



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

August 4, 2024

Front Cover Artwork

Winslow Homer, *Salt Kettle, Bermuda*, 1899, watercolor over graphite on wove paper, 13 15/16 in. x 21 in., National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Winslow Homer was born in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1836, the second of the three children, all sons, of Henrietta Benson and Charles Savage Homer. His artistic education consisted chiefly of his apprenticeship to the Boston commercial lithographer John H. Bufford, and a few lessons in painting from Frédéric Rondel after that. Following his apprenticeship, Homer worked as a free-lance illustrator for such magazines as *Harper's Weekly*.

In 1859 he moved to New York City, where began his career as a painter. He visited the front during the Civil War and his first important paintings were of Civil War subjects. In 1867 he spent a year in France. At Gloucester, Massachusetts, in 1873 he began to paint in watercolor. In 1875 he submitted his last drawing to *Harper's Weekly*, ending his career as an illustrator. He traveled widely in the 1870s in New York State, to Virginia, and Massachusetts, and in 1881 he began a two-year stay in England, living in Cullercoats, near Newcastle.

Returning to America in 1883, he settled at Prout's Neck, Maine, where he would live for the rest of his life. He continued to travel widely, to the Adirondacks, Canada, Bermuda, Florida, and the Caribbean, in all those places painting the watercolors upon which much of his later fame would be based. In 1890 he painted the first of the series of seascapes at Prout's Neck that were the most admired of his late paintings in oil. Homer died in his Prout's Neck studio on September 30, 1910.

<https://www.nga.gov/collection/artist-info.1401.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), Isaiah Church (violin), Peter Gibble (piano), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), Richard Smith (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (clarinet), Brad Weaver (sound), Don Wood (vocals), and Nick Yingst (leading worship).

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

Junior Church for children aged 4-Grade 2 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 Greg Moore.

Prelude

Welcome Richard Smith: We welcome Richard Smith to our pulpit this morning. Richard is one of our supported missionaries, serving with RUF International (RUF-I) at Penn State University. The goal of RUF International is to welcome people from all nations and reflect God's grace to an international audience by seeking to encourage international students with the hope of the gospel and to equip kingdom ambassadors for the church worldwide. (See <https://ruf.org/campus/international/>.) Richard will also present his ministry to the Adult Sunday School Class this morning.

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 146:1-2, 5-8, 10

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

*⁵ Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,*

*⁶ who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;*

*⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets the prisoners free;*

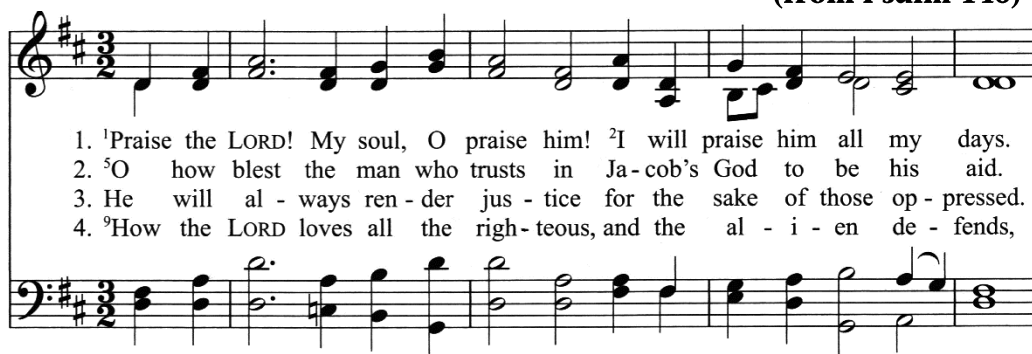
*⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
**The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.***

*¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever,
**your God, O Zion, to all generations.
Praise the LORD!***

