



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

First Sunday in Advent
December 1, 2024

Front Cover Artwork

Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859-1937), *The Annunciation*, 1898, oil on canvas, 57 x 71 ¼ in. Painted in Paris France. In the collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Gallery 211, American Art, second floor. Purchased with the W. P. Wiltach Fund, 1899. Accession Number: W1899-1-1. In the public domain.

About the cover artwork: “Tanner painted *The Annunciation* soon after returning to Paris from a trip to Egypt and Palestine in 1897. The son of a minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Tanner specialized in religious subjects, and wanted to experience the people, culture, architecture, and light of the Holy Land. Influenced by what he saw, Tanner created an unconventional image of the moment when the angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will bear the Son of God. Mary is shown as an adolescent dressed in rumpled Middle Eastern peasant clothing, without a halo or other holy attributes. Gabriel appears only as a shaft of light. Tanner entered this painting in the 1898 Paris Salon exhibition, after which it was bought for the Philadelphia Museum of Art in 1899, making it his first work to enter an American museum.”

<https://www.philamuseum.org/collections/permanent/104384.html>

When shown at the Philadelphia Academy of the Fine Arts in 1899, the *Philadelphia Inquirer* wrote: “Mr. Tanner’s paintings have always been markedly serious, honest, even exalted, but he has never shown in this country anything which in commanding quality approaches this beautiful work. ... The little figure [of the Virgin] is intensely human, and at the moment of painting the child-woman is divided between fear and exaltation.”

From: “The Academy’s Annual Show,” *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Jan. 15, 1899, p. 6, as quoted in *Henry Ossawa Tanner*, The Philadelphia Museum of Art, Dewey Mosby, 1991, <https://archive.org/details/henryossawatanne01unse/page/n3/mode/2up>.



In addition to the final painting, Tanner’s *Study for the Annunciation* (ca. 1898) can be viewed at the Smithsonian American Art Museum (<https://americanart.si.edu/artwork/study-annunciation-23684>)



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. Today's Nursery Workers are Natalie Otto and Paige Eickelberg.

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. Children participating in Junior church will return to their parents during the final hymn. Today's Junior Church Teacher is Paul Hepperle.

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), Isaiah Church (violin), Thaddaeus Church (viola), Keith Dolon (sound), Dave Eakin (vocals), Peter Gibble (viola), Joe Kearns (leading worship), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Nathanael Marengo (clarinet), Don Wood (vocals), and Nick Yingst (piano).

Today's Communion Servers are Dave Eakin and Joe Kearns.

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle

The Otto Family

Isaiah 60:1-3:

*Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.*

*² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.*

*³ And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.*

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 119:41-42

*Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD,
your salvation according to your promise;*

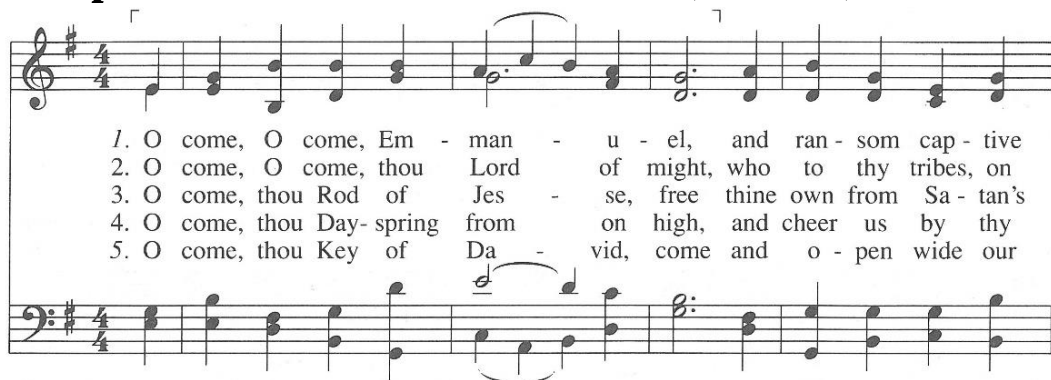
*⁴² then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me,
for I trust in your word.*

