



**HersheyPresbyterian**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

August 23, 2026

## This Month's Front Cover Artwork

Fritz von Uhde, *Frau am Erntelandschaft mit Bauernovolk* (Harvest Landscape with Peasants), before 1911. Oil on canvas, signed lower left. 35 x 61 cm. Framed 47 x 77 cm. Peasants gathering ears of grain on the field in the sunshine. Signs of age. German painter, student of the Dresden Academy, co-founder of the Munich Secession Source: Auktionshaus Wendl. Private collection. In the public domain.

**About the painter:** “Fritz von Uhde (born Friedrich Hermann Carl Uhde; May 22, 1848 – February 25, 1911) was a German painter of genre and religious subjects. His style lay in-between Realism and Impressionism, he was once known as ‘Germany’s outstanding impressionist.’ He became one of the first painters to introduce *plein-air* painting in his country.” (Wikipedia)

I chose the cover painting because of its sense of alienation and isolation for gleaners in an expansive scene. Here is another example of von Uhde’s work.

### About the page 2 painting:

“This sunset scene unfolds in the Dachauer Moos, a marshland north of Munich that maintained its reputation for wild and elemental terrain, even as it was transformed into farms. The region proved to be fertile ground for Uhde and other German artists seeking a direct and vigorous approach to depicting nature. *Going Home* inaugurated a group of paintings showing peasants traveling on foot through the fields, in which the imagery of rural life acquires a spiritual aspect.”



Fritz von Uhde, *Going Home*. Ca. 1889. Oil on wood, 30 7/8 in. x 39 1/4 in (78.4 cm x 99.7 cm.) The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Mr and Mrs. Isaac D. Fletcher Collection, Bequest of Isaac D. Fletcher, 1917. Object number: 17.120.203. In the public domain.



**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 Natalie Otto and Dorinda Saul.

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 Paul Hepperle.

**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), Keith Dolon (greeter), David Eakin (vocals), Peter Gibble (viola), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Nathanael Marengo (vocals), Katy McIlvaine (vocals), Brad Weaver (sound), Jared Salyards (piano), Cooper Yingst (trumpet), Nick Yingst (leading worship).

**Today's Ushers** are Ephraim Church, Dave Eakin, and Joe Kearns.

**Counters** are Jessica Buckwalter and Nora Dolon.

**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

## 1 Timothy 1:2

*Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.*

# Praising God

**\*Call to Worship:**

**Psalm 95:6-7**

*Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!*

*<sup>7</sup> For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.*

**\*Response of Praise: All Creatures of our God and King**

*All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you. Ps. 145:10*

The musical score is written for a choir or congregation, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/2. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the bass staff providing harmonic support. The lyrics are written below the notes.

1. All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and  
2. Thou rush - ing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in  
3. Thou flow - ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for thy  
4. And all ye men of ten - der heart, for - giv - ing oth - ers,  
5. Let all things their Cre - a - tor bless, and wor - ship him in

with us sing al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou burn - ing  
heav'n a - long, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Thou ris - ing  
• Lord to hear, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Thou fire so  
take your part, O sing ye, al - le - lu - ia! Ye who long  
hum - ble - ness, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia! Praise, praise the

sun with gold - en beam, thou sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam,  
 morn in praise re - joice, ye lights of eve - ning, find a voice,  
 • mas - ter - ful and bright, that giv - est man both warmth and light,  
 pain and sor - row bear, praise God and on him cast your care,  
 Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spir - it, three in one,

O praise him, O praise him, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Francis of Assisi, ca. 1225  
 Tr. by William H. Draper, 1926  
 Text © 1926, G. Schirmer. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune by permission of Oxford University Press.

LASST UNS ERFREUEN L.M.al.  
*Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623

## \*Prayer of Adoration & Invocation

## **\*Confession of Faith:**

**Colossians 1:12-20**

*Today's confession of faith is adapted from the New Testament book of Colossians.*

**We give thanks to the Father,  
who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.**

**He has delivered us from the domain of darkness  
and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,  
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.**

**He is the image of the invisible God,  
the firstborn of all creation.**

**For by him all things were created,  
in heaven and on earth,  
visible and invisible,  
whether thrones or dominions  
or rulers or authorities—  
all things were created through him and for him.**

**And he is before all things,  
and in him all things hold together.**

**And he is the head of the body, the church.  
He is the beginning,  
the firstborn from the dead,  
that in everything he might be preeminent.**

**For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,  
and through him to reconcile to himself all things,  
whether on earth or in heaven,  
making peace by the blood of his cross.**

## **\*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 Thessalonians 4:1-8

For the reading of God's Standard this month, we are reading the 7<sup>th</sup> commandment and related Scripture passages.

*[W]e ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. <sup>2</sup> For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. <sup>3</sup> For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; <sup>4</sup> that each one of you know how to control his own bod in holiness and honor, <sup>5</sup> not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; <sup>6</sup> that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. <sup>7</sup> For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. <sup>8</sup> Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.*

## Confession of Sin

## Declaration of Pardon in Christ

## 1 Thessalonians 5:8-10

*[S]ince we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup> For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.*

## Prayerful Response

## Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

The musical score is written for four parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; in - cline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. A - men." The score ends with a double bar line and a final chord.