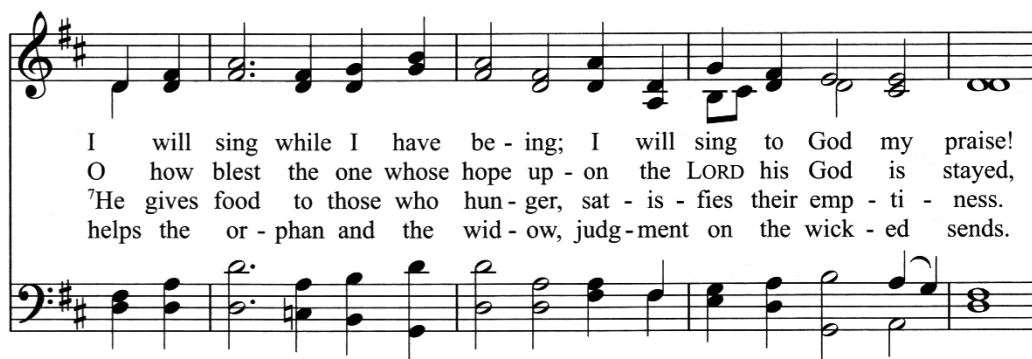
Light Text = Read by Leader

Bold Text = Read by All

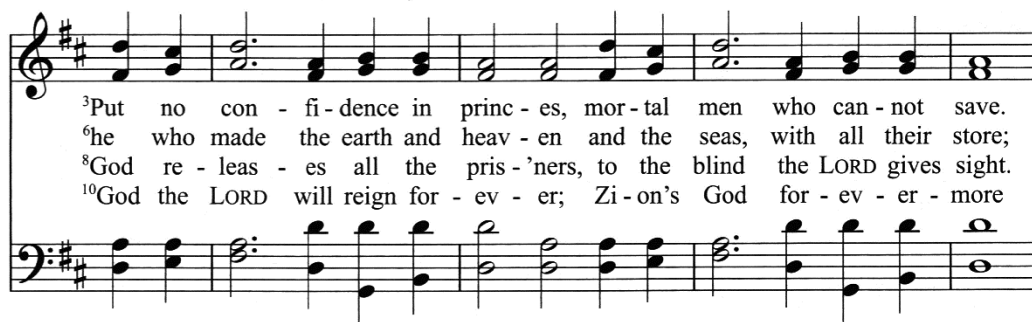
***Response of Praise: Praise the Lord! My Soul, O Praise Him!**
(from Psalm 146)



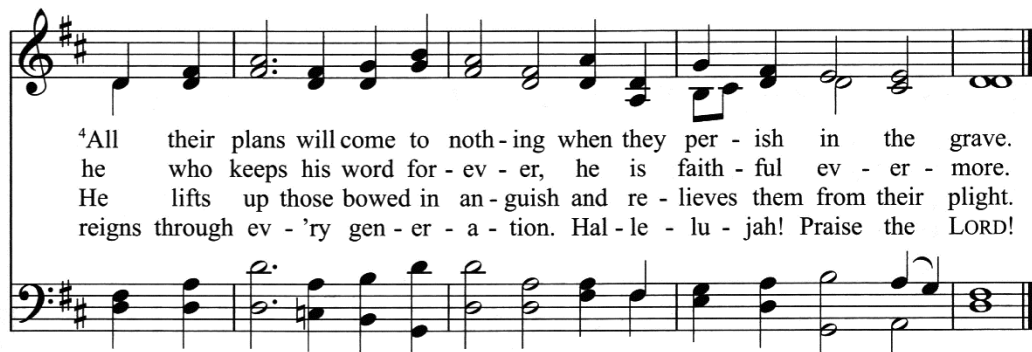
1. ¹Praise the LORD! My soul, O praise him! ²I will praise him all my days.
2. ⁵O how blest the man who trusts in Ja-cob's God to be his aid.
3. He will al - ways ren - der jus - tice for the sake of those op - pressed.
4. ⁹How the LORD loves all the righ - teous, and the al - i - en de - fends,



I will sing while I have be - ing; I will sing to God my praise!
O how blest the one whose hope up - on the LORD his God is stayed,
⁷He gives food to those who hun - ger, sat - is - fies their emp - ti - ness.
helps the or - phan and the wid - ow, judg - ment on the wick - ed sends.



³Put no con - fi - dence in princ - es, mor - tal men who can - not save.
⁶he who made the earth and heav - en and the seas, with all their store;
⁸God re - leas - es all the pris - 'ners, to the blind the LORD gives sight.
¹⁰God the LORD will reign for - ev - er; Zi - on's God for - ev - er - more



⁴All their plans will come to noth - ing when they per - ish in the grave.
he who keeps his word for - ev - er, he is faith - ful ev - er - more.
He lifts up those bowed in an - guish and re - lieves them from their plight.
reigns through ev - 'ry gen - er - a - tion. Hal - le - lu - jah! Praise the LORD!

RIPLEY 8.7.8.7.D.
Lowell Mason, 1839

OPC/URCNA 2016
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***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*.

Facing Up to Our Sin before God

Reading of God's Standard

Exodus 20:14

As we listen to this reading of Scripture today we remember that our God is a holy God, "a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:29), and so we are to "see that [we] do not refuse him who is speaking" (Hebrews 12:25).

You shall not commit adultery.

Q. 68. What is required in the seventh commandment?

A. The seventh commandment requires the preservation of our own and our neighbor's chastity, in heart, speech, and behavior.

Q. 65. What is forbidden in the sixth commandment?

A. The seventh commandment forbids all unchaste thoughts, words, and actions.

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

1 Timothy 1:15a

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners....

