



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

March 16, 2025

Front Cover Artwork

Linda Billet, *Rooted in Compassion*, fused glass mosaic, 2022, on display at the Doctors Kienle Center for Humanistic Medicine at the Penn State Health College of Medicine, Hershey, PA.

Linda Billet is an artist in Hummelstown, PA who is a full-time glass artisan working in kilnformed and mosaic applications. More information and her portfolio can be found on her website, <https://lindabillet.com>.

The Doctors Kienle Center for Humanistic Medicine at the Penn State Health College of Medicine supports projects and initiatives that promote empathy and compassion in health care settings. Originally established as the Center for Humanistic Medicine in 1979 and renamed The Doctors Kienle Center for Humanistic Medicine in 1991, this center supports education and research aimed at promoting a humane, compassionate and patient-centered approach to medicine. The Center is named in honor of the late Drs. Lawrence F. Kienle and Jane Witmer Kienle, whose generous support created the center.
<https://sites.psu.edu/kienlecenter>



Detail of front cover



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 Bonnie Kertland and Natalie Otto.

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 Eve Dolon.

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), Jericho Church (vocals), Laura Church (vocals), Thaddaeus Church (viola), Keith Dolon (sound), Peter Gibble (viola), Paul Hepperle (leading worship), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (clarinet), Don Wood (vocals), and Nick Yingst (piano).

Today's Communion Servers are Asahel Church and Brad Weaver.

Prelude: "Bunnesan with Morning Mood"

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 36:5, 7

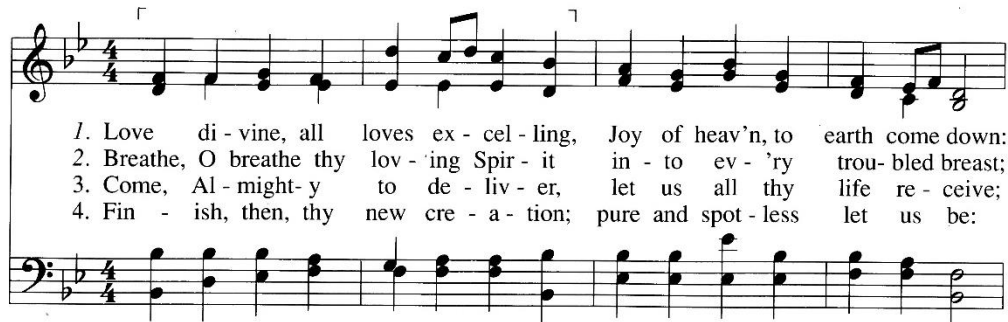
*⁵ Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.*

*⁷ How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
**The children of mankind take refuge
in the shadow of your wings.***

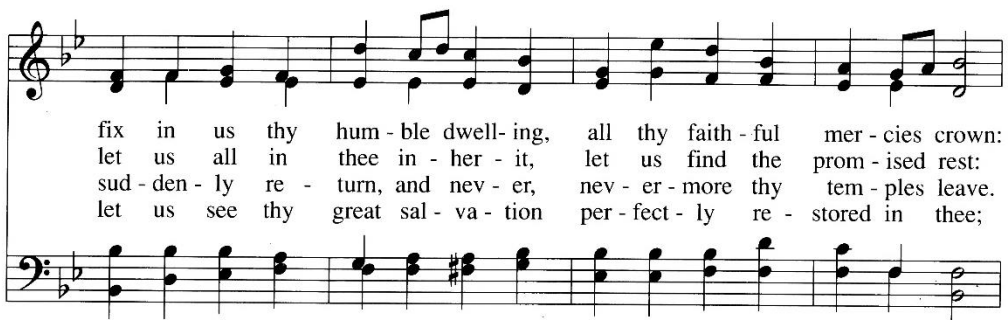
Light Text = Read by Leader
Bold Text = Read by All

*Response of Praise:

