



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

April 28, 2024

Front Cover Artwork

Vincent van Gogh, *Almond Blossoms*. Saint-Rémy-de-Provence, February 1890. Oil on canvas, 73.3 cm x 92.4 cm (28.858 in. x 36.378 in.). Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam (Vincent van Gogh Foundation). In the public domain. Accessed 03/28/2024 at <https://www.vangoghmuseum.nl/en/collection/s0176V1962>.

Large blossom branches like this against a blue sky were one of Van Gogh's favorite subjects. Almond trees flower early in the spring making them a symbol of new life. Van Gogh borrowed the subject, the bold outlines and the positioning of the tree in the picture plane from Japanese printmaking.

The painting was a gift for his brother Theo and sister-in-law Jo, who had just had a baby son, Vincent Willem. In the letter announcing the new arrival, Theo wrote: 'As we told you, we'll name him after you, and I'm making the wish that he may be as determined and as courageous as you.' Unsurprisingly, it was this work that remained closest to the hearts of the Van Gogh family. Vincent Willem went on to found the Van Gogh Museum.

<https://www.vangoghmuseum.nl/en/collection/s0176V1962>



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), Isaiah Church (violin), Laura Church (vocals), Peter Gobble (viola), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), David Kertland (leading worship), Mark Linstedt (vocals). Pam Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (sound), Vincent Tauriello (preaching), 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 Guest Preacher: We are glad to have Vincent and Lorraine Tauriello with us today as we welcome Vincent Tauriello to our pulpit. This weekend, Vincent led our Session in an offsite meeting. He is a teaching elder in the PCA, serving as Coaching Director with Mission to North America, the PCA permanent committee supporting PCA churches, church plants, and missions in North America.

Prelude

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 28:7-9

*The LORD is my strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;
**my heart exults, and with my song
I give thanks to him.***

*The LORD is the strength of his people;
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.*

*Oh, save your people and bless your heritage!
Be their shepherd and carry them forever.*

Light Text = Read by Leader

Bold Text = Read by All

*Response of Praise:

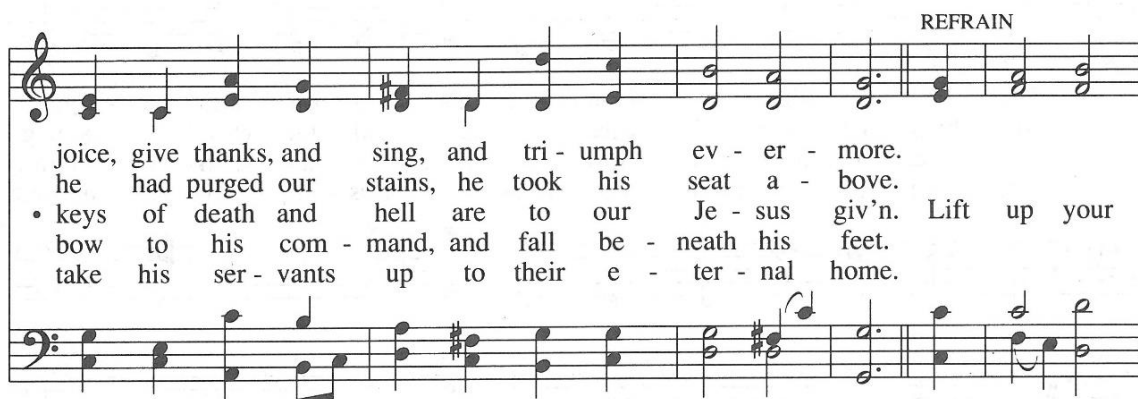
Rejoice, the Lord is King

After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Heb. 1:3

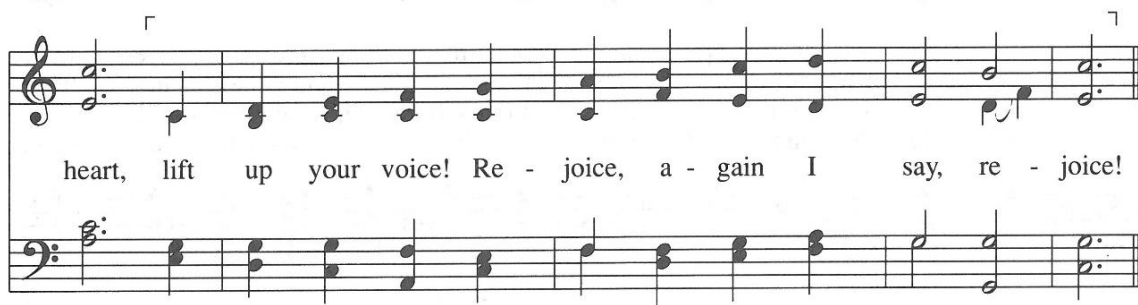


1. Re - joyce, the Lord is King: your Lord and King a - dore! Re -
 2. Je - sus the Sav - ior reigns, the God of truth and love; when
 3. His king - dom can - not fail, he rules o'er earth and heav'n; the
 4. He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit, and
 5. Re - joyce in glo - rious hope! Our Lord, the Judge, shall come, and

REFRAIN



joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.
 he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.
 • keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n. Lift up your
 bow to his com - mand, and fall be - neath his feet.
 take his ser - vants up to their e - ter - nal home.



heart, lift up your voice! Re - joyce, a - gain I say, re - joyce!