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

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

Intercession *for the World*:

- **The Hershey Community:** Ronald MacDonald House in Hershey
- **Civil Government:** PA State Senator John DiSanto
- **Countries of Origin of Our Church Members and Friends:** China
- **Unreached People Group:** Bawa of India and Pakistan
Population: 15,500; Languages: Gujarati and Sindhi; 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:** Peter M.
- **Those Who Serve in Our Local Church:** Pastor David Kertland
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Bellefonte Presbyterian Church, Bellefonte, PA
(A mission church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery)
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Mission to the World (MTW)

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.*

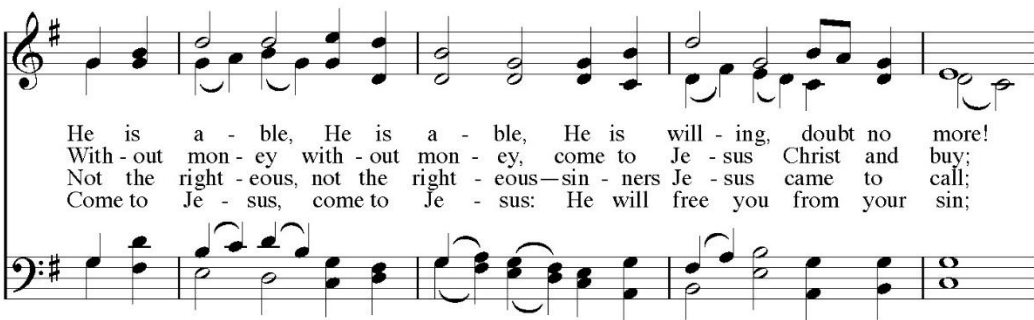
***Song of Preparation: Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy**



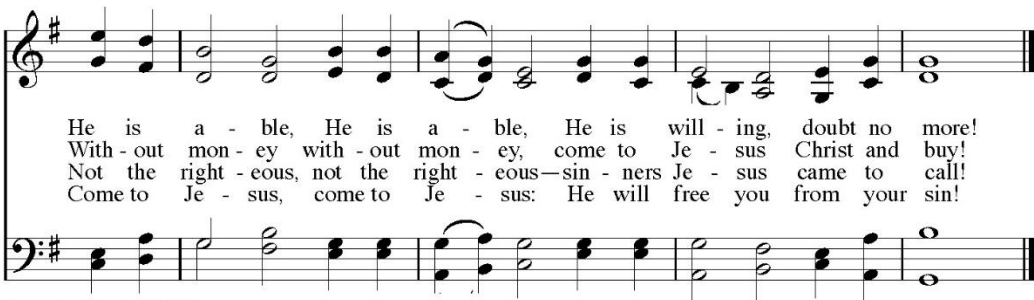
1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound - ed, sick and sore!
 2. Come, ye need - y, come and wel - come, God's free bount - y glo - ri - fy;
 3. Come, ye wear - y, heav - y - la - den, bruised and brok - en by the fall;
 4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness fond - ly dream;



Je - sus read - y stands to save you, full of pit - y, love and power.
 True be - lief and true re - pen - tance, eve - ry grace that brings you nigh.
 If you tar - ry 'til you're bet - ter you will nev - er come at all.
 All the fit - ness He re - quir - eth is to feel your need of Him.



He is a - ble, He is a - ble, He is will - ing, doubt no more!
 With - out mon - ey with - out mon - ey, come to Je - sus Christ and buy;
 Not the right - eous, not the right - eous—sin - ners Je - sus came to call;
 Come to Je - sus, come to Je - sus: He will free you from your sin;



He is a - ble, He is a - ble, He is will - ing, doubt no more!
 With - out mon - ey with - out mon - ey, come to Je - sus Christ and buy!
 Not the right - eous, not the right - eous—sin - ners Je - sus came to call!
 Come to Je - sus, come to Je - sus: He will free you from your sin!

Joseph Hart, 1759
 Adapted

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7 D.
 American folk tune
 Harm. Paul S. Jones, 2013

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:**

Mark 2:1-12

And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. ² And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. ³ And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. ⁴ And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. ⁵ And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." ⁶ Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, ⁷ "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" ⁸ And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? ⁹ Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? ¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic—¹¹ "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." ¹² And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon:

“Faith and Forgiveness”

Today's Text: Mark 2:1-12

Richard Smith

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.'

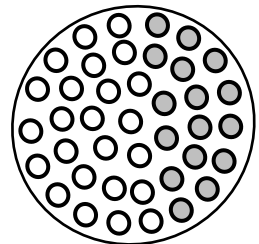
In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

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: O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

1. O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
 2. My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
 3. Je-sus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor-rows cease;
 4. He breaks the pow'r of reign-ing sin, he sets the pris-'ner free;

the glo-ries of my God and King, the tri-umphs of his grace.
 to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of thy name.
 'tis mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
 his blood can make the foul-est clean, his blood a-vailed for me.

5. He speaks and, list'ning to his voice,
 new life the dead receive;
 the mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
 the humble poor believe.

6. Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
 your loosen'd tongues employ;
 ye blind, behold your Savior come;
 and leap, ye lame, for joy.

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.
 Alt. 1961

AZMON C.M.
 Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829
 Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1839

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:** Winslow Homer, *Salt Kettle, Bermuda, 1899*, watercolor over graphite on wove paper, 13-15/16 in. x 21 in., National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
- 2) **Music:** "Praise the Lord! My Soul, O Praise Him!" (146) is reprinted from *The Trinity Psalter Hymnal* (Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture of the Committee on Christian Education of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and the Board of Directors of the United Reformed Churches in North America (USA), 2018). "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" music notated by Jonathan Landry Cruse. "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (164) 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: about the artist: <https://www.nga.gov/collection/artist-info.1401.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



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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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