



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

April 20, 2025
Easter Sunday

Front Cover Artwork

Henri Fantin-Latour, *White Lilies (Branche de Lys)*, 1877, oil on canvas. 30 cm. x 43 cm. (frame 44 cm. x 56.5 cm.), signed and dated in upper right. Victoria and Albert Museum (UK). In the Prints, Drawings, & Painting Collection. Not currently on display. Accession No. S.EX.61-1882. In the public domain.

“Henri Fantin-Latour (1836-1904) was born in Grenoble and first trained with his father, Jean-Théodore Fantin-Latour (1805-75), and then with Horace Lecoq de Boisbaudran at the Petite Ecole de Dessin in Paris from 1850 to 1856. In 1861 he worked in Gustave Courbet’s studio for several months as a pupil. After a period of portraiture, Fantin-Latour concentrated on flowers paintings and still-lives for which he is now best known. His flower pieces were especially popular with British collectors, and he exhibited at the Royal Academy in London from 1862 onwards, especially thanks to the patronage of James McNeill Whistler (1834-1903), whom he met in 1858.

This painting is a fine example of Fantin-Latour’s paintings of flower, a category in which he progressively specialized executing up to 500 floral compositions. This painting shows a stem of white lilies whose pure white contrasts against the plain dark background. This effect of light and color are characteristic of the new naturalism developed in French art in the second half of the 19th century, which anticipate the Impressionists’ new experimentations.

<https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O72905/white-lilies-painting-fantin-latour-henri/>

...

In Christian symbolism, the white lily often depicts the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. “The symbolism of the [lily] in Christianity is relatively complex. On the one hand, the Easter lily blooms purely white—a color heavily associated with purity and holiness. The flower’s trumpet shape is said to symbolize a herald announcing Christ’s resurrection. But the very way a lily grows is symbolic: From a dormant bulb buried in the earth, a beautiful and vibrantly alive flower emerges, mirroring the story of Jesus rising from the tomb.”

<https://aleteia.org/2024/03/31/the-easter-lily-a-simple-yet-majestic-symbol-of-rebirth>



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 Yaasha Hepperle.

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 Bonnie Kertland.

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), Paul Hepperle (leading worship), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Nathanael Marengo (clarinet), Brad Weaver (sound), Anita Wood (piano), and Don Wood (vocals).

Today's Communion Servers are Ephraim Church and Nick Yingst.

Prelude

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

The Easter Greeting

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

Light Text = Read by Leader

Bold Text = Read by All

***Response of Praise:**

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in four lines, each corresponding to a different part of the choir. The first line of lyrics is: "1. 'Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day,' Al - - le - lu - ia!". The second line is: "2. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Al - - le - lu - ia!". The third line is: "3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King; Al - - le - lu - ia!". The fourth line is: "4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - - le - lu - ia!". The score includes a repeat sign at the beginning and a final cadence at the end. The lyrics are printed below the musical staves, with the words "Al - - le - lu - ia!" repeated at the end of each line.

1. "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day," Al - - le - lu - ia!
2. Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Al - - le - lu - ia!
3. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King; Al - - le - lu - ia!
4. Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - - le - lu - ia!

sons of men and an - gels say; Al - - le - lu - ia!
Christ has burst the gates of hell: Al - - le - lu - ia!
where, O death, is now thy sting? Al - - le - lu - ia!
fol - l'wing our ex - alt - ed Head; Al - - le - lu - ia!

raise your joys and tri-umphs high; Al - - le - lu - ia!
 death in vain for - bids his rise; Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Once he died, our souls to save; Al - - le - lu - ia!
 made like him, like him we rise; Al - - le - lu - ia!

sing ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply. Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Christ has o - pened par - a - dise. Al - - le - lu - ia!
 where thy vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - - le - lu - ia!
 ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - - le - lu - ia!

5. Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! *Alleluia!*
 Praise to thee by both be giv'n; *Alleluia!*
 thee we greet triumphant now; *Alleluia!*
 hail, the Resurrection, thou! *Alleluia!*

Charles Wesley, 1739

EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7.al.
Lyra Davidica, 1708; alt.