*Prayer of Adoration & Invocation

DARWALL, 6.6.6.6.8.8,
 John Darwall, 1770

Charles Wesley, 1746; alt.

Confession of Faith & Confession of Sin Philippians 2:1-11

Today we confess our faith in Christ, and we confess our sin in failing to live up our calling in Christ from our meditation of Philippians 2.

Leader: *"[I]f there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ 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."**

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ Philippians 2:12-13

"Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure."

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.**

Welcome to our Newest Members!

We welcome the newest members of Hershey PCA who were recently received on reaffirmation of faith by our Session!

The children of these families are now also received as non-communing members by right of the covenant. Because they have a believing parent(s), they belong here and are welcome here as part of the church family.

Non-communicant members do not yet take communion, waiting until the time they are ready to profess their own personal faith in Jesus Christ to our elders. We look forward to that day! Until then, we make a promise to the family that we will assist the parents in raising their children in the Lord.

New members

Pauline Gehman

Peter Gible

Leah Gible

Robert Noble

Clint Otto

Natalie Otto

Anthony Tsai

Rachel Ballach

Christopher Tseng

Deborah Tseng

New non-communicant members

William Gible

Alan Gible

Patrick Otto

Sadie Tsai

Zoey Tsai

Zander Tsai

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 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 the 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 yourselves 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 cover).

The Sacrament of Baptism

Today we also have a household baptism! Receiving the sacrament of baptism today are:

Clint Windfield Otto Natalie Brooke Otto Patrick Windfield Otto

Baptism was instituted by Christ. As this sign and seal is applied, we remember that “the promise is made to believers and their children; and that children of believers have an interest in the covenant, and right to the seal of it, and to the outward privileges of the Church, under the Gospel....”*

Exhortation to the parents:*

Reading the covenant promises:*

Genesis 17:7: “And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.”

Acts 2:39: “For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.”

Acts 16:31: “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

Questions for the parents:*

1. Do you acknowledge your child’s need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God’s covenant promises in his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God’s appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Question for the congregation:*

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

Prayer for Blessing

Baptism in the Triune Name

Concluding Prayer

*From the PCA’s Book of Church Order, 56-4, 5, & 6.

*Song of the Church Community: Blest Be the Tie That Binds

You are all one in Christ Jesus. Gal. 3:28

Capo 3: ♮ (D) (A⁷) (D) ♮ (G) (D) (A)

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love:
 2. Be - fore the Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
 3. We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear;
 4. When we a - sun - der part, it gives us in - ward pain;

(A⁷) (D) (A) (D) ♮ (G) (D) (G) (D/A) (A⁷) (D) ♮

the fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

5. This glorious hope revives
 our courage by the way,
 while each in expectation lives,
 and longs to see the day.

6. From sorrow, toil and pain,
 and sin, we shall be free;
 and perfect love and friendship reign
 through all eternity.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of April 28-May 4, 2024

Intercession for the World:

- **The Hershey Community:** Derry Township Supervisor Natalie Nutt
- **Civil Government:** PA Governor Josh Shapiro
- **Countries of Origin of Our Church Members and Friends:** China
- **Unreached People Group:** Bateq of Malaysia
Population: 1,300; Language: Batek; 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. "...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:** Ken K.
- **Those Who Serve in Our Local Church:** Retired Teaching Elder Bob Eickelberg
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Harvest Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, PA
(A sister church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery)
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Mission to the World (MNA)
MNA Coaching Director Vincent Tauriello

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:**

A Triune Prayer

The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Bass) in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the Alto and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in three stanzas, with the first two stanzas having four lines each and the third stanza having three lines. The lyrics are: 1. Bless-ed Fa - ther, hear our cry. Cast out sin, but draw us nigh. 2. Bless-ed Je - sus, make our plea. In Your name to God we flee; 3. Bless-ed Spir - it meet our need; In our si - lence in - ter-cede. 4. Tri - une God, please grant our prayer As Your glo - ry we de-clare. Not for mer - it we have none; For Your mer - cy, for Your Son. Thru Your blood we seek His face, By Your priest-hood claim His grace. Trans-late groans we can - not speak; Heal the bro - ken, help the weak. May Your prom - ised king-dom come; May Your will on earth be done.

