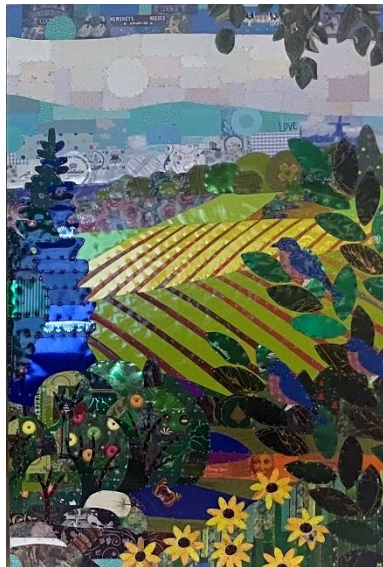
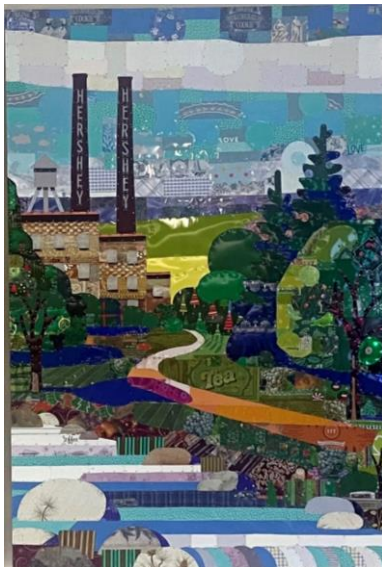




Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

May 19, 2024

Front Cover Artwork

Michael J. Sweere, *Untitled*. Tin mosaic tryptic. Currently hanging in the Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center Emergency Department Waiting Room. Personal photo from 04/25/2024. Used with permission of the artist.

Artist's comments on the work (posted on site): "Inspired by the diversity of the Pennsylvania landscape, this artwork has been created from recycled tin. By carefully cutting apart discarded tin objects—canisters that once held candy, chocolates, tea, etc., the artist fashioned shapes that could safely be attached to a plywood panel with a hammer and small wire nails. The layers of tin are pounded flat to create a smooth, 'stitched' surface."

From the artist: "I create mosaics by utilizing pieces of broken dishware, ceramic and porcelain tile, glass and found objects like vintage buttons, stones and old coins. 'Mixing' a color palette from non-traditional materials and working with a wide range of patterns and texture is similar to creating a painting. I place glass, tile and stones together like brush strokes, adding another dimension of depth and reflection to the artwork surface."

About the artist: "I was born and raised in Owatonna, Minnesota and currently live in Minnesota with my wife and dogs. I was employed in the advertising industry for almost 20 years before launching the Michael Sweere Mosaic Company in 2005. When I'm away from the studio I enjoy visiting America's national parks, collecting folk art and skateboarding." For more information and contact information, see <https://www.michaelsweeremosaic.com>.

About Center Stage Arts in Health at Penn State: "Center Stage in the Department of Humanities strives to create an environment that integrates the healing power of art, music and creativity at Penn State Health and College of Medicine." For more information, see <https://sites.psu.edu/centerstage/>.



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 (leading worship and violin), Isaiah Church (violin), Nathanael Marengo (sound), Peter Gobble (viola), David Kertland (preaching), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Anita Wood (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.

Prelude

Praising God

*Call to Worship:

Psalm 145:13-18

*Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.*

*The LORD is faithful in all his words
and kind in all his works.*

¹⁴ *The LORD upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.*

¹⁵ *The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.*

¹⁶ *You open your hand;
you satisfy the desire of every living thing.*

¹⁷ *The LORD is righteous in all his ways
and kind in all his works.*

¹⁸ *The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.*

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

***Response of Praise: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (Psalm 150)**

1. Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Earth and
2. Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! Mag - ni -

heav'n in sweet ac - cord; join to sound Je - ho - vah's
fy Je - ho - vah's name; praise the liv - ing God, your

prais - es, tell the glo - ry of the Lord.
Mak - er; all that breathe, his praise pro - claim.