***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**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

* "'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; not intended as a reference to what is today called the *Roman Catholic Church*.

Facing Up to Our Sin before God

Reading of God's Standard Hebrews 11:1; Romans 10:17

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

...

Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Confession of Sin

O Father, we have sinned and been guilty of pride and unbelief.

We have failed to seek you in our daily lives as we ought.

Our sins and shortcomings present a long list of accusations,

but you have promised that Christ died for sinners such as us.

Therefore, deliver us from our sins, our failures, our doubts,

from every evil habit, from every interest of our former sins,

from everything that dims the brightness of your grace, and

from everything that prevents us taking delight in you.

We come to you to ask these things through Jesus, your Son,

our Savior, in whose name we pray,

Amen.

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

Romans 4:24-5:2

[Faith] will be counted [as righteousness] to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of April 20-26, 2025

Intercession *for the World*:

- **Hershey Community:** Hershey Fire Department Chief Patrick Leonard
- **Civil Government:** President Donald Trump
- **Unreached People Group:** Yahia Bedouin of Morocco

Population: 117,000; 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:** Elmer C.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Church Musicians
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Committee on Discipleship Ministries (CDM)

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

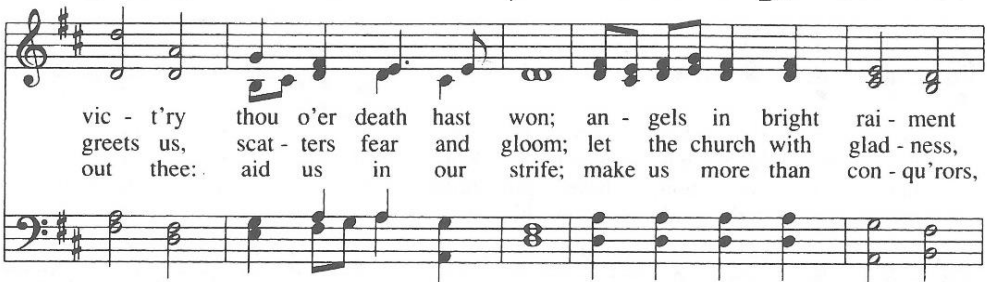
During this song, children from 4 years old through Grade 2 are welcome to attend Junior Church in Room 111. The Junior Church teacher will meet the children at the door to the right when facing the stage.

*Song of Preparation:

Thine Be the Glory



1. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
 2. Lo! Je - sus meets us, ris - en from the tomb; lov - ing - ly he
 3. No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with -



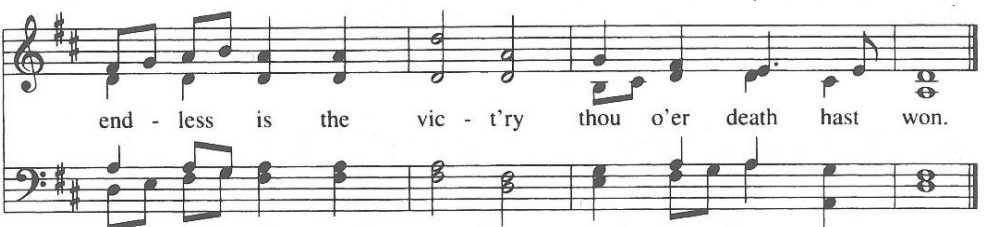
vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won; an - gels in bright rai - ment
 greets us, scat - ters fear and gloom; let the church with glad - ness,
 out thee: aid us in our strife; make us more than con - qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes,
 hymns of tri - umph sing, for her Lord now liv - eth,
 thro' thy death - less love: bring us safe thro' Jor - dan



REFRAIN
 where thy bod - y lay.
 death hath lost its sting. Thine be the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son;
 to thy home a - bove.



end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won.

Edmond Rudy, 1884
 Tr. by Richard B. Hoyle, 1923
 Text © 1923 World Student Christian Federation. Used by permission.

