



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

September 21 , 2025

This Month's Front Cover

El Anatsui, *A Desire To Get Away*, 2024, Wall hanging; Aluminum and copper wire, 345 x 460 cm. Photo: *A Desire To Get Away*, 2024, Photo courtesy, Alex Vervoordt Gallery, Antwerp, Hong Kong.

<https://elanatsui.art/artworks/el-anatsui-a-desire-to-get-away-2022>

“Celebrated for his innovative use of materials, El Anatsui is among the most influential artists working today. The themes central to his work include waste, consumption, and recycling. At Art Basel Hong Kong, we captured the installation of *A Desire to Get Away* (2024). This installation, hanging like a three-dimensional tapestry, is crafted from aluminum bottle caps and ... bottle labels, all intricately joined with copper wire. The process and form of his works hark back to his childhood, when he watched his father, a master weaver of Kente cloth, tie fish nets. Each time one of his hanging sculptures is displayed, it is installed with unique folds and shapes. This idea of presenting the work a little differently each time, is an integral part of El Anatsui's philosophy. He once told Art Basel, ‘If art is about life, then life is not a fixed thing. The artwork should be in a form that is capable of changing.’”

<https://www.artbasel.com/news/art-basel-hong-kong-el-anatsui>



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 on the Lower Level of the Education Bldg. Today's Nursery Workers are Jessica Buckwalter and Yaasha Hepperle.

A **Junior Church** for children aged 4-Grade 2 is offered on the Lower Level of the Education Bldg. beginning during the hymn before the sermon. Today's Junior Church Teacher is Bonnie Kertland.

Thank you to all 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 (sound), Thaddaeus Church (viola), Paul Hepperle (leading worship), David Kertland (preaching), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Kentaro Minagawa (greeter), and Jared Salyards (piano), Don Wood (vocals).

Today's Ushers are Ephraim Church, Joe Kearns, and Greg Moore.

Counters are Nora Dolon and Kentaro Minagawa.

Prelude

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 63:1-2

*O God, you are my God;
earnestly I seek you;*

*my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.*

*² So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.*

*³ **Because your steadfast love is better than life,**
my lips will praise you.*

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

*Response of Praise: Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power

1. Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and pow - er,
 2. Sound - eth the heav'n of the heav'ns with his name;
 3. Ev - er as - cend - eth the song and the joy;
 4. Give we the glo - ry and praise to the Lamb;

wis - dom and rich - es and strength ev - er - more
 ring - eth the earth with his glo - ry and fame;
 ev - er de - scend - eth the love from on high;
 take we the robe and the harp and the palm;

give ye to him who our bat - tle hath won,
 o - cean and moun - tain, stream, for - est, and flow - er
 bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and praise—
 sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,

whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne.
 ech - o his prais - es and tell of his pow - er.
 this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.
 dy - ing in weak - ness, but ris - ing to reign.

O QUANTA QUALIA 10.10.10.10.
 La Feillée's Méthode du plain-chant, 1808

Horatius Bonar, 1866, alt.
 Tune from the Revised Church Hymnary by permission of Oxford University Press

***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 understood to be 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

Hebrews 13:5

"Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'"

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

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."

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of September 21 – 27

Intercession *for the World*:

- **In the Local Community:** Derry Township Director of Public Works
Thomas Clark
- **Civil Government:** PA Governor Josh Shapiro
- **Unreached People Group:** Bengkulu, of Indonesia
Population: 81,000; Language: Malay; 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:** Ken Kanode
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Elder Ephraim Church; LIC Paul Hepperle
as he stands for ordination in our Presbytery on Tuesday.
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Lebanon Valley Church Plant

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.**

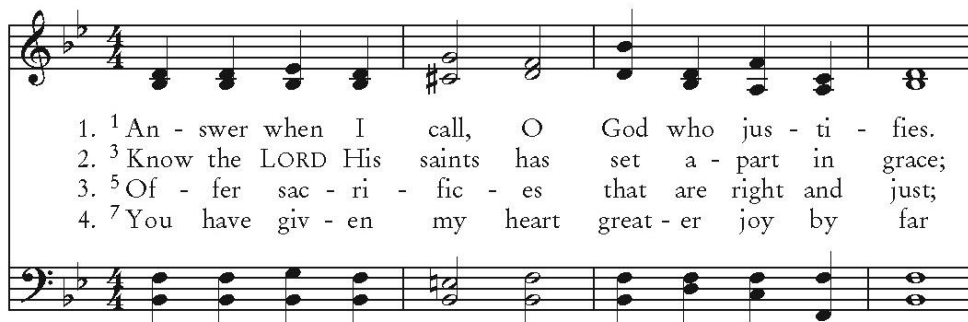
Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (Words on Page 17)

During the Song of Preparation, children from 4 years old through Grade 2 are welcome to attend Junior Church in the lower level of the education building. The Junior Church teacher will meet the children at the front in the narthex.

