



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

May 25, 2025

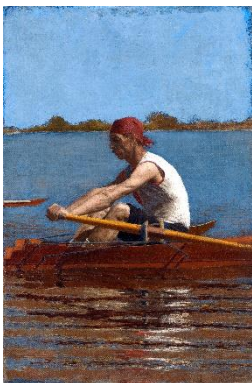
Front Cover Artwork

Thomas Eakins, *John Biglin in a Single Scull*, c. 1873, American, Watercolor on off-white wove paper, 19 5/16 in. x 24 7/8 in. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, (not on display), Fletcher Fund, 1924, Object Number: 24.108, In the public domain.

In 1873, when Eakins began painting watercolors for exhibition, he took up sporting scenes. This sheet is a replica of a watercolor (Yale University Art Gallery, see below) that he sent to his Parisian teacher, Jean-Léon Gérôme, for criticism. His master wrote, "Your watercolor is entirely good and I am very pleased to have in New York a pupil such as you who does me honor."

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/10818>

Related Painting: *John Biglin in a Single Scull*, Thomas Eakins, Oil on canvas, 24 3/8 in. x 16 in., Yale University Art Gallery, Whitney Collections of Sporting Art, On view, 2nd Floor, American Art before 1900, given in memory of Harry Payne Whitney, B.A. 1894, and Payne Whitney, B.A. 1898, by Francis P. Garan, B.A. 1897 (Hon.) 1922, Accession Number: 1932.263, in the public domain.



On the Painting: In the 1870s, Thomas Eakins drew upon his firsthand knowledge of the popular sport of rowing and his scientific understanding of anatomy, motion, and reflections on water to create a series of rowing pictures. This one features John Biglin, the champion of single sculls, as he practices for a race. Like a figure carved in relief, Biglin displays powerful muscularity in the sculptural roundness of his arms and shoulders. Other details, including the light wear on the wooden thole pin that provides a fulcrum for the oar, are rendered with Eakins's characteristic precision.

<https://artgallery.yale.edu/collections/objects/5464>



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 Rachel Ballach and Vicki Gehron.

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): Ephraim Church (violin), Isaiah Church (violin), Keith Dolon (sound), Peter Gibble (viola), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (leading worship), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Tom Myers (preaching), Nathanael Marengo (clarinet), Don Wood (vocals), and Nick Yingst (piano).

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

Prelude

Guest Preacher

Today we welcome Pastor Tom Myers to our pulpit. Tom is a former pastor of Trinity PCA in Harrisburg. Tom and his wife Beth serve in a PCA church in the Atlanta area.

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 81:1

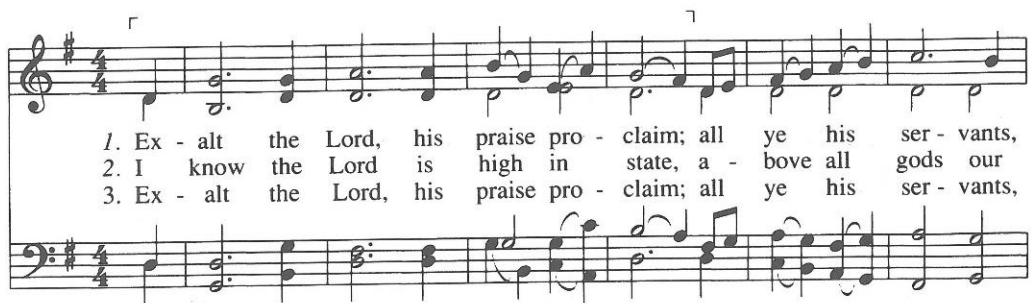
Sing aloud to God our strength;

Shout for joy to the God of Jacob!