Light Text = Read by Leader

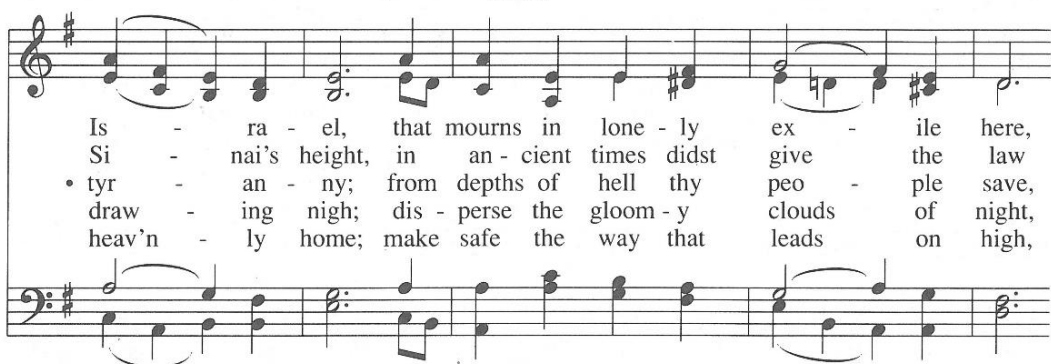
Bold Text = Read by All

*Response of Praise:

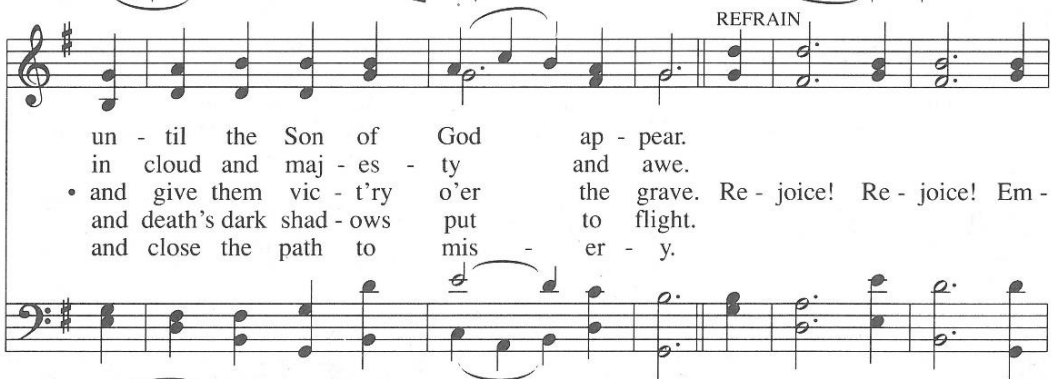
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



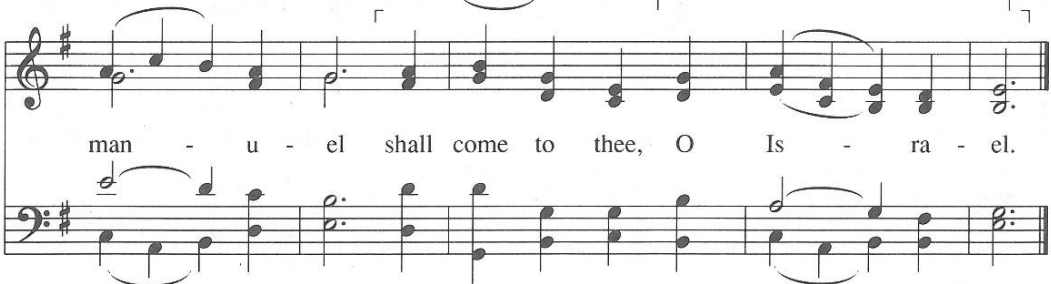
1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on
 3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
 4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
 5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,
 Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law
 • tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,