*Song of Preparation:

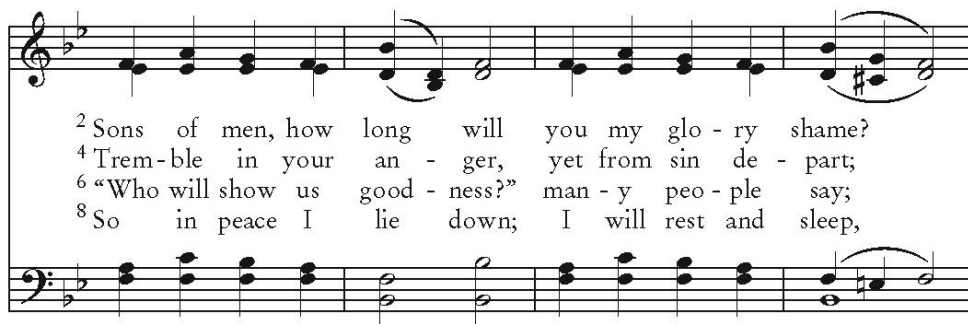
Answer When I Call (Psalm 4)



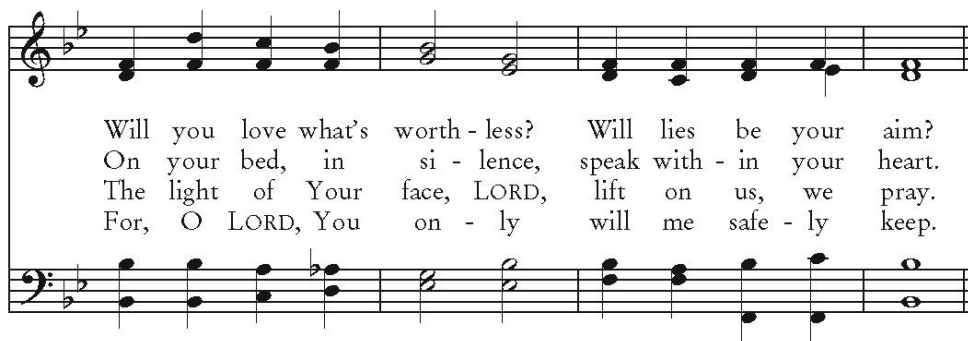
1. ¹ An - swer when I call, O God who jus - ti - fies.
 2. ³ Know the LORD His saints has set a - part in grace;
 3. ⁵ Of - fer sac - ri - fic - es that are right and just;
 4. ⁷ You have giv - en my heart great - er joy by far



In my stress You freed me; hear in grace my cries.
 And the LORD will hear me when I seek His face.
 On the LORD re - ly - ing, in Him place your trust.
 Than when grain and new wine most a - bun - dant are.



² Sons of men, how long will you my glo - ry shame?
⁴ Trem - ble in your an - ger, yet from sin de - part;
⁶ "Who will show us good - ness?" man - y peo - ple say;
⁸ So in peace I lie down; I will rest and sleep,



Will you love what's worth - less? Will lies be your aim?
 On your bed, in si - lence, speak with - in your heart.
 The light of Your face, LORD, lift on us, we pray.
 For, O LORD, You on - ly will me safe - ly keep.

PENITENCE II, III, IV (Trochaic)

Spencer Lane

From The Book of Psalms for Worship Copyright 2010, Crown and Covenant Publications Used by permission

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 17:20-26

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

United to Christ (12): *The Gospel of John* chapters 14-17

Sermon: *Our Lord at Prayer (3): Looking to the future*

Today's Text: John 17:20-26

Pastor David Kertland

1. A Clear _____ (vv. 20-21)

2. An Evident _____ (vv. 22-23)

3. An Enduring _____ (vv. 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)

Prayer

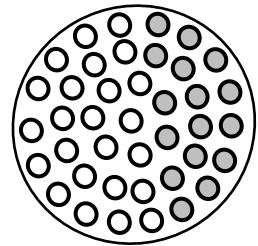
Words of Institution:

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 to our pastor who can suggest ways for you to take next steps in the faith.

Receiving God's Blessing

***Song of Dedication & Service:**

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

You are all one in Christ Jesus. Gal. 3:28

Capo 3: ♯ (D) (A⁷) (D) ♯ (G) (D) (A)

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
 2. Be - fore the Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
 3. We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
 4. When we a - sun - der part, it gives us in - ward pain;

(A⁷) (D) (A) (D) ♯ (G) (D) (G) (D/A) (A⁷) (D) ♯

the fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

5. This glorious hope revives
 our courage by the way,
 while each in expectation lives,
 and longs to see the day.

6. From sorrow, toil and pain,
 and sin, we shall be free;
 and perfect love and friendship reign
 through all eternity.

John Fawcett, 1782

DENNIS S.M.
 Hans G. Nägeli, 1773-1836
 Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1845

Being Sent to Serve God

*Benediction:

2 Corinthians 13:11, 13

“Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

...

¹⁴ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

Amen.

*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. We encourage you to look for others you don’t know and welcome them in the name of Christ! The time after worship is a great time for mutual, one-another ministry in Christ!

Today’s Service Information

- 1) **Artwork:** El Anatsui, *A Desire To Get Away*, 2024, Wall hanging; Aluminum and copper wire, 345 x 460 cm. Photo: *A Desire To Get Away*, 2024, Photo courtesy, Alex Vervoordt Gallery, Antwerp, Hong Kong. Downloaded from : <https://elanatsui.art/> (9/5/2025).
- 2) **Music:** “Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power” (300), “Blest Be the Tie that Binds” (359) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). “Answer When I Call” (Psalm 4) is reprinted from *The Book of Psalms for Worship* (Crown & Covenant Publications, Pittsburgh, PA, 2010). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes:** Page 2: <https://www.artbasel.com/news/art-basel-hong-kong-el-anatsui>. Some of the quotes describing worship elements are from: *Leading in Prayer: A Workbook for Ministers* (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1995). Page 18: Information on the Heidelberg Catechism from *Ecumenical Creeds and Reformed Confessions*, CRC Publications, Grand Rapids, MI, 1988, 12; catechism quote from page 44. Biblical quotes are from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise noted.
- 4) **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, Herman Bavinck, John Calvin, D. A. Carson, John Chrysostom, Kevin DeYoung, Sinclair Ferguson, William Hendriksen, Matthew Henry, Timothy Keller, Leon Morris, 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.
- 5) **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).



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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