



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

March 23, 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 Eve Dolon and Emily Church.

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 Katy McIlvaine.

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), Jericho Church (vocals), Laura Church (vocals), Thaddaeus Church (viola), Keith Dolon (sound), Peter Gible (viola), Joe Kearns (leading worship), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (sound), Anita Wood (piano), and Don Wood (vocals).

Today's Communion Servers are Keith Dolon and Nick Yingst.

Prelude

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Isaiah 55:6-7

"Seek the LORD while he may be found;

call upon him while he is near;

⁷ let the wicked forsake his way,

and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

Light Text = Read by Leader

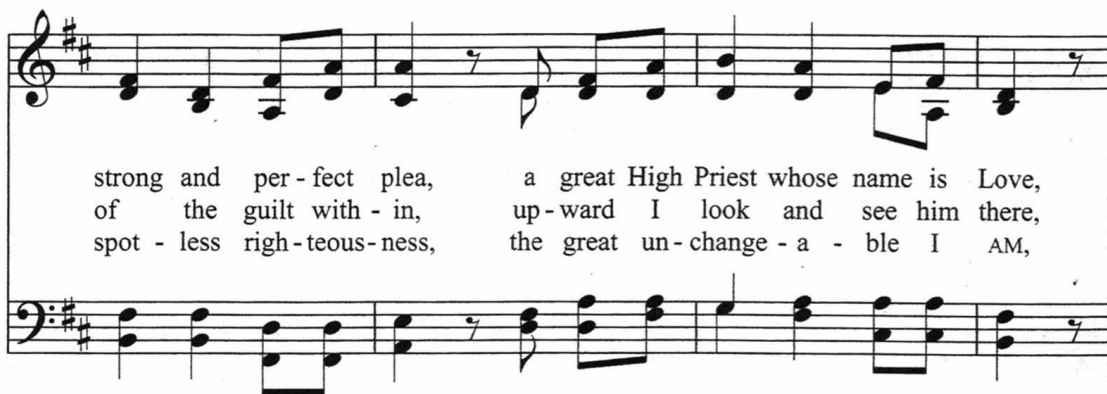
Bold Text = Read by All

***Response of Praise:**

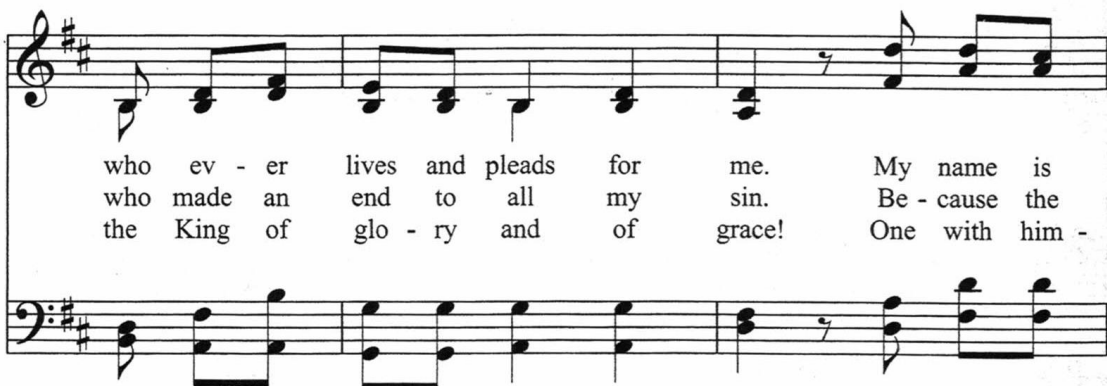
Before the Throne of God Above



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove, I have a
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair and tells me
3. Be - hold him there, the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect,



strong and per - fect plea, a great High Priest whose name is Love,
of the guilt with - in, up - ward I look and see him there,
spot - less righ - teous - ness, the great un - change - a - ble I AM,



who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is
who made an end to all my sin. Be - cause the
the King of glo - ry and of grace! One with him -

grav - en on his hands, my name is writ - ten on his
sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed
self I can - not die. My soul is pur - chased by his

heart. I know that while in heav'n he stands, no tongue can
free; for God, the just, is sat - is - fied to look on
blood! My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my

bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
him and par - don me, to look on him and par - don me.
Sa - vior and my God, with Christ, my Sav - ior and my God.

Charitie Bancroft, 1863; alt.

BEFORE THE THRONE 8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8.

Vikki Cook; arr. Ruth Coleman

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***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith:**

1 John 4:7-12

*Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God,
and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.
Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

***In this the love of God was made manifest among us,
that God sent his only Son into the world,
so that we might live through him.
In this is love, not that we have loved God
but that he loved us and sent his Son
to be the propitiation for our sins.***

*Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
No one has ever seen God; if we love one another,
God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.*

***Doxology**

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a piano accompaniment (left hand) and a vocal line (right hand). The lyrics are as follows:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here be- low. Praise Him a- bove ye Hea-ven-ly Host.