REFRAIN
 un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 • and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 and close the path to mis - er - y.



man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

VENI EMMANUEL L.M.ref.
 Plainsong, 13th cent.
 Arr. by Thomas Helmore, 1856

Latin antiphons, 12th cent.
 Latin hymn, 1710
 Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1961

***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

John 1:9-11

Today's reading reminds us that, because of original sin as well as our own actual sins, our current human condition is such that we can miss what is clear and true. To not know the Lord God who has created us and who has revealed himself to the world indicates in us a dullness of heart and distortion of thinking—especially about spiritual things. We confess today, our failure to know the One who is the reason we live, and ask for his forgiveness and enlightenment through Christ.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

Confession of Sin

In Unison

**Almighty God,
who draws near to those who draw near to you,
and who exalts those who humble themselves before you,
and who forgives the guilt of our sin and rebellion when we turn
from our evil way,
create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us,
that, truly repenting of our sin, and turning from it to you
with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience,
we may obtain from you, the God of all mercy,
full pardon and forgiveness,
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

John 1:12-13

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Thanksgiving & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of November 24-30, 2024

Intercession *for the World*:

- **Hershey Community:** Derry Township Director of Public Works Thomas Clark
- **Civil Government:** PA Governor Josh Shapiro State Representative
- **Unreached People Group:** Bedia of India, Bangladesh, and Nepal
Population: 718,700; Languages: Hindi, Bengali, Maithili, Urdu;
Religions: Hinduism and Islam

"...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:** Peter M.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Small Group Leaders and Hosts
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Manor Presbyterian Church, Cochranville, PA
(A sister 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

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:

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Unison

1. Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be - gan to be,
 2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin, full of grace,
 3. This is he whom heav'n-taught sing - ers sang of old with one ac - cord,
 4. O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his prais - es sing;
 5. Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee,

he is Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the Source, the End - ing he,
 by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the Sav - ior of our race;
 • whom the Scrip - tures of the proph - ets prom - ised in their faith - ful word;
 all do - min - ions, bow be - fore him and ex - tol our God and King;
 hymn, and chant, and high thanks - giv - ing, and un - wear - ied prais - es be,

of the things that are, that have been, and that fu - ture
 and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
 • now he shines, the long - ex - pect - ed; let cre - a - tion
 let no tongue on earth be si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in
 hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal

years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 • sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
 Plainsong, 12th cent.
 Arr. by Charles Winifred Douglas, 1916

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413
 Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1854;
 Henry W. Baker, 1859

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:**

1 John 1:1-3; Luke 1:26-38

1 John 1:1-3

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ² the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³ that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵ And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸ And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Advent, Week 1

Sermon:

Mary's Son

Today's Text: 1 John 1:1-3, Luke 1:26-38

Pastor David Kertland

1. *The* _____ *life ... in the* _____ *!*

2. _____ Son

3. _____ Son

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.'

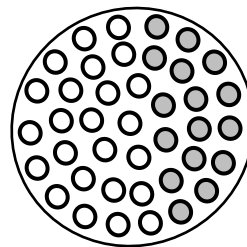
In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

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.



Prayer

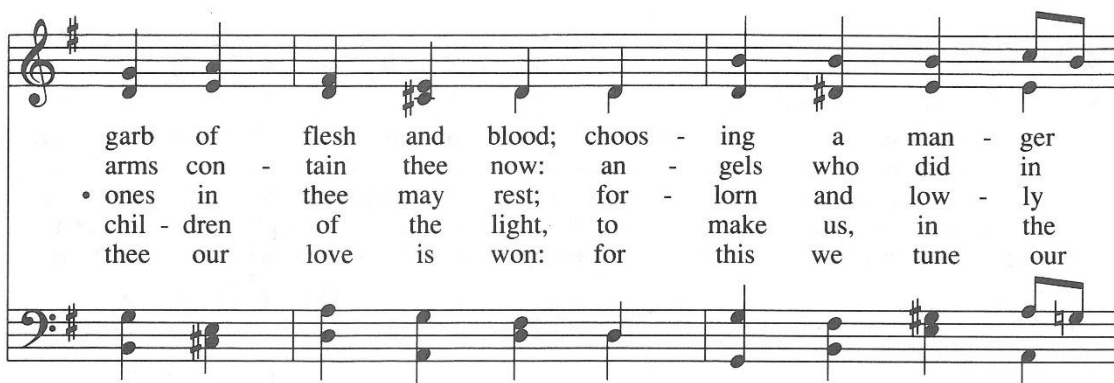
white circles = grape juice in clear cups
gray circles = wine in purple cups