1. Bless-ed Fa - ther, hear our cry. Cast out sin, but draw us nigh.
2. Bless-ed Je - sus, make our plea. In Your name to God we flee;
3. Bless-ed Spir - it meet our need; In our si - lence in - ter-cede.
4. Tri - une God, please grant our prayer As Your glo - ry we de-clare.

Not for mer - it we have none; For Your mer - cy, for Your Son.
Thru Your blood we seek His face, By Your priest-hood claim His grace.
Trans-late groans we can - not speak; Heal the bro - ken, help the weak.
May Your prom - ised king-dom come; May Your will on earth be done.

Words: Chris Anderson
Music: Molly Ijames

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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 7:53-8:11

7:53 They went each to his own house, ^{8:1} but Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. ² Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. ³ The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst ⁴ they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" ⁶ This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷ And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸ And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰ Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹ She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon:

The Forgiving Love of Jesus

Today's Text: john 7:53-8:11

Vincent Tauriello

1. Why we need it
2. What it is
3. How we appropriate it

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 God's Blessing

***Song of Dedication & Service:**

He Will Hold Me Fast



1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me fast;
3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;



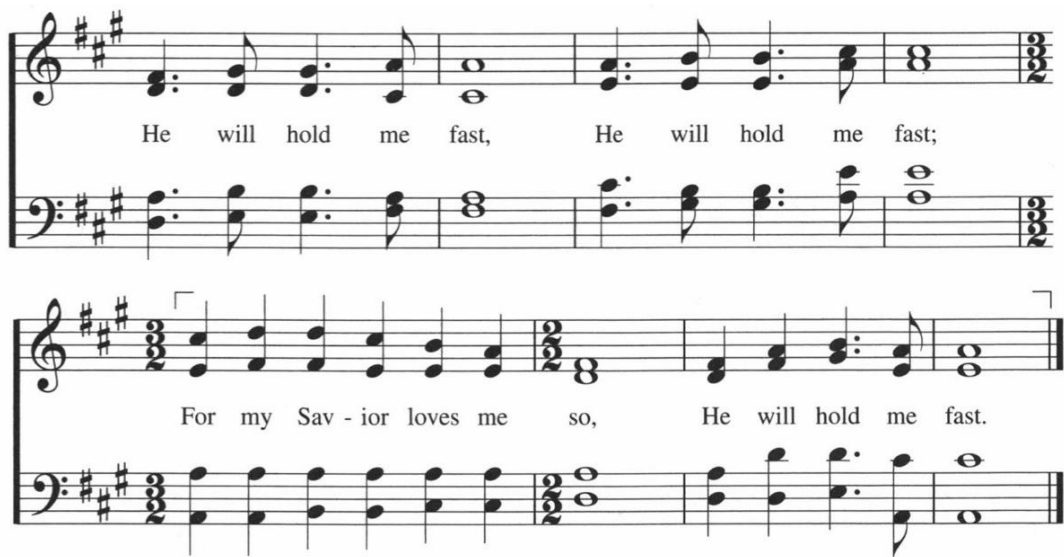
When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.
Pre - cious in His ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.
Jus - tice has been sat - is - fied; He will hold me fast.



I could nev - er keep my hold Through life's fear - ful path;
He'll not let my soul be lost; His prom - is - es shall last;
Raised with Him to end - less life, He will hold me fast



For my love is of - ten cold; He must hold me fast.
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.
'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!



Words: Ada Habershon; alt. words vs. 1-2, new words vs. 3 and refrain Matt Merker
 Music: Matt Merker

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*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.



“The King Is Coming!”

Mark your calendars for our medieval-themed **Vacation Bible School** program, Monday through Thursday, **June 24-27** from **5:30-7:30 PM**. Children aged 3 through completed Grade 5 will participate in Bible stories, crafts, games, and snacks. Invitations will be available for you to give out to friends and family.

Today's Service Information

- 1) **Artwork:** Vincent van Gogh, *Almond Blossoms*. 1890. Oil on canvas, 2'5" x 3". Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam. In the public domain. <https://www.vangoghmuseum.nl/en/collection/s0176V1962>.
- 2) **Music:** “Rejoice, the Lord Is King” (310) and “Blest Be the Tie That Binds” (359) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). “A Triune Prayer” (330) and “He Will Hold Me Fast” (388) are reprinted from *Hymns of Grace* (Los Angeles, CA: The Master’s Seminary Press, 2015). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes: Page 2:** information about cover painting: <https://www.vangoghmuseum.nl/en/collection/s0176V1962>. 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.



Hershey Presbyterian Church (PCA)

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



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