From Psalm 150

SICILIAN MARINERS 8.7.8.7.
Sicilian melody, 18th cent.; alt.

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith:**

The Nicene Creed

We confess our common faith today with the Nicene Creed, a summary of the Bible's teaching about God, our need of a sufficient Savior, and our dependence on the work of the Spirit. From the Trinity Hymnal: "The Nicene Creed originated at the Council of Nicea (325), and an expanded form was adopted by the Council of Chalcedon (451). It was formulated to answer heresies that denied the biblical doctrine of the Trinity and of the person of Christ."

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,*
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic** and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

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.**

* The term "very God of very God" means that our Lord Jesus Christ is "true God from true God."

** "'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*.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Today **Andrew and Lauren Sanabria** present their covenant child **Henry Sinclair Sanabria** for the sacrament of baptism. This sacrament 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

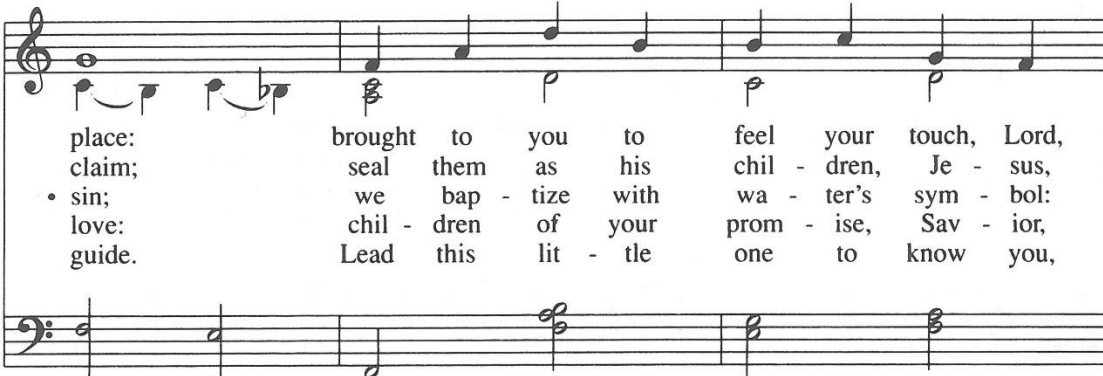
*Song of the Covenant:

In Your Arms, Lord Jesus Christ

Unison

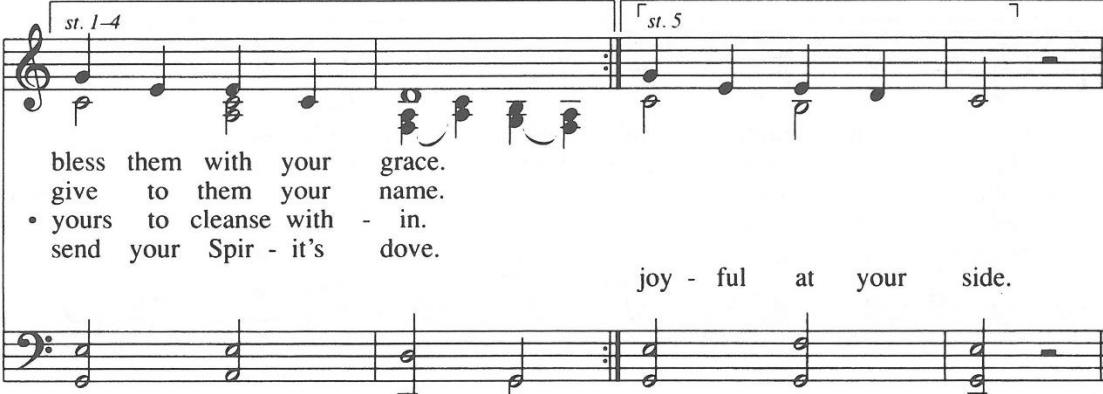


1. In your arms, Lord Je - sus Christ, chil - dren have a
 2. Sav - ior, on these lit - tle ones place your Fa - ther's
 3. Wash them at the foun - tain, Lord, o - pened for our
 4. Yours they are, our her - i - tage, grant - ed in your
 5. Teach us, Lord, to teach your child; guide us as we



