



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

July 19, 2026

This Month's Front Cover Artwork

Joseph Decker (1853-1924, American), *Green Plums*, c. 1885. Oil on canvas, 9 in. x 10 ¹⁵/₁₆ in., framed: 21 ⁷/₈ in x 25 in. x 3 in.). National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C., On View in the West Building Main Floor, Gallery M69. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, Accession Number: 1994.59.4. Provenance: (sale, Christie, Manson & Woods, New York, 9 December 1983, no. 80, as *Greenings*); (Berry-Hill Galleries, New York); sold March 1984 to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, Upperville, Virginia; gift 1994 to NGA. Wikidata ID: Q20189768. In the public domain.

About the artist:

"An important painter of still lifes, Joseph Decker was born in Württemberg, Germany in 1853. In 1867, the Decker family immigrated to America and settled in Brooklyn, New York, where he lived for the rest of his life with the exception of travel and study abroad.

... Decker exhibited at the National Academy of Design from 1882 to 1896. He also showed his work at the Society of American Artists, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Art Institute of Chicago, Brooklyn Art Association, and at the Fine Arts Exhibition of the Second Buffalo International Fair in 1889. He also exhibited at Art House, New York, in 1893 and 1894, which was owned by Thomas B. Clarke, a major art collector and patron of the artist. Decker's work is housed in prestigious public collections, including the National Gallery of Art, Washington DC, Yale University Art Gallery, and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts."

God's blessing is often described as peace and provision. For example, the spiritual blessings of the New Covenant are foreseen with this kind of language in Micah 4:1-4:

"It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, ² and many nations shall come, and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ³ He shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide for strong nations far away; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; ⁴ but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken."



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 aged infant through 3 years old is provided on the Lower Level of the Education Bldg. Today's Nursery Workers are Jessica Buckwalter and Emily Church.

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 Katy McIlvaine.

Thank you to all who participate in making this worship service possible. Worship service participants may include in alphabetical order: Emily Church (vocals), Ephraim Church (violin), Isaiah Church (violin), Jericho Church (vocals), Laura Church (vocals), Thaddaeus Church (viola), David Eakin (vocals), Peter Gibble (viola), Paul Hepperle (preaching), Ken Kanode (greeter), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (leading worship), Nathanael Marengo (vocals), Katy McIlvaine (vocals), Brad Weaver (sound), Cooper Yingst (trumpet), Nick Yingst (piano).

Today's Ushers are Asahel Church, Joe Kearns, and Chris Wagner.

Counters are Brad Weaver and Crystal Basom.

Throughout today's service: the light face type is read by the leader; the **bold face type** is to be read or sung by the congregation.

Prelude

Greeting of Peace

Colossians 3:15

*And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
to which indeed you were called in one body.
And be thankful.*

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 103:8-14

*The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

***⁹ He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.***

***¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.***

*¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;*

***¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.***

***¹³ As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.***

*¹⁴ For he knows our frame;
he remembers that we are dust.*

*Response of Praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy

♯ D Bm A D G D 7

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

A D Bm A E7 A

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

D Bm A D G D

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

♯ Bm D G D G A7 D 7

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pur - i - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith:**

The Nicene Creed

**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**

**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.**

Facing Up to Our Sin before God

Reading of God's Standard

1 John 3:11-12, 15-18

For this is the message that you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. ¹² We should not be like Cain, who was of the evil one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his own deeds were evil and his brother's righteous. ¹⁵ Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. ¹⁶ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷ But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Choral Response

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
praise, him all creatures here below;
praise him above ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of July 19 - 26

Intercession *for the World*:

- **In the Local Community:** Greg Watts - Derry Township Dir. of Public Works
- **Civil Government:** Thomas Mehaffie – Derry Township PA State Representative
- **Unreached People Group:** Bhogta of India
Population: 275,000; Language: Hindi; Religion: Hinduism
"...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:** Pauline G.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Sound Team
- **Supported Missionary or Organization:** Committee on Discipleship Ministries (CDM)

The Lord's Prayer:

**"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:

Depth of Mercy! Can There Be?



