



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

October 27, 2024

Front Cover Artwork

Bonnie Kertland, *Fall Leaves*, 2017, photograph.

For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flow'r,
sun and moon and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For each perfect gift of thine
to our race so freely giv'n,
graces human and divine,
flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.

"For the Beauty of the Earth,"
The Trinity Hymnal, 116



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 you have come to worship God with us as we come to him through Jesus Christ, our Savior and King.

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

A **Junior Church** for children aged 4-Grade 2 is offered in Room 111 during the sermon and communion time for our young worshippers. This time begins during the hymn before the sermon (page 8). Children participating in Junior church will return to their parents during the final hymn.

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), Thaddaeus Church (viola), Peter Gibble (viola), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (clarinet), Bobby Noble (sound), Jared Salyards (piano), Sarah Shafer (soloist), and Don Wood (vocals).

Today's Communion Servers are Keith Dolon and Joe Kearns.

Prelude

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Zephaniah 31:16b-17

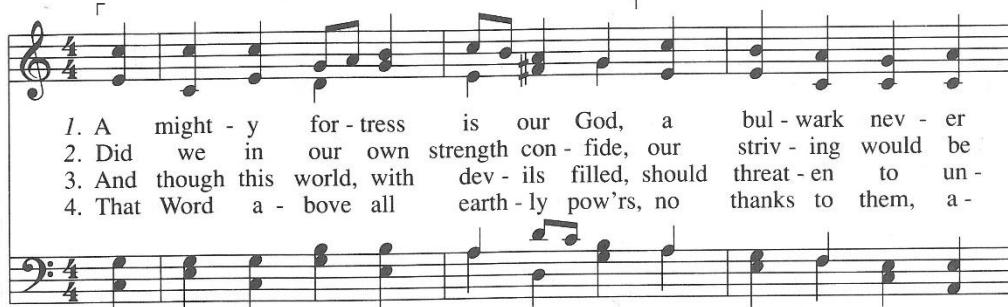
*"Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.*

*¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;*

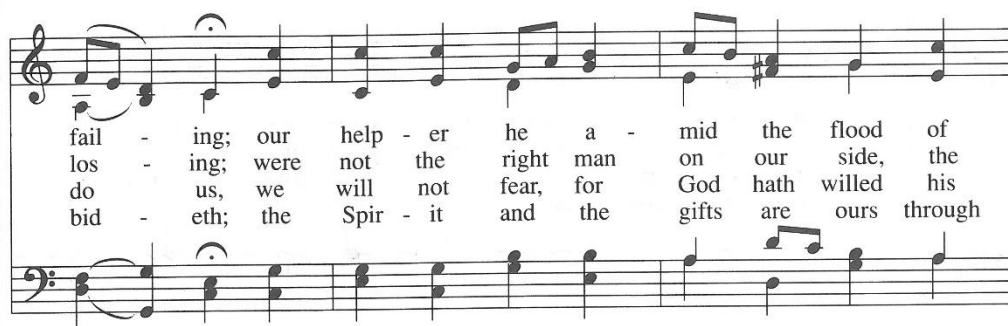
*he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.*

*Response of Praise:

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



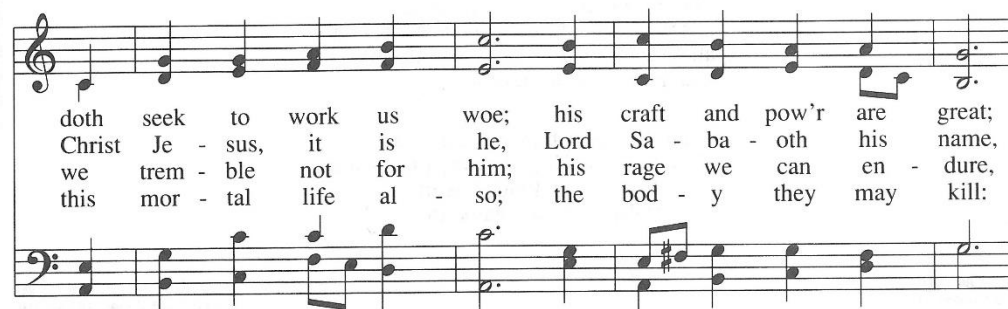
1. A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4. That Word a - bove all earth - ly pow'rs, no thanks to them, a -



fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood of
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side, the
 do us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his
 bid - eth; the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through