place: brought to you to feel your touch, Lord,
 claim; seal them as his chil - dren, Je - sus,
 • sin; we bap - tize with wa - ter's sym - bol:
 love: chil - dren of your prom - ise, Sav - ior,
 guide. Lead this lit - tle one to know you,

st. 1-4 *st. 5*



• bless them with your grace.
 give to them your name.
 • yours to cleanse with - in.
 send your Spir - it's dove.
 joy - ful at your side.

Facing Up to Our Sin before God

Reading of God's Standard

Ezekiel 20:18b-20

Today's reading continues to explore in Scripture the Fourth Commandment about the Sabbath.

"Do not walk in the statutes of your fathers, nor keep their rules, nor defile yourselves with their idols.

¹⁹ I am the LORD your God; walk in my statutes, and be careful to obey my rules, ²⁰ and keep my Sabbaths holy that they may be a sign between me and you, that you may know that I am the LORD your God."

Confession of Sin (in Unison)

God of comfort and mercy, you sent your prophets to proclaim, "Make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God."

We confess we have not done as you have asked; instead, we have sinned in thoughts, words, and deeds by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

[time of silent confession]

In your mercy, forgive us, O Lord; help us to proclaim your message. Equip us to walk more faithfully in the footsteps of Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

Hebrews 4:14-16

Today's Declaration of Pardon in Christ announces that we can draw near to God and find mercy and grace because of Jesus.

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. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of May 19-25, 2024

Intercession for the World:

The Hershey Community: Local Public and Private Schools and Homeschooling Families – Students, Faculty, Administration, and Staff

- **Civil Government:** US Senator Robert Casey, Jr.
- **Countries of Origin of Our Church Members and Friends:** Japan
- **Unreached People Group:** Bathudi of India
Population: 272,000; Language: Odia; Religion: Hinduism

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:** Lois K.
- **Those Who Serve in Our Local Church:** Elder Ephraim Church

Our Denomination (PCA): Lebanon Valley Presbyterian Church, Lebanon, PA
(A mission church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery)

- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** David and Aliece, serving in a sensitive area

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:**

Speak, O Lord



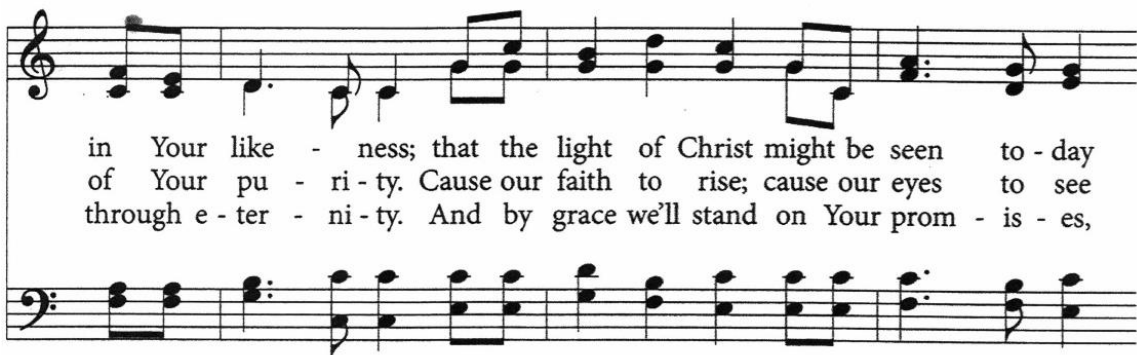
1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re-ceive the food of Your
2. Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence, true hu -
3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your