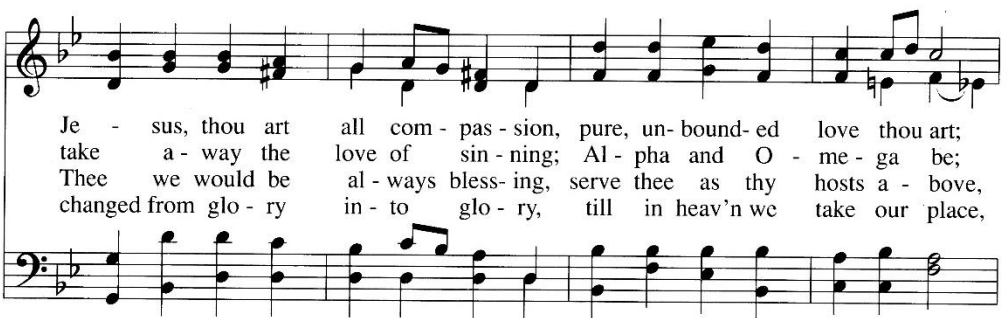
Love Divine, All Love Excelling



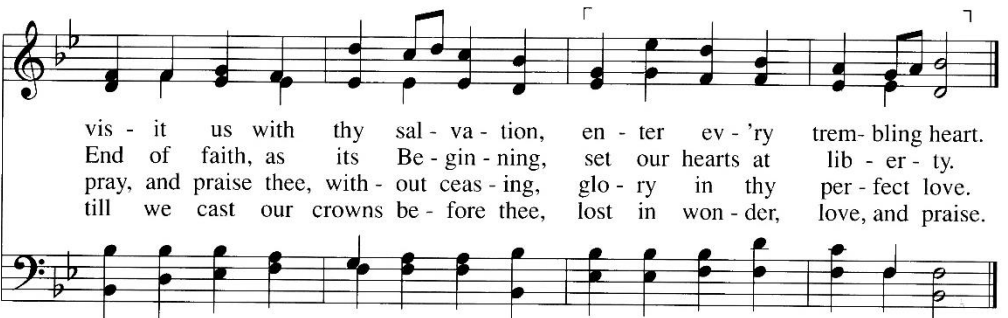
1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down;
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry trou - bled breast;
 3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;
 4. Fin - ish, then, thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be:



fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown:
 let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest:
 sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee;



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
 take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heav'n we take our place,



vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 End of faith, as its Be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 pray, and praise thee, with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

BEECHER 8.7.8.7 D.
 John Zundel, 1870; alt. 1990

Charles Wesley, 1747

***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.

* 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*.

***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

Isaiah 40:18-28

- ¹⁸ *To whom then will you liken God, or what likeness compare with him? ¹⁹ An idol! A craftsman casts it, and a goldsmith overlays it with gold and casts for it silver chains. ²⁰ He who is too impoverished for an offering chooses wood that will not rot; he seeks out a skillful craftsman to set up an idol that will not move.*
- ²¹ *Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³ who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.*
- ²⁵ *To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might and because he is strong in power, not one is missing. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?*
- ²⁸ *Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.*

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

Isaiah 40:29-31

He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of March 16-22, 2025

Intercession for the World:

- **Hershey Community:** Derry Township Supervisor Richard Zmuda
- **Civil Government:** PA Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis
- **Unreached People Group:** Sanusi Bedouin of Libya

Population: 640,000; Language: Arabic; Religion: Islam

"...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:** Trudy K.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Deacon Brad Weaver
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Faith Church, Quarryville, 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: "St. Columba"

arr. Martin

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:

To God Be the Glory

1. To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done! So loved he the
 2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood! To ev - 'ry be -
 3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done, and great our re -

world that he gave us his Son, who yield - ed his life an a -
 liev - er the prom - ise of God; the vil - est of - fend - er who
 joic - ing through Je - sus the Son; but pur - er and high - er and

tone - ment for sin, and o - pened the life - gate that we may go in.
 tru - ly be - lieves, that mo - ment from Je - sus for - give - ness re - ceives.
 great - er will be our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

REFRAIN
 G D D D7

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord,

praise the Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther thro'

Je - sus the Son, and give him the glo - ry, great things he has done!