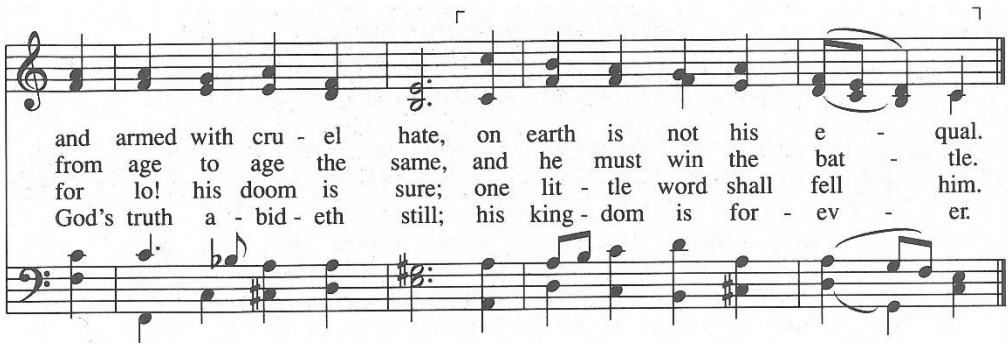
mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be?
 truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim,
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go,



doth seek to work us woe; his craft and pow'r are great;
 Christ Je - sus, it is he, Lord Sa - ba - oth his name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may kill:

Based on Psalm 46
 Martin Luther, 1529
 Tr. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1853

EIN FESTE BURG, 8, 7, 8, 7, 6, 6, 6, 7,
 Martin Luther, 1529



***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Questions 1-2**

Q. 1 What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. **That I am not my own,
 but belong — body and soul, in life and in death —
 to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
 and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.**

**He also watches over me in such a way
 that not a hair can fall from my head
 without the will of my Father in heaven;
 in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.**

**Because I belong to him,
 Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
 assures me of eternal life
 and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
 from now on to live for him.**

Q. 2 What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A. **Three things:
 first, how great my sin and misery are;
 second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery;
 third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.**

***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.**

Facing Up to Our Sin before God

Reading of God's Standard

Zechariah 8:16-17

This month we are exploring the biblical standard summarized by the 9th Commandment, "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor."

These are the things that you shall do:

Speak the truth to one another;

render in your gates judgments that are true and make for peace;

¹⁷ do not devise evil in your hearts against one another,

and love no false oath,

for all these things I hate, declares the LORD.

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

Acts 2:38-39

And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 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."

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of October 27-November 2, 2024

Intercession for the World:

- **The Hershey Community:** Derry Township Director of Community Development Charles Emerick
- **Civil Government:** Dauphin County Commissioner Justin Douglas
- **Unreached People Group:** Myasa Bedar of India
Population: 68,000; Language: Kannada; Religions: Hinduism
"...pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matt. 9:38)
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.

Intercession for the Church (God's People):

- **Health issues:** Darlene K.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Ruling Elder Nick Yingst
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Christ Reformed Church, Alexandra, PA
(A mission church in the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery.)

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: "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place," arr. Mark Hayes
See lyrics on page 15.

During this song, children from 4 years old through Grade 2 are welcome to attend Junior Church in Room 111. The Junior Church teacher will meet the children at the door to the right when facing the stage.

