _____ his mercy in Christ

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.'

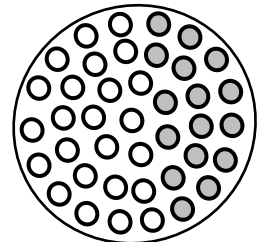
In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

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: Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Majestically ♩ = 76

C Dm⁷ C/E G/F F C/G Am Dm⁷ G^{sus} G

1. Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc - cess - ive jour - neys run;
 2. Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns; The pris - ner leaps to lose his chains;
 3. Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue Dwell on His love with sweet - est song;
 4. Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring Bless - ing and ho - nor to our King;

⁵ Em Am F Dm⁷ G^{7sus} G⁷ C/E F Dm⁷

His king - dom stretch from shore to shore, Till sun shall rise and
 The wea - ry find c - ter - nal rest, And all the sons of
 And in - fant voi - ces shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings
 An - gels de - scend with songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the

1. 2.3.4.

8 C/G G⁷ C⁵ Bb/C C⁵ F/C Bb/C 3 C/G G⁷ C

set no more. want are blessed.
 on His Name.
 loud a - men!

Refrain

12 G G^{sus}/A G/B F/C C G G^{sus}/A G/B F/C C C/B

To our King be high - est praise Ris - ing through e - ter - nal days.

16 Am⁷ C/G G Fma⁷ Cadd⁹/E Dm⁷ G^{sus} G⁷

Just and faith - ful - He shall reign: Je - sus shall

1.2. *D.C. [to verse]* 3. *D.S. [to refrain]*

19 C⁵ Bb/C C⁵ F/C Bb/C 3 C

reign! reign!

4. C⁵ Bb/C C⁵ F/C Bb/C 3

reign!

C⁵ Bb/C C⁵ F/C Bb/C 3 C⁵

God's Blessing

*Benediction:

From Psalm 115:12-15

*The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us...
he will bless those who fear the LORD, both the small and the great.*

*May the LORD give you increase, you and your children!
May you be blessed by the LORD, who made heaven and earth!*

*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:** Johannes Vermeer, *Woman Holding a Balance*. c. 1664, Oil on canvas. painted surface: 15 5/8 in. x 14 in.); framed: 24 3/4 in. x 23 in. x 3 in.). National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., Widener Collection. Accession Number 1942.9.97. <https://www.nga.gov/collection/art-object-page.1236.html>. In the public domain.
- 2) **Music:** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" (599) is reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). "Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God" (318) is reprinted from *Hymns of Grace* (Los Angeles, CA: The Master's Seminary Press, 2015). "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun" was downloaded from www.gettymusic.com Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes: Page 2:** Arthur K. Wheelock Jr., "Johannes Vermeer/*Woman Holding a Balance*/c. 1664," *Dutch Paintings of the Seventeenth Century*, NGA Online Editions, <https://purl.org/nga/collection/artobject/1236> (accessed February 28, 2024). Our confession of sin today was modified from "Confessing Our Transgressions of the Ten Commandments, accessed 03/05/2024, <https://westministervincennes.org/blog/2017/9/18/confessing-our-transgressions-of-the-ten-commandments>. 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 Hebrew and English texts, a variety of commentaries and study aids have been consulted in preparing this and other sermons from the book of Isaiah, including: the insights, sermons, and writings of John Calvin, Bob Fyall, Matthew Henry, J. Alec Motyer, Graham S. Ogden, Raymond C. Ortlund, Jr., Shalom M. Paul, Gary V. Smith, Jan Sterk, Barry G. Webb, Edward J. Young, 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

The King, Head, & Chief Shepherd of the Church: *The Lord Jesus Christ*

Our Pastor:

David O. Kertland, M.Div., D. Min., dkertland@hersheypca.com

Our Session:

RE Ephraim Church (2021-2024), echurch@hersheypca.com

RE Joe Kearns (2023-2026), jkearns@hersheypca.com

TE David Kertland, dkertland@hersheypca.com

RE Greg Moore (2023-2026), gmoore@hersheypca.com

RE Nick Yingst (2023-2026), nyingst@hersheypca.com

(TE = Teaching Elder, RE = Ruling Elder)

Our Deacons:

Keith Dolon, kdolon@hersheypca.com

Brad Weaver, bweaver@hersheypca.com

Our Director of Covenant Family Ministries:

Paul Hepperle, phepperle@hersheypca.com

Our Women's Ministry Leadership Team:

Eve Dolon, Bonnie Kertland, Donna Kreiss, Pam Linstedt, and Sonia Yoo

Our Director of Connections & Administration:

Bonnie Kertland, bkertland@hersheypca.com

Our Missions Committee:

Bob Eickelberg, Paige Eickelberg, Kumi Minagawa, Greg Moore, Lauri Moore, and Robert Noble

Our Treasurers:

Michael Miller, Treasurer, mmiller@hersheypca.com

Jessica Buckwalter, Assistant Treasurer, jbuckwalter@hersheypca.com

Our Supported Missions and Missionaries:

As a congregation, Hershey PCA supports a variety of people and agencies seeking to advance the gospel and build up the church, including:

John & Kathy Clow (MTW Honduras)
Craig & Ree Coulbourne (MTW Japan)
Chris & Kelsey Peter (RUF at Millersville)
Cam & Kaela Smith (RUF at PSU)
Richard & Lynne Smith (RUF-I at PSU)
Anees & Fareda Zaka (CWW)
David & Aliece (sensitive area)
Rick & Clare (sensitive area)

PCA Committee on Discipleship Ministries
Covenant College (PCA college)
Covenant Theological Seminary (PCA Seminary)
Lebanon Valley Presbyterian PCA Church Plant
Mission to North America (MNA/PCA)
Mission to the World (MTW/PCA)
PCA Administrative Committee
Reformed University Fellowship (RUF/PCA)
Ridge Haven (PCA Camp, Conference & Retreat Ctr.)

Westminster Shorter Catechism: Q. 87. What is repentance unto life? A. Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.



Hershey Presbyterian Church (PCA)

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



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

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