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;

in - cline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. A - men.

# Offering Our Prayers to God

## Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

**Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of August 23 -30**

### **Intercession for the World:**

- **In the Local Community:** Life Lion Emergency Medical Services and Critical Care
- **Civil Government:** US Senator John Fetterman
- **Unreached People Group:** Bhote of Nepal  
Population: 13,000; Language: Nepali; Religion: Buddhism  
*"...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:** Catherine S.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Ruling Elder Joe Kearns
- **Supported Missionary or Organization:** Mission to the World (MTW)

### **The Lord's Prayer:**

*We close our prayer in unison with this version of 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:

## Shout to the Lord, All Earth



1. 'Shout to the LORD, all earth, and make a joy - ful noise!  
2. 'En - ter his gates with thanks, and fill his courts with praise.



<sup>2</sup>With glad - ness serve the LORD your God; be - fore him lift your voice!  
Give thanks to him, and bless his name; to God your voic - es raise.



<sup>3</sup>Now know the LORD is God. He made us, we are his—  
<sup>5</sup>Be - cause the LORD is good, his stead - fast love en - dures;



his peo - ple and his sheep, who safe - ly in his pas - ture graze.  
from age to age, for - ev - er - more, his faith - ful - ness is sure.

DIADEMATA S.M.D.  
George J. Elvey, 1868

PC/URCNA 2016  
2018 Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture

# 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**

**Ruth 1:22 - 2:4a**

*1:22 So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.*

*2:1 Now Naomi had a relative of her husband's, a worthy man of the clan of Elimelech, whose name was Boaz.*

*2 And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, "Let me go to the field and glean among the ears of grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor."*

*And she said to her, "Go, my daughter."*

*3 So she set out and went and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and she happened to come to the part of the field belonging to Boaz, who was of the clan of Elimelech.*

*4 And behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem.*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Ruth: Not Without a Redeemer (5)

**Sermon:**

**“Rethinking Guidance”**

Today's Text: Ruth 1:22 – 2:4a; Pastor David Kertland

1) Ordinary \_\_\_\_\_

2) Providential \_\_\_\_\_

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**

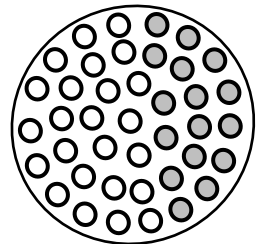
**Words of Institution:**

**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."

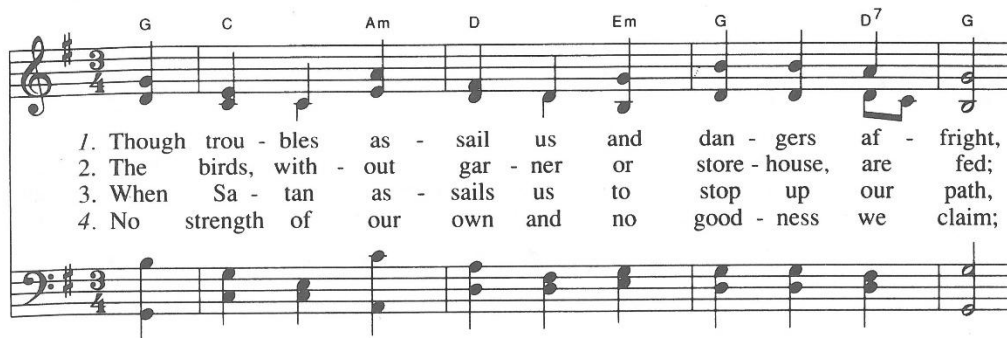
Have you prayed this prayer for the first time this morning? If so, let someone near you know! Also, feel free to talk to our pastor who can suggest ways for you to take next steps in the faith.

# Receiving God's Blessing

## \*Song of Commitment:

## Though Troubles Assail Us

G C Am D Em G D<sup>7</sup> G



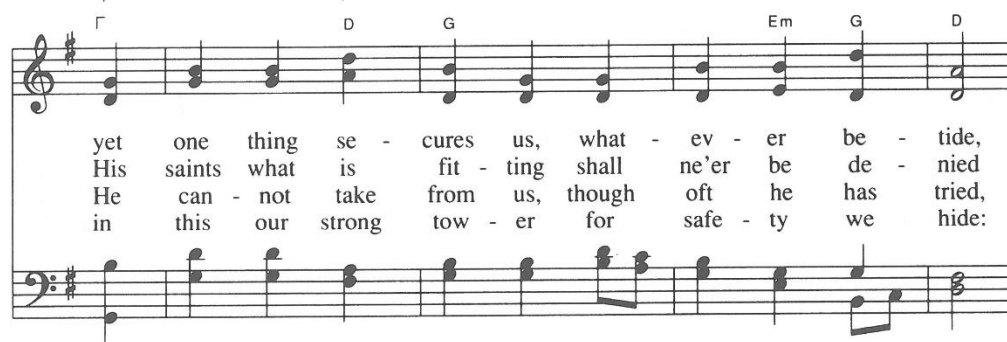
1. Though trou - bles as - sail us and dan - gers af - fright,  
 2. The birds, with - out gar - ner or store - house, are fed;  
 3. When Sa - tan as - sails us to stop up our path,  
 4. No strength of our own and no good - ness we claim;