ho - ly Word. Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fash-ion us
mil - i - ty; test our thoughts and our at - ti-tudes in the ra - di-ance
plans for us: truths un-changed from the dawn of time that will ech - o down



in Your like - ness; that the light of Christ might be seen to - day
of Your pu - ri - ty. Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
through e - ter - ni - ty. And by grace we'll stand on Your prom - is - es,



in our acts of love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
 Your ma - jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
 and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till Your

fill in us all Your pur - pos - es for Your glo - ry.
 nev - er fail: let their truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
 church is built and the earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

TEXT and MUSIC: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

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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:**

Isaiah 55:6-13

"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon:

God's Everlasting Sign

Today's Text: Isaiah 55:6-13

Pastor David Kertland

Today's theme: Humble yourself before the Lord because you can trust his powerful word to bring joy and peace.

1. God's view is _____ and _____ .

2. God's word is _____ and _____ .

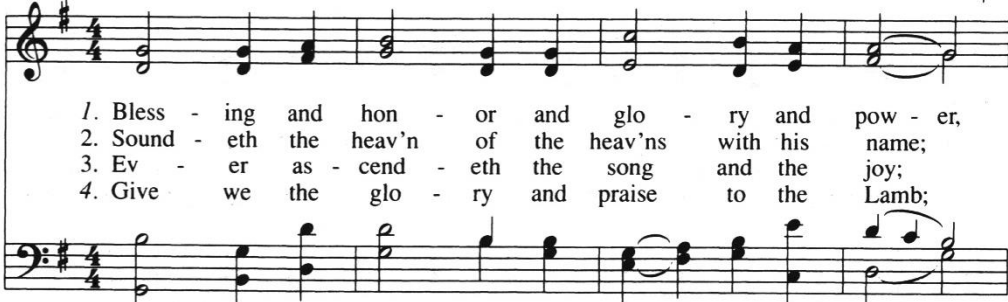
3. God's plan is _____ and _____ .

Prayer of Application

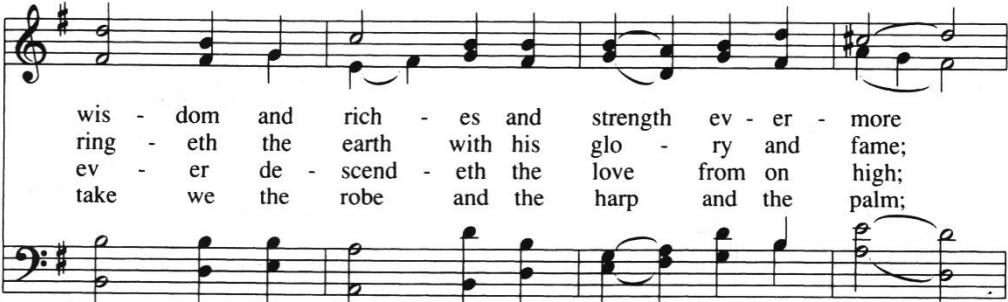
The sermon concludes with a prayer asking the Lord to help us to be those who listen to his word and obey it. "...be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." (James 1:22)

Celebrating God's Blessing

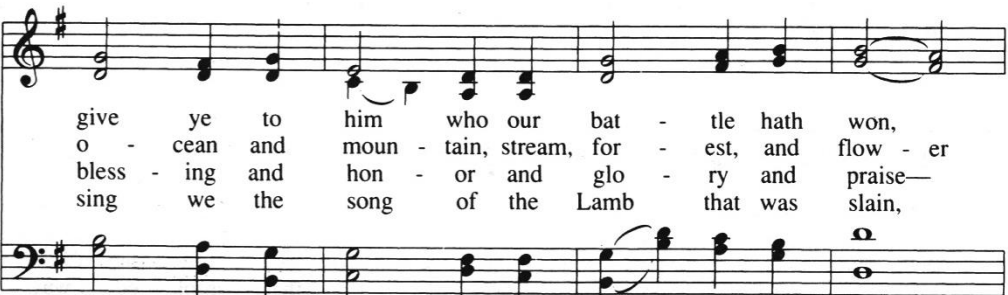
***Song of Celebration: Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power**