MACCABAEUS 10:11, 11:11, 11:11
 From George Frederick Handel, "Judas Maccabaeus," 1747

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 20:1-20

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³ So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴ Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷ and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to their homes.

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹² And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and

your Father, to my God and your God.”¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon:

“Peace be with You”

Pastor David Kertland

Today’s Text: John 20:19; 2 Thessalonians 3:16

“Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’”

“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way.

The Lord be with you all.”

1. _____ his peace

A peace declared by the risen Christ

2. _____ in his peace

A peace sustained by the reigning Christ

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)

Prayer

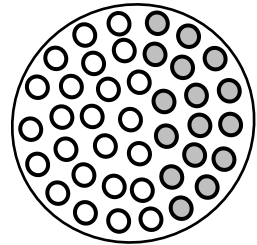
Words of Institution:

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."

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):

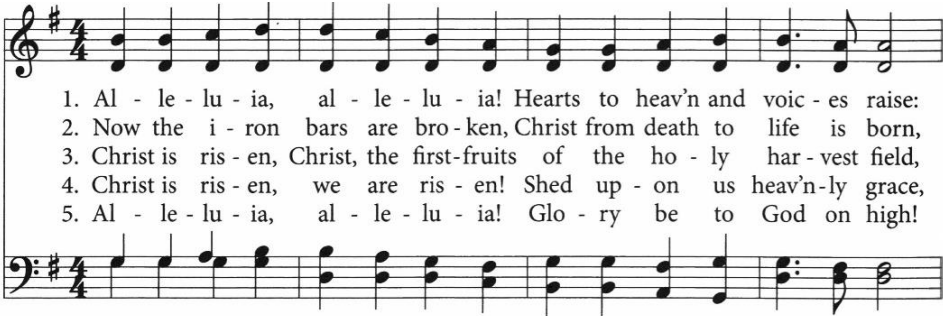
Prayer of Belief: "Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared to admit, but in Jesus I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you 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

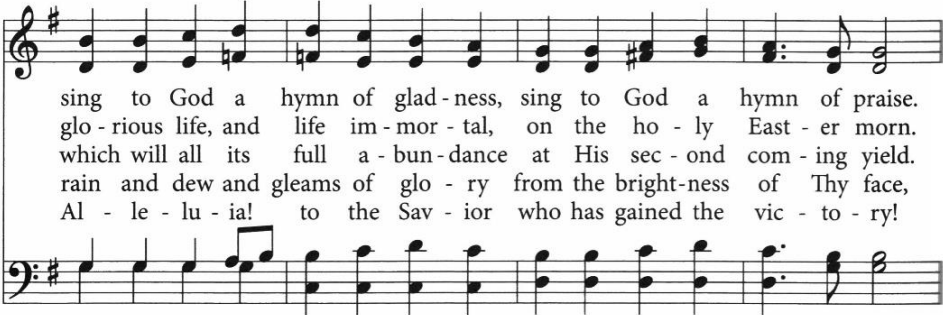
*Song of Dedication & Service: Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

Christopher Wordsworth, 1862

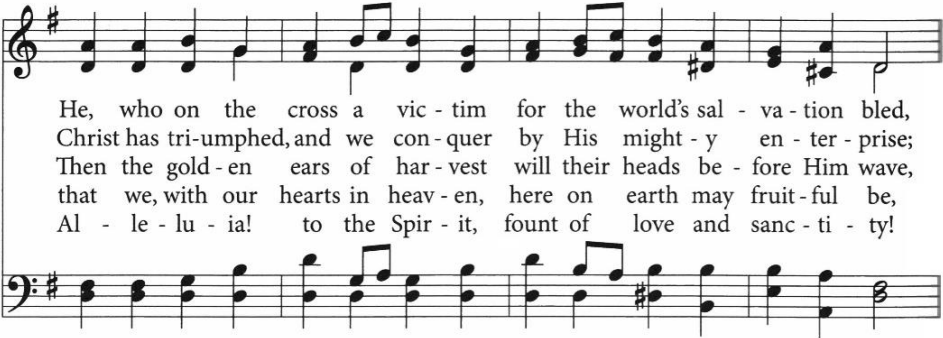


1. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:
 2. Now the i - ron bars are bro - ken, Christ from death to life is born,
 3. Christ is ris - en, Christ, the first-fruits of the ho - ly har - vest field,
 4. Christ is ris - en, we are ris - en! Shed up - on us heav'n - ly grace,
 5. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high!