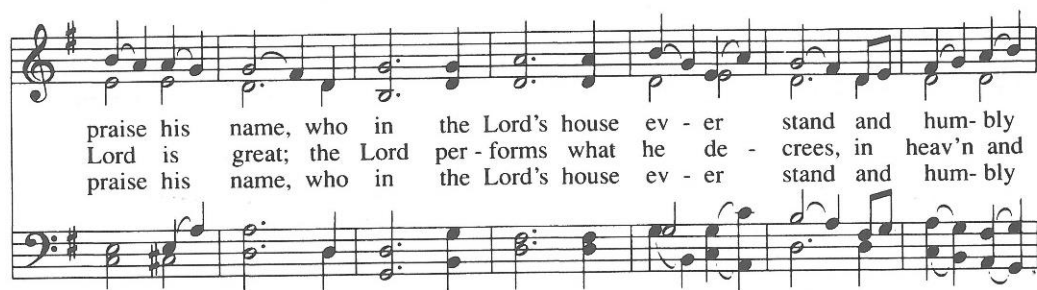
Light Text = Read by Leader

Bold Text = Read by All

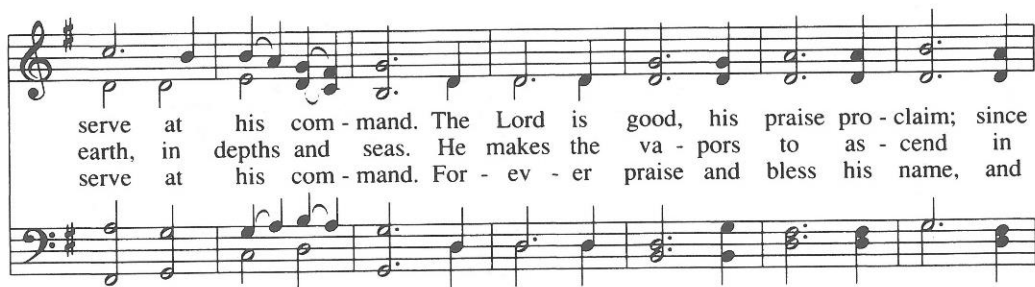
Response of Praise: Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim



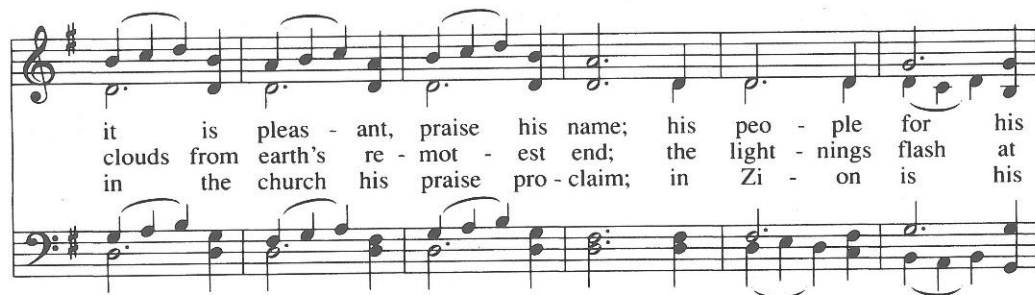
1. Ex - alt the Lord, his praise pro - claim; all ye his ser - vants,
 2. I know the Lord is high in state, a - bove all gods our
 3. Ex - alt the Lord, his praise pro - claim; all ye his ser - vants,



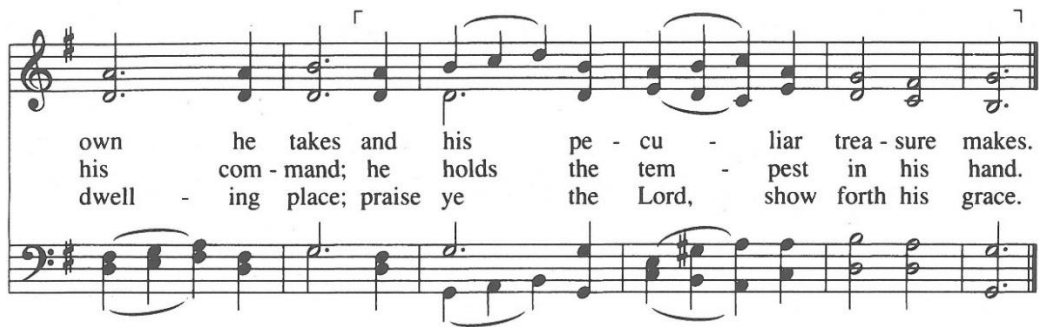
praise his name, who in the Lord's house ev - er stand and hum - bly
 Lord is great; the Lord per - forms what he de - crees, in heav'n and
 praise his name, who in the Lord's house ev - er stand and hum - bly



serve at his com - mand. The Lord is good, his praise pro - claim; since
 earth, in depths and seas. He makes the va - pors to as - cend in
 serve at his com - mand. For - ev - er praise and bless his name, and



it is pleas - ant, praise his name; his peo - ple for his
 clouds from earth's re - mot - est end; the light - nings flash at
 in the church his praise pro - claim; in Zi - on is his



Psalms 135:1-7, 21
The Psalter, 1912

CREATION L.M.D.
From Franz Joseph Haydn, *The Creation*, 1798; arr.

