



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

November 9, 2025

This Month's Front Cover

Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859-1937, *The Thankful Poor*, 1894. 35.5 in. x 44.25 in. Oil on canvas. Signed, lower left: "H.O. TANNER, 1894, The Thankful Poor." Provenance: John Thompson Morris [1847-1915], Philadelphia, PA; by bequest to Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, 1915; to (Sotheby's New York, NY), December 10, 1981; purchased by Camille O. Cosby [b. 1944], 1981; to (M. Hanks Gallery, Fullerton, CA); purchased by Art Bridges, TX, 2020. Object Number AB2020.16, Art Bridges. In the public domain.

Quiet and domestic, the scene depicted in *The Thankful Poor* suggests a spiritual moment between a young boy and an elderly man. Artist Henry Ossawa Tanner, born to a religious family, often channeled this sense of piety in his paintings over the span of his career. Later recognized for his biblical paintings, Tanner first produced genre scenes of Black American life near the turn of the 20th century. *The Thankful Poor* is the last known of these works.

The decision to depict Black daily life became clear to the artist during his studies between Paris and Philadelphia, where he was academically trained. While Black subjects appeared in the works of white American artists, such as Winslow Homer and Thomas Eakins, Tanner distinctly prioritized the humanity of his figures. In *The Thankful Poor*, the artist accomplishes this by transforming a moment of prayer into a complex exchange of intergenerational kinship. Spiritual values are often tied to familial relations and this focus speaks to Tanner's personal experiences within the African Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his father was a pastor.

<https://artbridgesfoundation.org/artworks/tanner-the-thankful-poor>

On the artwork: an interesting article on this painting's preservation can be found at <https://blog.dma.org/tag/henry-ossawa-tanner>.



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 Yaasha Hepperle and Kumi Minagawa.

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 Eve Dolon.

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 (leading worship, violin), Isaiah Church (violin), Thaddaeus Church (viola), Keith Dolon (sound), Peter Gobble (viola), Paul Hepperle (preaching), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), Michael Kitchens (greeter), Mark Linstedt (vocals), Pam Linstedt (vocals), Anita Wood (piano), Don Wood (vocals), Cooper Yingst (trumpet).

Today's Ushers are Ephraim Church, Kentaro Minagawa and Brad Weaver.

Counters are Brad Weaver and Nora Dolon.

Prelude

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 98:1-3

Oh sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!

**His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.**

²The Lord has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

Light text = Read by leader

Bold text = Read by all

*Response of Praise: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1. Come, thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer; hith - er by thy help I'm come;
 3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God:
 Prone to wan - der—Lord, I feel it—prone to leave the God I love:

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - chang - ing love.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a - bove.

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith:**

Romans 4:18-5:1

In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰ No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” ²³ But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵ 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.

***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

Acts 4:11-12

¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

Hebrews 9:24-28

²⁴For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, ²⁶for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, ²⁸so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of November 9-16

Intercession for the World:

- **In the Local Community:** Hershey Area Retirement Communities
- **Civil Government:** Vice President JD Vance
- **Unreached People Group:** Berta of Ethiopia
Population: 301,000; Language: Berta; 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:** Women's Ministry Leadership Team
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** David & Aliece

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 the lower level of the education building. The Junior Church teacher will meet the children at the front in the narthex.

*Song of Preparation:

How Firm a Foundation

G C G D G C

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your
 2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis-mayed; for I am your
 3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go, the riv - ers of
 4. "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie, my grace, all - suf -

G D7 G F D/F# Em Am7 C

faith in his ex - cel - lent Word! What more can he say than to
 God, and will still give you aid; I'll strength - en you, help you, and
 sor - row shall not o - ver - flow; for I will be with you, your
 fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply; the flame shall not hurt you; I

G D G C G D7 G 7

you he has said, to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 cause you to stand, up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 trou - bles to bless, and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
 on - ly de - sign your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.