ODE TO JOY
87 87 D

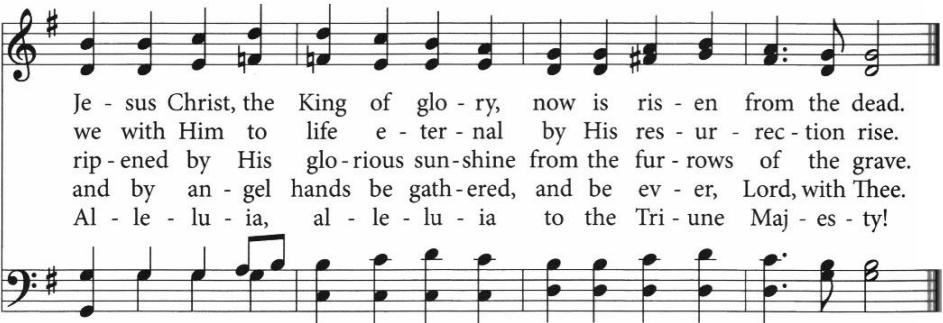


sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
 glo - rious life, and life im - mor - tal, on the ho - ly East - er morn.
 which will all its full a - bun - dance at His sec - ond com - ing yield.
 rain and dew and gleams of glo - ry from the bright - ness of Thy face,
 Al - le - lu - ia! to the Sav - ior who has gained the vic - to - ry!



He, who on the cross a vic - tim for the world's sal - va - tion bled,
 Christ has tri - umphed, and we con - quer by His might - y en - ter - prise;
 Then the gold - en ears of har - vest will their heads be - fore Him wave,
 that we, with our hearts in heav - en, here on earth may fruit - ful be,
 Al - le - lu - ia! to the Spir - it, fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!

Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
 adapt. Edward Hodges, 1864



Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, now is ris - en from the dead.
 we with Him to life e - ter - nal by His res - ur - rec - tion rise.
 rip - ened by His glo - rious sun - shine from the fur - rows of the grave.
 and by an - gel hands be gath - ered, and be ev - er, Lord, with Thee.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia to the Tri - une Maj - es - ty!

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:** Henri Fantin-Latour, *White Lilies (Branche de Lys)*, 1877, oil on canvas. 30 cm. x 43 cm. (frame 44 cm. x 56.5 cm.), signed and dated in upper right. Victoria and Albert Museum (UK). In the Prints, Drawings, & Painting Collection. Not currently on display. Accession No. S.EX.61-1882. In the public domain.
- 2) **Music:** "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" (277) and "Thine Be the Glory" (274) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). "Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven" (284) is reprinted from *Psalms and Hymns to the Living God* (G3 Ministries, www.G3min.org, 2023). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes:** Page 2: about the artist: <https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O72905/white-lilies-painting-fantin-latour-henri/>; about the lily: <https://aleteia.org/2024/03/31/the-easter-lily-a-simple-yet-majestic-symbol-of-rebirth>. Page 6: Confession of sin was modified from <https://waysidechurch.org/ministries/corporate-prayers-of-confession>. 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!”

Dates: Monday, June 30 - Thursday, July 3

Place: 850 Hill Church Road!

Time: 5:30 -7:30 PM

For: age 3 through completed Grade 5

Activities: Bible stories, crafts, games, & snacks





Hershey Presbyterian

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

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



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

Address: 1521 Sand Hill Road, Hummelstown, PA 17036

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

hersheypca.com