



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

January 5, 2025

Front Cover Artwork

Claude Monet (1840-1926), *Lavacourt under Snow*, about 1878-1881, oil on canvas, 59.7 cm. x 80.6 cm., Sir Hugh Lane Bequest, 1917, The National Gallery, London. In partnership with Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin. On loan: Long Loan to The Hugh Lane (2019 - 2026) (Group B), Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, Dublin, Ireland, 1927, Inventory Number NG3262. In the public domain.

“Snow scenes were a particular favorite among the Impressionists, and Monet painted several canvases that explore the way sunlight plays upon the snow, reflecting tones of red, pink, purple and blue at different times of day. He produced this scene of Lavacourt, a tiny hamlet on a bend in the Seine, when he was living in Vétheuil on the opposite side of the river.

The picture is dated 1881, but it may have been painted earlier, during the winter of 1879/80, which was unusually cold. The Seine froze over and Monet was captivated by the way the landscape was transformed by snow and ice, braving the freezing temperatures to set up his easel out of doors. The great bank of snow in the foreground is conveyed with broad sweeps of the brush, the whites overlain with blues. The cold tones suggest that this side of the river is in shadow, unlike the opposite side, where the pink tones suggest the warmth of pale sunlight.”

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/claude-monet-lavacourt-under-snow>
<https://hughlane.ie/emuseum/lavacourt-under-snow>



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 Eve Dolon and AmyLea Yingst.

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 Laura Church.

Thank you to all those who participate in making this worship service possible (worship service participants may include in alphabetical order): Ephraim Church (leading worship and violin), Isaiah Church (violin), Thaddaeus Church (viola), Dave Eakin (vocals), Peter Gible (viola), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (clarinet), Jared Salyards (piano), and Brad Weaver (sound).

Today's Communion Servers are Ephraim Church and Asahel Church.

May be used for reflection prior to the start of the service:

Psalm 116: CXVI *Dilexi, quoniam*

I recognise our risen Lord and King,
And turn again to find my rest in him,
For I have been in trouble. I will bring

The anguish of my soul once more to him
Who feels that anguish with me. Misery
And all the snares of death made faith so dim,

My prayer was just a whisper. But he heard me,
He raised my head and called me to look up,
And now he asks one simple thing of me:

To let him love me, to take up the cup
Of my salvation and to make a new
Communion in his love. He is the hope

Of all the earth and soon he will renew
His whole creation in the risen Son
Whose love is steadfast and whose word is true.

Prelude

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Hebrews 4:14-16

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.

Light Text = Read by Leader

Bold Text = Read by All

***Response of Praise:**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. The key signature has one sharp (F#), indicating D major. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves. The score includes two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system covers the first four lines of the lyrics, and the second system covers the next four lines. The music concludes with a final cadence in the key of D major.

1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived her frame,
 4. A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone;

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5. Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come:
 O be our guard while troubles last,
 and our eternal home.

From Psalm 90
 Isaac Watts, 1719
 Alt. 1990, mod.

ST. ANNE C.M.
 Attr. to William Croft, 1678-1727
 Tate and Brady's *Supplement to the New Version*, 1708

***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

Matthew 22:36-40

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

³⁷ And he said to him,

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of January 5-11, 2025

Intercession *for the World*:

- **Hershey Community:** Life Lion Emergency Medical Services and Critical Care
- **Civil Government:** US Representative Scott Perry
- **Unreached People Group:** Fezzan Bedouin of Libya

Population: 220,000; Language: Arabic; Religion: 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:** Trudy K.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Location Task Force Members
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Harvest Presbyterian Church, Lancaster, 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: Awake My Soul (Morning Prayer)**

1. A - wake, my soul, and with the sun thy dai - ly stage of du - ty run;
 2. Lord, I my vows to Thee re - new. Dis - perse my sins as morn - ing dew;
 3. Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all I de - sign or do or say,
 4. Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Him all crea - tures here be - low;

shake off dull sloth, and ear - ly rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 guard my first springs of thought and will; and with Thy - self my spir - it fill.
 that all my pow'rs, with all their might, in Thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.
 praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Thomas Ken, 1674, alt.

