



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

November 23, 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 Paige Eickelberg and Natalie Otto.

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 Laura Church.

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 (vocals), Thaddaeus Church (viola), Peter Gible (viola), Paul Hepperle (preaching), Joe Kearns (tin whistle), Nathanael Marengo (vocals), Kentaro Minagawa (greeter), Greg Moore (leading worship), Anita Wood (piano), Don Wood (vocals), Cooper Yingst (trumpet), Jeb Yingst (sound).

Today's Ushers are Asahel Church, David Eakin, and Greg Moore.

Counters are Jess Buckwalter and Kentaro Minagawa.

Prelude

Praising God

*Call to Worship:

Isaiah 60:1-3

*Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.*

*² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;*

*but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.*

*³ And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.*

Light text = Read by leader

Bold text = Read by all

*Response of Praise:

We Gather Together

♩ C Dm⁷ G C

1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
3. We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

G Am⁷ D G C D⁷ G

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

G/F C/E Dm G⁷ C

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing;
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion en - dure thro' trib - u - la - tion:

♩ F G⁷ C Dm G⁷ C

sing prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.
thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glo - ry be thine!
thy name be ev - er prais'd! O Lord, make us free!

KREMSER 12.11.12.11.
Adrianus Valerius's Nederlandtsch Gedenckclank, 1626
Alt. by Edward Kremser, 1877

Netherlands folk hymn
Tr. by Theodore Baker, 1917
Alt. 1990

Prayer of Adoration & Invocation

***Confession of Faith:**

1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed 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, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ so 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. ⁸ Though 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, ⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

***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

Romans 1:21-23

²¹For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²²Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

Titus 3:3-7

³For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of November 23 - 30

Intercession for the World:

- **In the Local Community:** Hershey Entertainment & Resorts
- **Civil Government:** Dauphin County Commissioner Justin Douglas
- **Unreached People Group:** Besemah of Indonesia
Population: 732,000; 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:** Peter M.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Sound Team
- **Supported Missionary or Organizations:** Craig & Ree Coulbourn
(MTW, Japan)

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.**

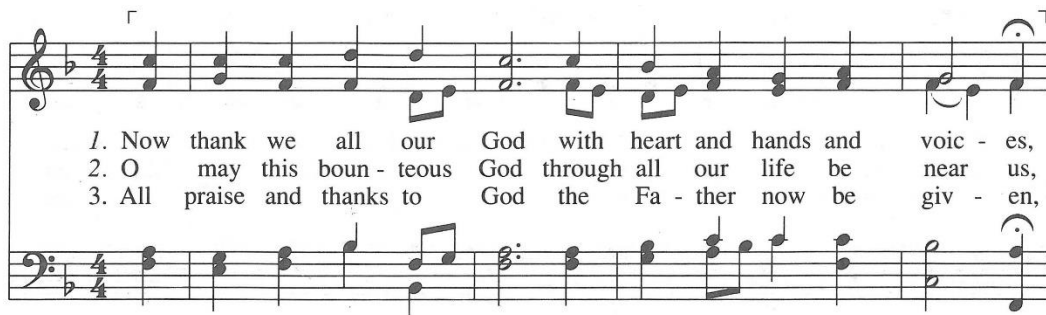
Presentation of Our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory:

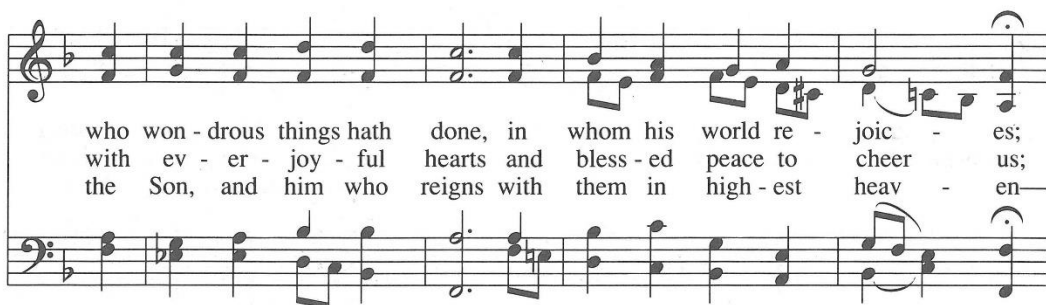
During this hymn, children from 4 years old through Grade 2 are welcome to attend Junior Church in the lower level of the education building. The Junior Church teacher will meet the children in the narthex.