C Am D Em G D<sup>7</sup> G



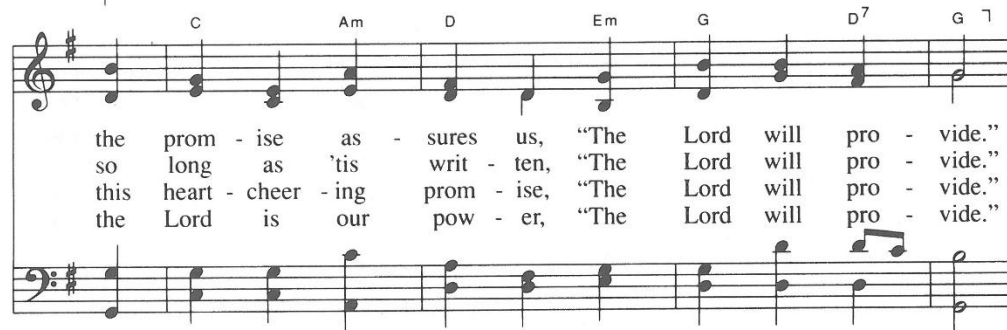
though friends should all fail us and foes - all u - nite,  
 from them let us learn to trust God for our bread.  
 and cour - age all fails us, we tri - umph by faith.  
 yet, since we have known of the Sav - ior's great name,

F D G Em G D



yet one thing se - cures us, what - ev - er be - tide,  
 His saints what is fit - ting shall ne'er be de - nied,  
 He can - not take from us, though oft he has tried,  
 in this our strong tow - er for safe - ty we hide:

C Am D Em G D<sup>7</sup> G



the prom - ise as - sures us, "The Lord will pro - vide."  
 so long as 'tis writ - ten, "The Lord will pro - vide."  
 this heart - cheer - ing prom - ise, "The Lord will pro - vide."  
 the Lord is our pow - er, "The Lord will pro - vide."

JOANNA (or ST. DENIO) 11.11.11.11.  
 Traditional Welsh melody

John Newton, 1779  
 The New Christian Hymnal, 1929

# Being Sent to Serve God

## \*Benediction:

## 1 Thessalonians 5:28

*The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you.*

## \*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:** cover: Fritz von Uhde, *Frau am Erntelandschaft mit Bauernvolk* (*Harvest Landscape with Peasants*), before 1911. Oil on canvas, signed lower left. 35 x 61 cm. Framed 47 x 77 cm. Peasants gathering ears of grain on the field in the sunshine. Signs of age. German painter, student of the Dresden Academy, co-founder of the Munich Secession Source: Auktionshaus Wendl. Private collection. In the public domain. <https://www.invaluable.com/auction-lot/uhde-fritz-von-1848-wolkenburg-1911-muenchen-uhde-3698-c-a184ed5b1a>. Page 2: Fritz von Uhde, *Going Home*. Ca. 1889. Oil on wood, 30 7/8 in. x 39 1/4 in. (78.4 cm x 99.7 cm.) The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Mr and Mrs. Isaac D. Fletcher Collection, Bequest of Isaac D. Fletcher, 1917. Object number: 17.120.203. In the public domain. <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/437860>.
- 2) **Music:** "All Creatures of our God and King" (115), "Gloria Patri" (735), "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" (728), "Though Troubles Assail Us" (95) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commissions Publications, Suwannee, GA, 2000). "Shout to the Lord, All Earth," (100A) is reprinted from *The Trinity Psalter Hymnal* (Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture (OPC & URCNA), Willow Grove, PA, 2018). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes: Page 2:** From [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fritz\\_von\\_Uhde](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fritz_von_Uhde). On the page 2 painting: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/437860> Biblical quotes are from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise noted.
- 4) **On the Sermon:** Along with the Hebrew and English texts, a variety of commentaries and other study aids may have been consulted in preparing this and other sermons from the book of Ruth, including: the insights, sermons, and writings of Eric Alexander, David Atkinson, Christopher Ash, Daniel I. Block, John Calvin, Iain M. Duguid, Sinclair Ferguson, Mary Wilson Hannah, Matthew Henry, Adam J. Howell, Robert Jamieson, C. F. Keil, Peter H. W. Lau and Gregory Goswell, André LaCocque, Leon Morris, Jonathan Prime, and Barry G. Webb. 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](http://www.pcanet.org)).



**HersheyPresbyterian**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

850 Hill Church Road, Hummelstown, PA 17036

To contact the church office:  
[office@hersheypca.com](mailto:office@hersheypca.com)  
(717) 489-1535.

[hersheypca.com](http://hersheypca.com)