TALLIS CANON
LM

Thomas Tallis, 1567

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:**

Psalm 116

*I love the LORD, because he has heard
my voice and my pleas for mercy.*

*² Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.*

*³ The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.*

*⁴ Then I called on the name of the LORD:
"O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!"*

*⁵ Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
our God is merciful.*

*⁶ The LORD preserves the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.*

*⁷ Return, O my soul, to your rest;
for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.*

*⁸ For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling;*

*⁹ I will walk before the LORD
in the land of the living.*

*¹⁰ I believed, even when I spoke:
"I am greatly afflicted";*

*¹¹ I said in my alarm,
"All mankind are liars."*

*¹² What shall I render to the LORD
for all his benefits to me?*

*¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD,*

*¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.*

*¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his saints.*

*¹⁶ O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.
You have loosed my bonds.*

*¹⁷ I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.*

*¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people,
¹⁹ in the courts of the house of the LORD,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise the LORD!*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon: “Return to your rest, my soul”

Sermon Text: Psalm 116:7; Pastor David Kertland

1. Your _____ for rest
2. Where this rest is _____
3. _____ to your rest.

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.'

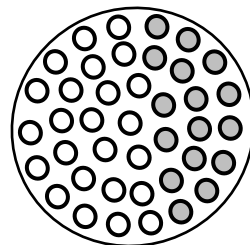
In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

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 in clear cups
gray circles = wine in purple cups

Prayer

Receiving God's Blessing

*Song of Dedication & Service: How Firm a Foundation

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your
 2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis-mayed; for I am your
 3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go, the riv - ers of
 4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie, my grace, all - suf -

faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What more can he say than to
 God, and will still give you aid; I'll strength - en you, help you, and
 sor - row shall not o - ver - flow; for I will be with you, your
 fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply; the flame shall not hurt you; I

you he has said, to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 cause you to stand, up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 trou - bles to bless, and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
 on - ly de - sign your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.

5. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
 I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
 that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
 I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

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:** Claude Monet (1840-1926), *Lavacourt under Snow*, about 1878-1881, oil on canvas, 59.7 cm. x 80.6 cm., Sir Hugh Lane Bequest, 1917, The National Gallery, London. In partnership with Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin. On loan: Long Loan to The Hugh Lane (2019 - 2026) (Group B), Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane, Dublin, Ireland, 1927, Inventory Number NG3262. In the public domain.
- 2) **Music:** "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" (30, verses 5 & 6 omitted) and "How Firm a Foundation" (94, verse 5 omitted) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). "Awake My Soul (Morning Prayer)" (151) is reprinted from *Psalms and Hymns to the Living God* (Scott Aniol, Ed., G3 Ministries, Douglasville, GA, 2023). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes:** Page 2: on the artwork: <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/claude-monet-lavacourt-under-snow>; <https://hughlane.ie/emuseum/lavacourt-under-snow>. Page 3 poem is from *David's Crown: Sounding the Psalms* a collection of poems prompted by the Psalms by Malcolm Guite, Canterbury Press, 2021, 116. The quotation of this non-inspired poem does not suggest nor imply agreement with the author's theological commitments or beliefs. All teaching must be compared with and judged by the Scriptures (see Acts 17:11). 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) 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.

All Praise to Thee (Evening Prayer)

A companion hymn to the second hymn sung in our service this morning.

It is sung to the same tune and can be used to close the day in prayer.

1. All praise to thee, my God this night,
For all the blessings of the light.
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,
Beneath Thine own almighty wings.
2. Forgive me, Lord, for Thy dear Son,
The ill that I this day have done;
That with the world, myself, and Thee,
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.
3. O may my soul on Thee repose,
And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close;
Sleep, that may me more vig'rous make,
To serve my God, when I awake.
4. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and holy Ghost.

Thomas Ken, 1674, alt.



Hershey Presbyterian

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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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HersheyPresbyterian
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