***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 58:13-14

*"If you turn your foot from the Sabbath,
From doing your pleasure on my holy day,
And call the Sabbath a delight
And the holy day of the LORD honorable;
If you honor it, not going your own ways,
Or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly,
¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
And I will make you ride on the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father,
For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."*

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

Colossians 2:13-14

¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of May 25-31, 2025

Intercession *for the World*:

- **Hershey Community:** Hershey Medical Center Emergency Department
- **Civil Government:** Dauphin County Commissioner Mike Pries
- **Unreached People Group:** Bei of China

Population: 856,000; Language: Bai, Central; Religion: Ethnic Religions

"...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:** Donna K.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Retired TE Mark Tedford
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Mission to the World (MTW)
- **Short-Term Mission Trip:** VBS in Herndon, VA

The Lord's Prayer: We will close our prayer 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.

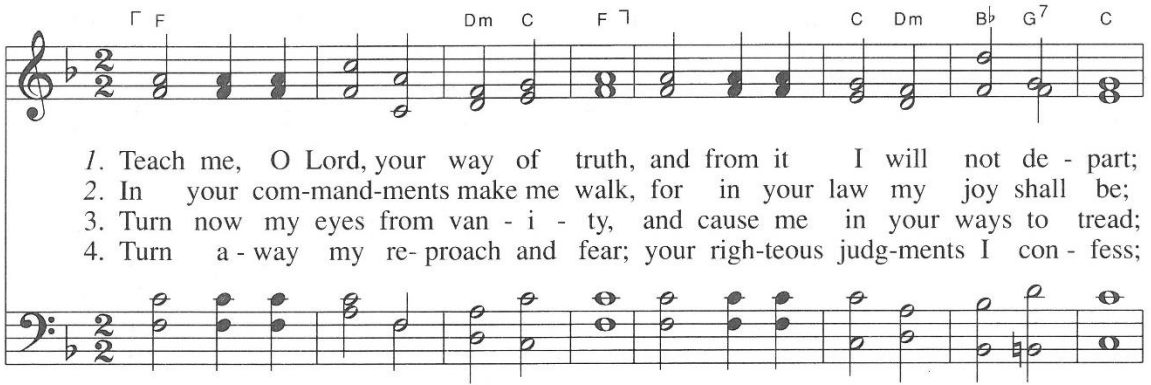
Amen.

Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings

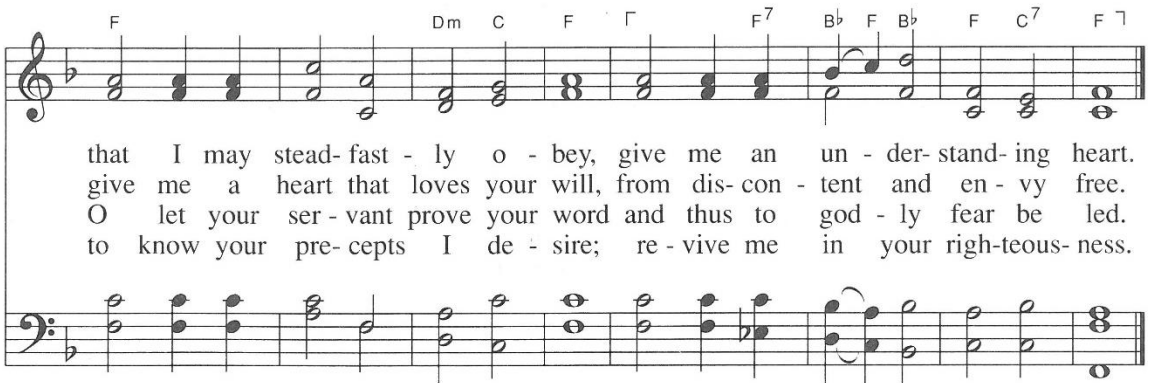
Offertory

During the Song of Preparation, 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: Teach Me, O Lord, Your Way of Truth**



1. Teach me, O Lord, your way of truth, and from it I will not de - part;
 2. In your com-mand-ments make me walk, for in your law my joy shall be;
 3. Turn now my eyes from van - i - ty, and cause me in your ways to tread;
 4. Turn a - way my re - proach and fear; your righ-teous judg-ments I con - fess;



that I may stead-fast - ly o - bey, give me an un - der-stand-ing heart.
 give me a heart that loves your will, from dis-con - tent and en - vy free.
 O let your ser - vant prove your word and thus to god - ly fear be led.
 to know your pre- cepts I de - sire; re - vive me in your righ-teous- ness.