5. "E'en down to old age all my people shall prove
 my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
 and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
 like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

6. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
 I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
 that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
 I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

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**

1 Peter 1:3-9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ⁸Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, ⁹obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Sermon: The Christians' Sure Salvation

Today's Text: 1Peter 1:3-9; TE Paul Hepperle

1. The _____ of our Hope.

2. The _____ of our Hope.

3. The _____ of our Hope.

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

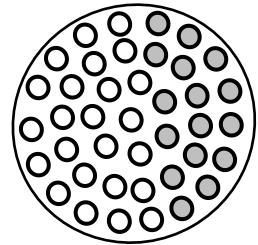
Words of Institution:

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):

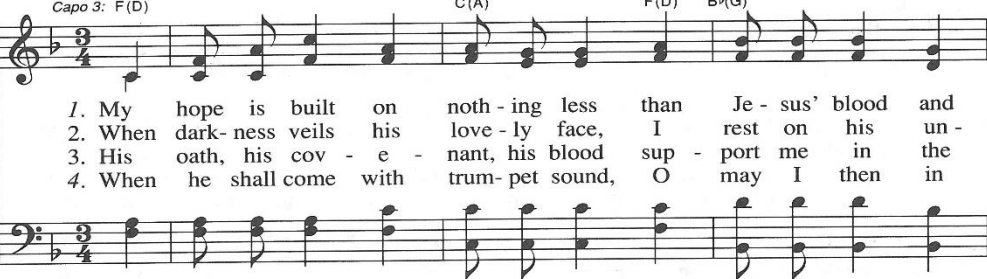
Prayer of Belief: "Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared to admit, but in Jesus I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you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

Receiving God's Blessing

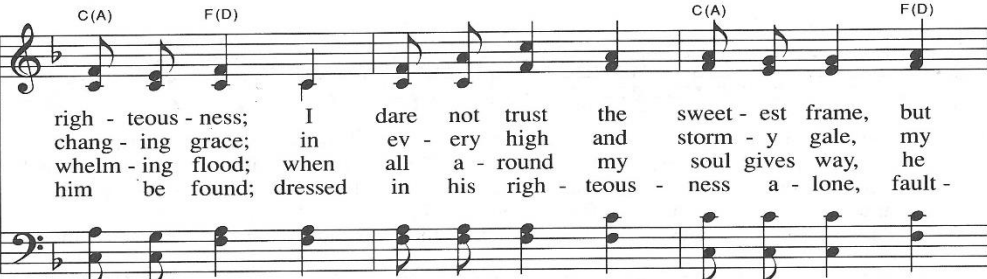
*Song of Dedication & Service: My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

Capo 3: F(D) C(A) F(D) Bb(G)



1. My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and
2. When dark-ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -
3. His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sup - port me in the
4. When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

C(A) F(D) C(A) F(D)



righteous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but
chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
whelm - ing flood; when a - round my soul gives way, he
him be found; dressed in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -

Bb(G) C(A) F(D) REFRAIN Bb(G)



whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all
then is all my hope and stay.
less to stand be - fore the throne.

F(D) C(A) F(D) Bb(G) F(D) C7(A7) F(D)



oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Being Sent to Serve God

*Benediction:

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

¹⁶Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, ¹⁷comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

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:** Cover: Henry Ossawa Tanner (1859-1937, *The Thankful Poor*, 1894. 35.5 in. x 44.25 in. Oil on canvas. Signed, lower left: "H.O. TANNER, 1894, The Thankful Poor." Provenance: John Thompson Morris [1847-1915], Philadelphia, PA; by bequest to Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, 1915; to (Sotheby's New York, NY), December 10, 1981; purchased by Camille O. Cosby [b. 1944], 1981; to (M. Hanks Gallery, Fullerton, CA); purchased by Art Bridges, TX, 2020. Object Number AB2020.16, Art Bridges. <https://artbridgesfoundation.org/artworks/tanner-the-thankful-poor>. Accessed 10/30/2025. In the public domain.
- 2) **Music:** "Come thou Fount of Every Blessing" (457), "How Firm a Foundation" (94), and "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" (521) 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:** See references on individual pages. 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.



Hershey Presbyterian Church (PCA)

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



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