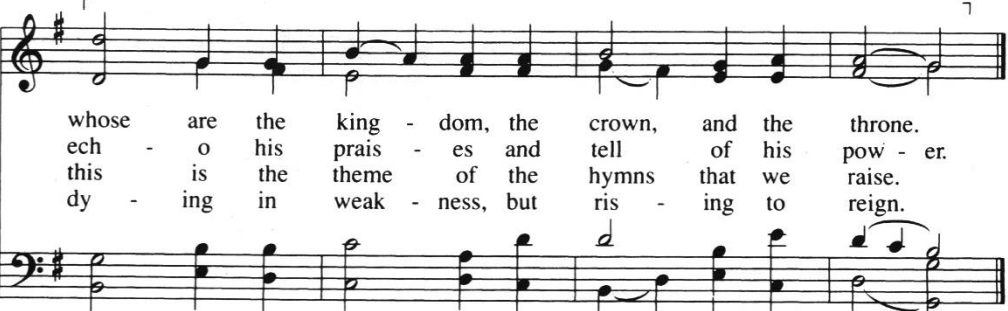
1. Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and pow - er,
 2. Sound - eth the heav'n of the heav'ns with his name;
 3. Ev - er as - cend - eth the song and the joy;
 4. Give we the glo - ry and praise to the Lamb;



wis - dom and rich - es and strength ev - er - more
 ring - eth the earth with his glo - ry and fame;
 ev - er de - scend - eth the love from on high;
 take we the robe and the harp and the palm;



give ye to him who our bat - tle hath won,
 o - cean and moun - tain, stream, for - est, and flow - er
 bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and praise—
 sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,



whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne.
 ech - o his prais - es and tell of his pow - er.
 this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.
 dy - ing in weak - ness, but ris - ing to reign.

O QUANTA QUALIA 10.10.10.10.
 La Feillée s Méthode du plain-chant, 1808

Horatius Bonar, 1866, alt.
 Tune from the Revised Church Hymnary by permission of Oxford University Press

Receiving God's Blessing

*Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

*The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

*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:** Michael J. Sweere, *Untitled*. Tin mosaic tryptic. Currently hanging in the Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center Emergency Department Waiting Room. Personal photo from 04/25/2024. Used with permission of the artist.
- 2) **Music:** "Hallelujah! Hallelujah!" (566) is reprinted from *The Trinity Psalter Hymnal* (Willow Grove, PA: Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture, 2018). "In Your Arms, Lord Jesus Christ" (419) and "Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power" (300) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). "Speak, O Lord" (328) is reprinted from *Sing the Wonders: Hymns and Psalms for the Church* (Grace Immanuel Bible Church, Jupiter, FL, 2018). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes:** Page 8: Confession of Sin #8 from *The Worship Sourcebook*, 2nd Ed. (Faith Alive Christian Resources, Grand Rapids, MI, 2013, page 569). 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.

* Congregation standing



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.

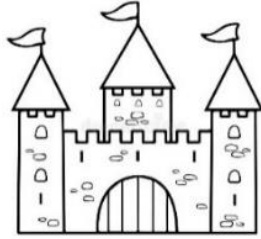


Reformed Universities Ministries (www.ruf.org): the PCA college campus ministry



Ridge Haven Camp, Conference Center, Retreat Center, and Residential Community

(www.ridgehaven.org): providing camps, retreats, conferences, and etc.



“The King Is Coming!”

Vacation Bible School

Come to 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. Registration forms and invitations to give out to friends and family are on the table at the back for our worship space. The registration form is also available on our website.



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Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

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