Receiving God's Blessing

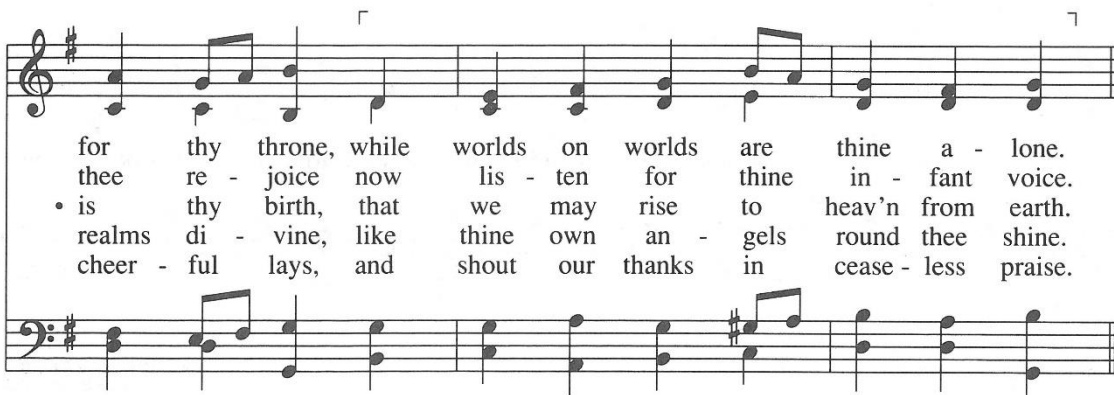
***Song of Dedication & Service: All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord**



1. All praise to thee, e - ter - nal Lord, clothed in a
 2. Once did the skies be - fore thee bow; a vir - gin's
 3. A lit - tle child, thou art our guest, that wea - ry
 4. Thou com - est in the dark - some night to make us
 5. All this for us thy love hath done; by this to



garb of flesh and blood; choos - ing a man - ger
 arms con - tain thee now: an - gels who did in
 • ones in thee may rest; for - lorn and low - ly
 chil - dren of the light, to make us, in the
 thee our love is won: for this we tune our



for thy throne, while worlds on worlds are thine a - lone.
 thee re - joice now lis - ten for thine in - fant voice.
 • is thy birth, that we may rise to heav'n from earth.
 realms di - vine, like thine own an - gels round thee shine.
 cheer - ful lays, and shout our thanks in cease - less praise.

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 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:** Henry Ossawa Tanner. *The Annunciation*. 1898. Oil on canvas. 57 x 71.2 in. Philadelphia Museum of Art. In the public domain. <https://www.philamuseum.org/collections/permanent/104384.html>. Photos of painting on pp. 1-2 by David Kertland.
- 2) **Music:** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (194), "Of the Father's Love Begotten" (162), and "All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord" (219) are 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: on the artwork: <https://www.philamuseum.org/collections/permanent/104384.html>. Page 7: Confession of Sin reprinted, with changes, from *The Worship Sourcebook*, 2nd ed. (Baker Books, 2013, 567); modified by D. Kertland, 11/26/2024. 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 sermon from the First Letter of John and the Gospel of Luke, including: the insights, sermons, and writings of Daniel L. Akin, Gary M. Burge, Nathan Buttery, Colin G. Kruse, Michael Wilcock, Matthew Henry, 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.



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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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

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