*Song of Preparation:

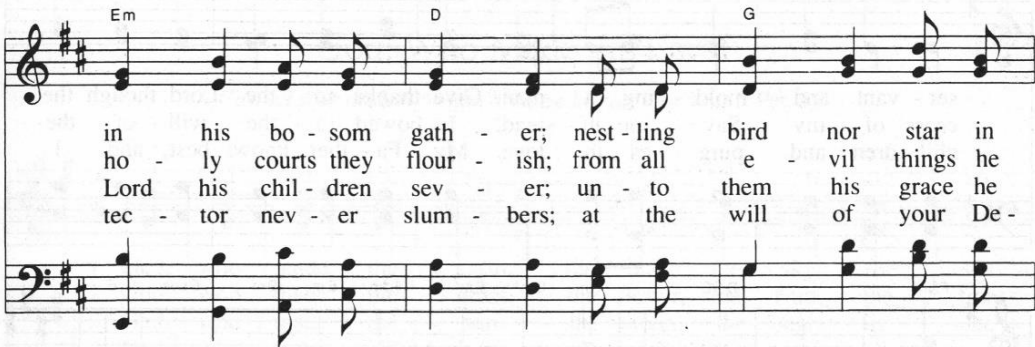
Children of the Heavenly Father

♩ D A 7



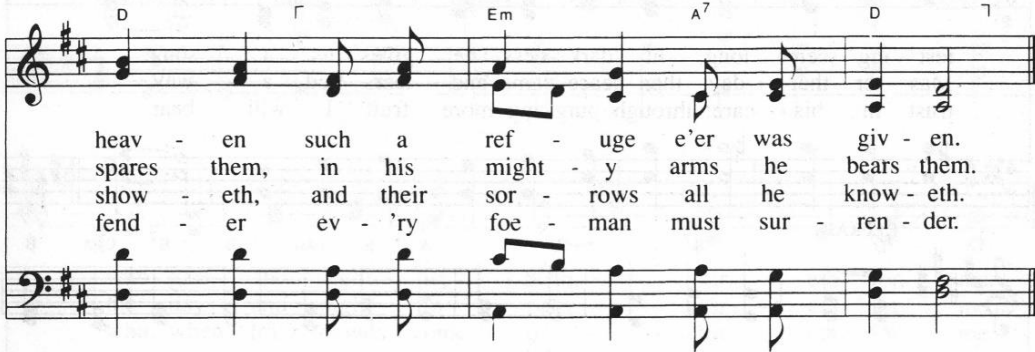
1. Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther safe - ly
 2. God his own doth tend and nour - ish, in his
 3. Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the
 4. Praise the Lord in joy - ful num - bers, your Pro -

Em D G



in his bo - som gath - er; nest - ling bird nor star in
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish; from all e - vil things he
 Lord his chil - dren sev - er; un - to them his grace he
 tec - tor nev - er slum - bers; at the will of your De -

D 7 Em A7 D 7



heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
 show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 fend - er ev - 'ry foe - man must sur - ren - der.

5. Though he giveth or he taketh,
 God his children ne'er forsaketh;
 his the loving purpose solely
 to preserve them pure and holy.

6. More secure is no one ever
 than the loved ones of the Savior;
 not yon star on high abiding
 nor the bird in home-nest hiding.

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 10:27-30

²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand.

³⁰ I and the Father are one."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

One with the Father (25):
Sermon: *A Strong and Sure Hand*
Today's Text: John 10:28-29; David Kertland

1. In his _____

2. A _____ hand

3. A _____ hand

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.'

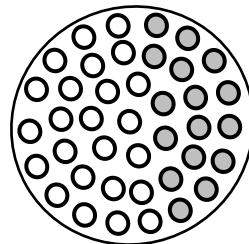
In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

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.