*Song of Preparation:

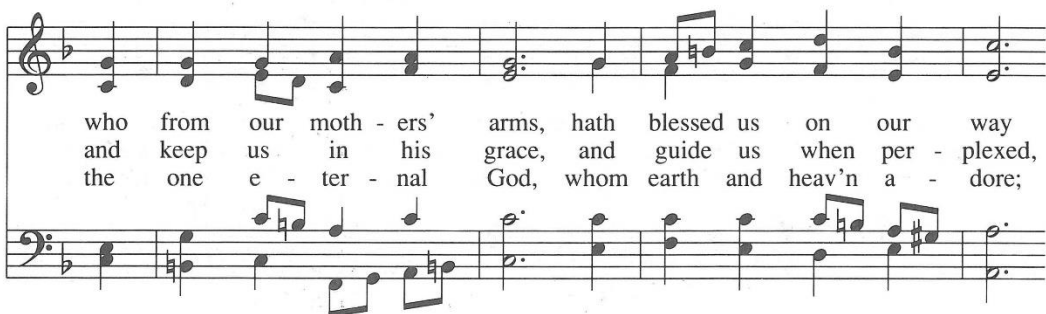
Now Thank We All Our God



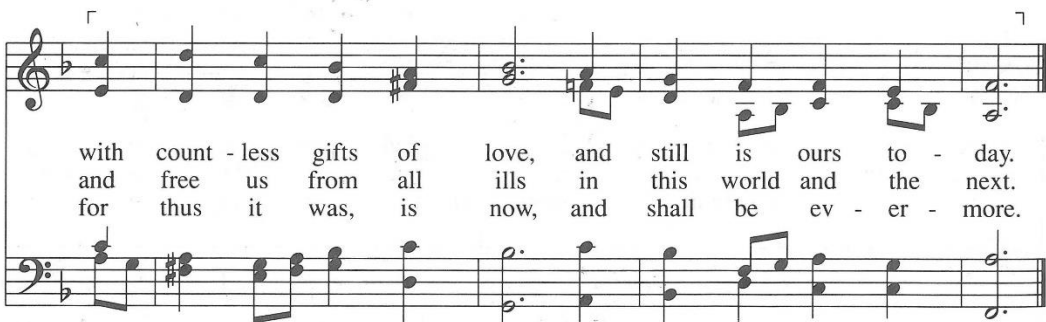
1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice,
 2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
 with ever-joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven-



who from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever-more.

NUN DANKET 6,7,6,7,6,6,6,6,
 Johann Crüger, 1647

Martin Rinkart, 1636
 Tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1858

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**

Colossians 3:12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Sermon:

A heart of thankfulness

Today's Text: Colossians 3:12-17 Assistant Pastor Paul Hepperle

1. A heart of _____

2. A heart of -----

3. A heart of _____

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

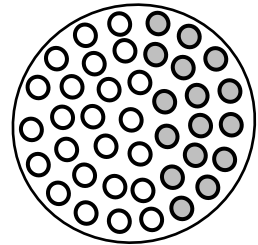
Words of Institution:

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."

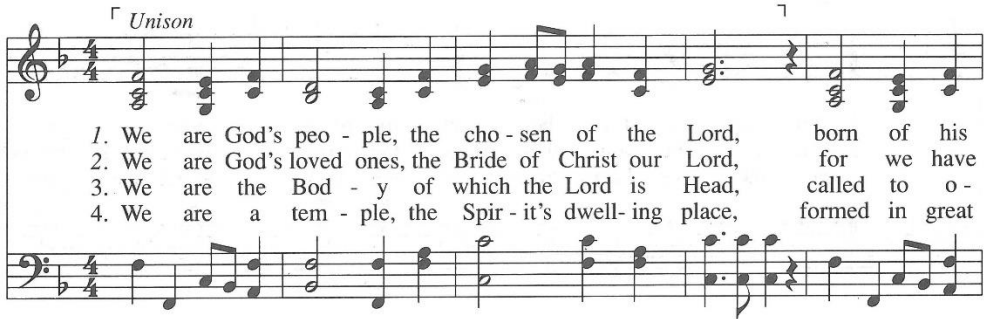
Have you prayed this prayer for the first time this morning? If so, let someone near you know! Also, feel free to talk to our pastor who can suggest ways for you to take next steps in the faith.