From Psalm 119:33-40
The Psalter, 1912; alt. 1990, mod.

BISHOP L.M.
 Joseph P. Holbrook, 1874

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**

Revelation 2:1-7

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: 'The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands. ² 'I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. ³ I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. ⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. ⁶ Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. ⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'

Acts 20:28-31

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.

John 13:34-35

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon: “Heaven’s Report Card for the Church in Ephesus”

Today’s Text: Revelation 2:1-7

Pastor Tom Myers

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

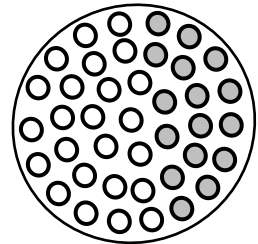
"[T]he Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

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.



Prayer

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

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: More Love to Thee, O Christ**

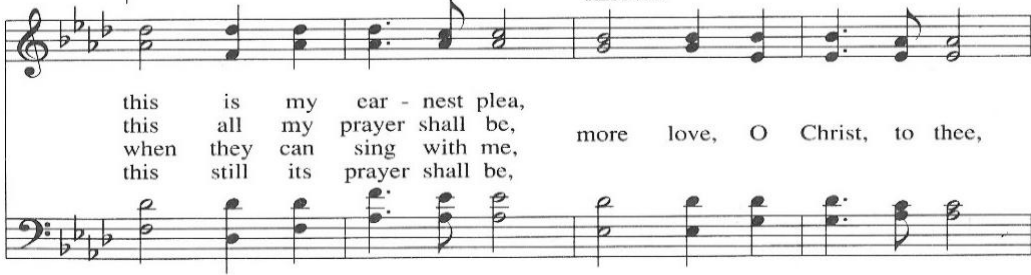


1. More love to thee, O Christ, more love to thee!
 2. Once earth - ly joy, I craved, sought peace and rest;
 3. Let sor - row do its work, send grief and pain;
 4. Then shall my lat - est breath whis - per thy praise;

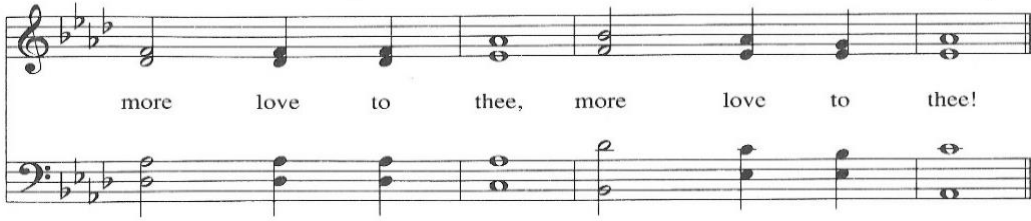


Hear thou the prayer I make on bend - ed knee;
 now thee a - lone I seek; give what is best;
 sweet are thy mes - sen - gers, sweet their re - frain,
 this be the part - ing cry my heart shall raise,

REFRAIN



this is my ear - nest plea,
 this all my prayer shall be, more love, O Christ, to thee,
 when they can sing with me,
 this still its prayer shall be,



more love to thee, more love to thee!

Elizabeth Payson Prentiss, 1869

MORE LOVE TO THEE 6.4.6.4.6.6.4.4.
 William H. Doane, 1868

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: Page 1:** Thomas Eakins, *John Biglin in a Single Scull*, c. 1873, American, Watercolor on off-white wove paper, 19 5/16 in. x 24 7/8 in. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, (not on display), Fletcher Fund, 1924, Object Number: 24.108, In the public domain. **Page 2:** *John Biglin in a Single Scull*, Thomas Eakins, Oil on canvas, 24 3/8 in. x 16 in., Yale University Art Gallery, Whitney Collections of Sporting Art, On view, 2nd Floor, American Art before 1900, given in memory of Harry Payne Whitney, B.A. 1894, and Payne Whitney, B.A. 1898, by Francis P. Garan, B.A. 1897 (Hon.) 1922, Accession Number: 1932.263, in the public domain.
- 2) **Music:** "Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim" (12), "Teach Me, O Lord, Your Way of Truth" (149), and "More Love to Thee, O Christ" (649) 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: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/10818> and <https://artgallery.yale.edu/collections/objects/5464>. 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.

Time to Register for 2025 Vacation Bible School!

Registration forms and invitation flyers are available on the table at the back of our worship space and on our website.



“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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