Musical Meditation: "Celtic Laud," arr. Craig Courtney

See lyrics on page 15.

white circles = grape juice
gray circles = wine

Prayer

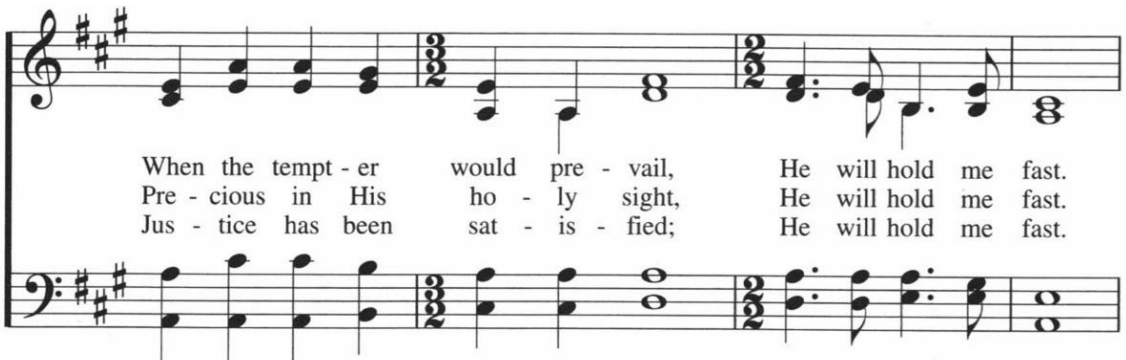
Receiving God's Blessing

***Song of Dedication & Service:**

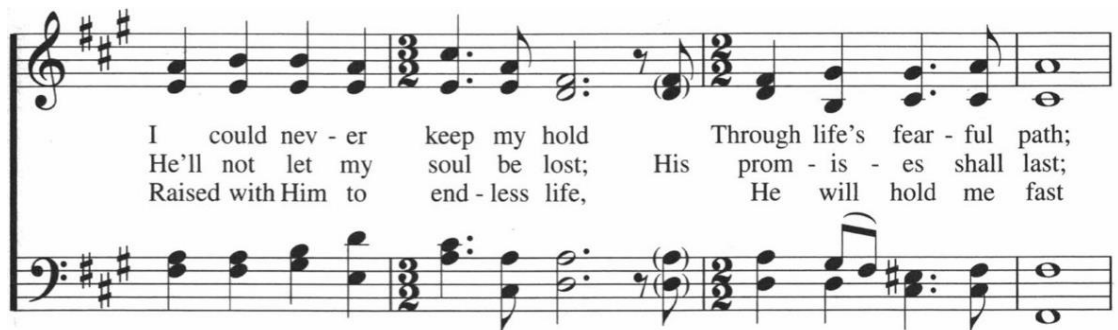
He Will Hold Me Fast



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

He will hold me fast, 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!

For my Sav - ior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

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

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Receiving 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 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:** Bonnie Kertland, *Fall Leaves*, 2017, photograph.
- 2) **Music:** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (92) and "Children of the Heavenly Father" (131) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). "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: about the artwork: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/435866>. Some of the 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, as personal ability allows.

Offertory Music

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place arr. Mark Hayes

My faith has found a resting place, not in device nor creed.
I trust the Ever-living One, His wounds for me shall plead.
I need no other argument, I need no other plea.
It is enough that Jesus died, and that He died for me.

My heart is leaning on the Word, the living word of God,
salvation by my Savior's name, salvation through His blood.
I need no other argument, I need no other plea.
It is enough that Jesus died, and that He died for me.

My great Physician heals the sick, the lost He came to save.
For me His precious blood He shed, for me His life he gave.
I need no other argument, I need no other plea.
It is enough that Jesus died, and that He died for me.

Communion Music

Celtic Laud arr. Craig Courtney

For fruit of the vine, for harvest of wheat,
for bread and for wine, the gift of Your feast,
The cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise,
O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.

For dove in the sky, for wind in the trees,
for coal in the fire, Your Spirit in me.
The cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise,
O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.

For springtime's green earth, for morning's first light,
for every new birth, for grace and for life,
The cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise,
O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.



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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