Receiving God's Blessing

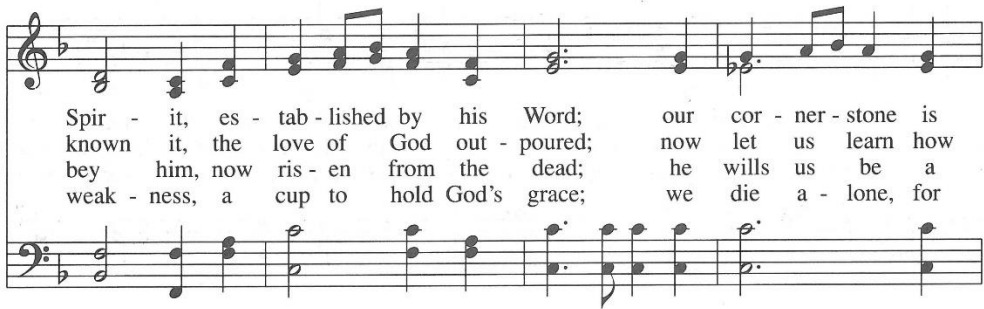
***Song of Dedication & Service:**

We are God's People

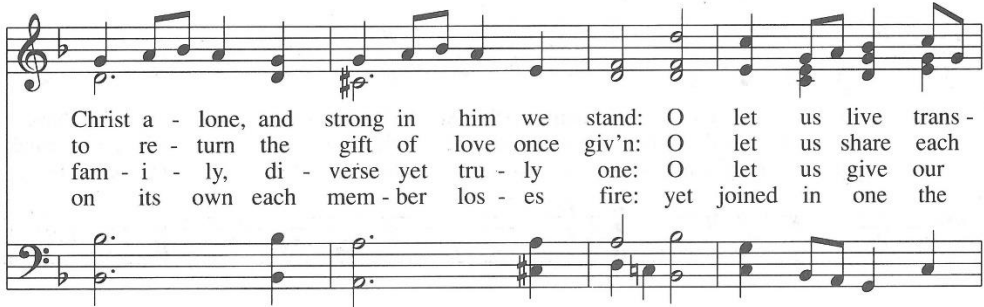
Unison



1. We are God's peo - ple, the cho - sen of the Lord, born of his
 2. We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord, for we have
 3. We are the Bod - y of which the Lord is Head, called to o -
 4. We are a tem - ple, the Spir - it's dwell - ing place, formed in great



Spir - it, es - tab - lished by his Word; our cor - ner - stone is
 known it, the love of God out - poured; now let us learn how
 bey him, now ris - en from the dead; he wills us be a
 weak - ness, a cup to hold God's grace; we die a - lone, for



Christ a - lone, and strong in him we stand: O let us live trans -
 to re - turn the gift of love once giv'n: O let us share each
 fam - i - ly, di - verse yet tru - ly one: O let us give our
 on its own each mem - ber los - es fire: yet joined in one the



par - ent - ly, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.
 joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleas - es heav'n.
 gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.
 flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to in - spire.

SYMPHONY 11.11.8.6.8.9.
 From Johannes Brahms, Symphony No. 1 in C Minor, 1876
 Arr. by Fred Bock, 1976

Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1976

Text and tune © 1976, Fred Bock Music Co. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Being Sent to Serve God

*Benediction:

Romans 15:13

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit
you may abound in hope.
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:** "We Gather Together" (363), "Now Thank We All Our God" (98), and "We Are God's People" (355) 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:** 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).



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

Address: 850 Hill Church Road, Hummelstown, PA 17036

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

hersheypca.com