Praise Fa- ther, Son and Ho- ly Ghost. A - - - men!

Music by A. Wood

Facing Up to Our Sin before God

Reading of God's Standard

Matthew 10:37-39

³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— ⁶ even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸ who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of March 23-29, 2025

Intercession *for the World*:

- **Hershey Community:** Local Public and Private Schools and Homeschooling Families – Students, Faculty, Administration, and Staff
- **Civil Government:** PA Supreme Court Justices
- **Unreached People Group:** Sidi Bedouin of Algeria

Population: 21,000; 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:** Lois K.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Director of Covenant Family Ministries
Paul Hepperle
- **Our Denomination (PCA):** Hope Reformed Presbyterian Church, Shippensburg
(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: Your Word's a Lamp (Psalm 119:105-112)

49. ¹⁰⁵ Your word's a lamp to guide my feet,
 50. ¹⁰⁷ I've suf-fered much; re-new my life,
 51. ¹⁰⁹ My life in con-stant dan-ger is;
 52. ¹¹¹ Your tes-ti-mo-nies thrill my heart;

A light to shine up-on my way.
 O LORD, ac-cord-ing to Your word.
 But I do not Your law for-get.
 This last-ing her-i-tage is mine.

¹⁰⁶ I now con-firm this vow I swore:
¹⁰⁸ Ac-cept the of-frings of my mouth,
¹¹⁰ I have not from Your pre-cepts strayed,
¹¹² I turn my heart now to Your law,

Your righ-teous judg-ments I'll o-bey.
 In-struct me in Your judg-ments, LORD.
 De-spite the traps the wick-ed set.
 To keep it till the end of time.

TALLIS' CANON LM

Thomas Tallis, c. 1505-1585

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 12:44-50

And Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. ⁴⁵ And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. ⁴⁶ I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. ⁴⁷ If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. ⁴⁸ The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. ⁴⁹ For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. ⁵⁰ And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon: *Through Me! (8): “**The Grand Premise**”*

Today's Primary Text: John 12:44-50

Pastor David Kertland

1. Jesus came as _____

a. _____ glory

b. _____ message

2. Jesus came as _____

a. Sent to _____

b. Sent to _____

Preparing for Communion:

3. *“Whoever believes”*

a. A call to _____

b. A call to _____ (John 20:21)

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.'

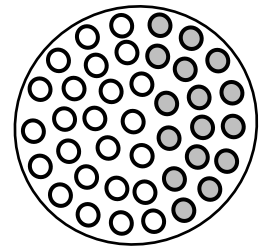
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

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: The Light of the World Is Jesus

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff and a bass line on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 6/8. The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass line consists of sustained chords. Chord symbols (F, C, F, C7, F, C) are placed above the staff at various points. The lyrics are arranged in four systems, each with four lines of text. The first system includes a numbered list of four lines. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system includes the word 'REFRAIN' above the staff. The fourth system repeats the phrase 'the light of the world is Jesus' four times, followed by 'Come to the light, 'tis'.

1. The whole world was lost in the dark - ness of sin; the light of the
2. No dark - ness have we who in Je - sus a - bide, the light of the
3. Ye dwell - ers in dark - ness with sin - blind - ed eyes, the light of the
4. No need of the sun - light in heav - en, we're told, the light of the

world is Je - sus; like sun - shine at noon - day his glo - ry shone in,
world is Je - sus; we walk in the light when we fol - low our Guide,
world is Je - sus; go, wash at his bid - ding, and light will a - rise,
world is Je - sus; the Lamb is the light in the Cit - y of Gold,

the light of the world is Je - sus.
the light of the world is Je - sus. Come to the light, 'tis
the light of the world is Je - sus.
the light of the world is Je - sus.

Please turn the page →

shin - ing for thee; sweet - ly the light has dawned up - on me; once I was

blind, but now I can see; the light of the world is Je - sus.

Philip P. Bliss, 1875

LIGHT OF THE WORLD 11.8.11.8.ref.
Philip P. Bliss, 1875

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:** 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:** "Before the Throne of God Above" (277) is reprinted from *The Trinity Psalter Hymnal* (Willow Grove, PA: Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture, 2018). "Doxology" words by Thomas Ken, 1709; music by Anita Wood, Hershey, PA). "Your Word's a Lamp" (119N) is reprinted from *The Book of Psalms for Worship* (Crown & Covenant Publications, Pittsburgh, PA, 2010). "The Light of the World Is Jesus" (476) 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://lindabillet.com>; about The Doctors Kienle Center for Humanistic Medicine: <https://sites.psu.edu/kienlecenter>. 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.



Hershey Presbyterian Church (PCA)

is a member congregation of the Susquehanna Valley Presbytery
of the Presbyterian Church in America (www.pcanet.org).



HersheyPresbyterian
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