1. Depth of mer - cy! Can there be mer - cy still re - served for me?
2. I have long with - stood his grace, long pro - voked him to his face,
3. There for me the Sav - ior stands, shows his wounds and o - pen hands.
4. Now in - cline me to re - pent, let me all my sins la - ment;



Can my God his wrath for - bear; me, the chief of sin - ners, spare?
would not lis - ten to his calls, grieved him by a thou - sand falls.
God is love! I know, I feel; Je - sus loves and seeks me still.
now my reb - el heart de - plore; turn, be - lieve, and sin no more.



Words: Charles Wesley, 1740

Music: Orlando Gibbons, 1623; harm. Henry Smart, 1881

SONG 13

77 77

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**

Jonah 4:1-11

But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. ² And he prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. ³ Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the LORD said, "Do you do well to be angry?"

⁵ Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. ⁶ Now the LORD God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Do you do well to be angry for the plant?" And he said, "Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ And the LORD said, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?"

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Jonah: God's Word and Man (6) : Jonah 1-4

Sermon: "Repentance of the Believer"

Today's Text: Jonah 4:1-11 Assistant Pastor Paul Hepperle

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

Preparing for the Lord's Supper:

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

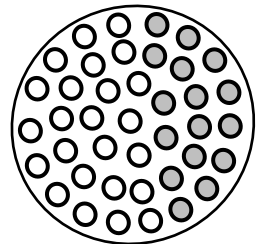
Words of Institution:

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 Commitment:

Thy Mercy, My God

F Bb

1. Thy mer - cy, my God, is the theme of my song,
 2. With - out thy sweet mer - cy I could not live here,
 3. Thy mer - cy is more than a match for my heart,
 4. Great Fa - ther of mer - cies, thy good - ness I own,

Dm Csus C

the joy of my heart, and the boast of my tongue;
 for sin would re - duce me to ut - ter de - spair;
 which won - ders to feel its own hard - ness de - part;
 the cov - e - nant love of thy cru - ci - fied Son;

Gm7 F/A Bb F/C

thy free grace a - lone, from the first to the last,
 but through thy free good - ness, my spir - its re - vive,
 dis - solved by thy good - ness, I fall to the ground,
 all praise to the Spir - it, whose whis - per di - vine

Gm7 F/A Csus F

has won my af - fec - tions and bound my soul fast.
 and he that first made me still keeps me a - live.
 and weep for the praise of the mer - cy I've found.
 seals mer - cy, and par - don, and righ - teous - ness mine!

MERCIFUL THEME
1 1 1 1 1 1

Words: John Stocker, 1776
 Music: Sandra McCracken © 2001 Integrity Worship Music / Paper News Publishing

Being Sent to Serve God

*Benediction:

Hebrews 13:20-21

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant,²¹ equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. 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 pastors and other Hershey PCA members and friends.

After the service, greet someone you don't know. The time following the worship service is a great time for mutual, one-another ministry in Christ! We encourage you to look for others you don't know, introduce yourself, and welcome them in the name of Jesus Christ!

Today's Service Information

- 1) **Artwork:** Joseph Decker (1853-1924, American), *Green Plums*, c. 1885. Oil on canvas, 9 in. x 10 15/16 in
- 2) **Music:** "Holy, Holy, Holy" (100), "Gloria Patri" (735), "Doxology" (731), are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commissions Publications, Suwannee, GA, 2000). "Depth of Mercy! Can There Be?" (115) and "Thy Mercy, My God" (237) is reprinted from *The Sing! Hymnal* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway and Nashville, TN: Getty Music, 2025). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes: Page 2:** Artist biography from <https://www.godelfineart.com/artists/joseph-decker>. 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) **On the Sermon:** The Two Prophets to Ninevah – Goodness and Severity in Jonah and Nahum by James E McCarthy. Banner of Truth Trust. Published 2025 Versa Press Inc. East Peoria, IL. Man Overboard!- The Story of Jonah by Sinclair B. Ferguson. Banner of Truth Trust 2008. Jonah & Nahum by John MacArthur. The Master's Seminary Press. 2024. Jonah & Micah by Richard D. Phillips. REC 2010. The Minor Prophets (Vol II) by Thomas McComisky. Jonah: Preacher on the Run (2017 Ed) by Gordon J. Keddie. EP Books, England. Rediscovering Jonah by Timothy Keller. Penguin Books 2018. JONAH A Study in Compassion by O. Palmer Robertson. Banner of Truth Trust 2024. 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).

* 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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