Fanny J. Crosby, 1875; alt.
Mod.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY 11.11.11.11.
William H. Doane, 1875

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 12:20-43

"Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks.

²¹ So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' ²² Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

²³ And Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵ Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again."

²⁹ The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰ Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³ He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

³⁴ So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" ³⁵ So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶ While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."

When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them.

³⁷ Though he had done so many signs before them, they still did not believe in him, ³⁸ so that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

*"Lord, who has believed what he heard from us,
and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"*

³⁹ Therefore they could not believe. For again Isaiah said,

*⁴⁰ "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart
lest they see with their eyes, and understand with their heart,
and turn, and I would heal them."*

⁴¹ Isaiah said these things because he saw his glory and spoke of him.

⁴² Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon: *Through Me! (7): **Why the Cross?***
Today's Primary Text: John 12:31-32
Pastor David Kertland

1. For _____

a. The lie _____

b. The lie _____

2. For _____

a. The penalty _____

b. The penalty _____

Preparing for Communion:

3. Whose _____ do you love?

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 (see below)

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.'

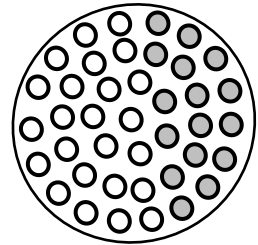
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

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

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.

Receiving God's Blessing

*Song of Dedication & Service: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Gal. 6:14

♯ F C F Gm D Gm F C F ♯

1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2. For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
 3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

Bb F C7 F C7 F C F C F Gm D

Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ my God: all the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down: did e'er such love and
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

Gm F C F ♯ C7 Dm Gm C7 F ♯

count but loss, and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts, 1707, 1709

HAMBURG L.M.
 Gregorian chant
 Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1824

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:** Linda Billet, *Rooted in Compassion*, fused glass mosaic, 2022, on display at the Doctors Keinle Center for Humanistic Medicine at the Penn State Health College of Medicine, Hershey, PA. Used with the permission of the artist and the Keinle Center at Penn State University Medical Center (displayed in hallway of the Medical College outside of Au Bon Pain). Use on our booklet cover is solely for the purpose of displaying the work of a local artist. It is not intended to imply any relationship, alignment, agreement or disagreement with the Keinle Center and its pursuits and policies.
- 2) **Music:** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" (529), "To God Be the Glory" (55), and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" (252) 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: about the artist: <https://lindabillet.com>; about The Doctors Keinle Center for Humanistic Medicine: <https://sites.psu.edu/keinlecenter>. 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).
- 5) **Note from the Pastor:** Along with the Greek and English texts, a variety of commentaries and other study aids may 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.

* Congregation standing, as personal ability allows.

2025 Vacation Bible School Is Coming!

“UPWARD BOUND”

“FURTHER UP & FURTHER IN!”



Mark your calendars for our mountain-themed Vacation Bible School this summer! Children aged 3 through completed Grade 5 will participate in Bible stories, crafts, games, and snacks.

When: Monday, June 30 through Thursday, July 3

Where: at our new location at 850 Hill Church Road

We are seeking energetic volunteers to help! We need decorators, camp guides, snack enthusiasts, recreational helpers, etc. If you are interested in helping, we have a place for you! Please speak to Paul Hepperle about how you can serve the children of our church and community at VBS this summer.



Hershey Presbyterian

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)



Hershey Presbyterian Church 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 (Mt. 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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Address: 1521 Sand Hill Road, Hummelstown, PA 17036

To contact the church office,
office@hersheypca.com or (717) 489-1535.

hersheypca.com