



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

September 13, 2026

This Month's Front Cover Artwork

Jean-François Millet (1814-1875), *Des glaneuses (The Gleaners)*, 1857. Oil on canvas, 32.8 in. x 43.3 in. Musee d'Orsay, Paris, France. Accession Number RF 592. In the public domain.

About the painting:

“True to one of Millet's favorite subjects—peasant life—this painting is the culmination of ten years of research on the theme of the gleaners. These women incarnate the rural working-class. They were authorized to go quickly through the fields at sunset to pick up, one by one, the shafts of wheat missed by the harvesters. The painter shows three of them in the foreground, bent double, their eyes raking the ground. He thus juxtaposes the three phases of the back-breaking repetitive movement imposed by this thankless task: bending over, picking up and straightening up again. Their austerity contrasts with the abundant harvest in the distance: haystacks, sheaves of wheat, a cart and a busy crowd of harvesters. The festive, brightly lit bustle is further distanced by the abrupt change of scale. The slanting light of the setting sun accentuates the volumes in the foreground and gives the gleaners a sculptural look. It picks out their hands, necks, shoulders and backs and brightens the colors of their clothing. Then Millet slowly smudges the distance into a powdery golden haze, accentuating the bucolic impression of the scene in the background. The man on horseback, isolated on the right, is probably a steward. In charge of supervising the work on the estate, he also makes sure that the gleaners respect the rules governing their task. His presence adds social distance by bringing a reminder of the landlords he represents. Without using picturesque anecdotes, merely through simple, sober pictorial procedures, Millet gives these certainly poor but no less dignified gleaners an emblematic value free of any hint of miserabilism.



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



Today is Friend Sunday. We welcome you today in the name of our Lord Jesus! If you have come today with a friend, we are glad that you have joined us for worship. The following worship booklet will help you follow along. Feel free to ask someone around you for help in participation as needed. Our pastor would love to greet you after the service.

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 Vicky Hepperle 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 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), David Eakin (vocals), Peter Gibble (viola), Paul Hepperle (leading worship), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Michael Kitchens (greeter), Nathanael Marengo (sound), Katy McIlvaine (vocals), Jared Salyards (piano), Tim Shafer (offertory piano), Cooper Yingst (trumpet).

Today's Ushers are Ephraim Church, Joe Kearns, and Brad Weaver.

Counters are Keith Dolon 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:

2 Timothy 1:2b

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

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Isaiah 44:6-8

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

***“I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.***

⁷ Who is like me?

Let him proclaim it.

***Let him declare and set it before me,
since I appointed an ancient people.***

***Let them declare what is to come,
and what will happen.***

***⁸ Fear not, nor be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it***

And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?

There is no Rock;

I know not any.”

*Response of Praise: We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator

1. We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
 2. We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers, we bless you;
 3. With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer,

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our tri - bute we bring.
 through life's storm and tem - pest our Guide you have been.
 to you, great Je - ho - vah, glad an - thems we raise.

We lay it be - fore you, we kneel and a - dore you;
 When per - ils o'er - take us, es - cape you will make us,
 Your strong arm will guide us, our God is be - side us;

we bless your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
 and with your help, O Lord, our bat - tles we win.
 to you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise.

KREMSER 12.11.12.11.
 Adrianus Valerius's *Nederlandsch Gedenckclank*, 1626
 Arr. by Edward Kremser, 1877

Julia Cady Cory, 1902
 Mod.

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith: Based on Psalm 148 with 1 Corinthians 1:2**

Today's confession of faith is modified and adapted from Psalm 148 with a final phrase adapted from 1 Corinthians 1:2.

We praise the LORD.

We call on the heavens to praise him in the heights.

We call on all his angels to praise him—all his hosts.

We call on the sun and moon and all the shining stars to praise him.

We call on the highest heavens and the waters above to praise him.

Let all praise the name of the LORD!

For he commanded and they were created.

He established them forever and ever.

He gave a decree and it shall not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth, great creatures of the deep!

Fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word!

Mountain and all hills, fruit trees and cedars!

Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for his name alone is exalted;

His majesty is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up the Lord Jesus Christ, as Savior for his people,

Praise for all his saints,

Praise for all who call upon his name.

Praise the Lord!

***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

Proverbs 30:7-9

For the reading of God's Standard this month, we are reading the 8th commandment and related Scripture passages.

Two things I ask of you; deny them not to me before I die:

*⁸ Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches;
feed me with the food that is needful for me,*

*⁹ lest I be full and deny you and say, "Who is the LORD?"
or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God.*

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

1 Corinthians 6:9

*[Y]ou were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of
the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.*

Prayerful Response

Hear Our Prayer O Lord

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. 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 piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes that support the vocal lines.

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

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

WHELPTON 5.5.6.5.
George Whelpton, 1897

Anon.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of September 13 - 20

Intercession for the World:

- **In the Local Community:** The Hershey Company
- **Civil Government:** President Donald Trump
- **Unreached People Group:** Bhoyar of India
Population: 201,000; 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:** Ken K.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Pastor David Kertland
- **Supported Missionary or Organization:** Ridge Haven (PCA Camp, Conference & Retreat Center)

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

See next page for lyrics to Offering Meditation

Offertory Meditation

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Arr. Dan Forrest

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
Hold me with thy pow'rful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee.

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: Thy Loving-kindness, Lord, Is Good and Free**

From Psalm 69

1. Thy lov - ing - kind - ness, Lord, is good and free;
 2. Need - y and sor - row - ful, to thee I cry;
 3. With joy the meek shall see my soul re - stored;
 4. Let heav'n a - bove his grace and glo - ry tell;

in ten - der mer - cy turn thou un - to me;
 let thy sal - va - tion set my soul on high;
 your heart shall live, ye saints that seek the Lord;
 let earth and sea and all that in them dwell;

hide not thy face from me in my dis - tress;
 then I will sing and praise thy ho - ly name;
 he helps the need - y and re - gards their cries;
 sal - va - tion to his peo - ple God will give,

in mer - cy hear my pray'r, thy ser - vant bless.
 my thank - ful song thy mer - cy shall pro - claim.
 those in dis - tress the Lord will not de - spise.
 and they that love his name with him shall live.

ELLERS 10.10.10.10.
Edward J. Hopkins, 1869

From Psalm 69:16, 17, 29, 30, 32-36
The Psalter, 1912

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 2:17-23

So she gleaned in the field until evening. Then she beat out what she had gleaned, and it was about an ephah of barley.¹⁸ And she took it up and went into the city. Her mother-in-law saw what she had gleaned. She also brought out and gave her what food she had left over after being satisfied.¹⁹ And her mother-in-law said to her, "Where did you glean today? And where have you worked? Blessed be the man who took notice of you." So she told her mother-in-law with whom she had worked and said, "The man's name with whom I worked today is Boaz."²⁰ And Naomi said to her daughter-in-law, "May he be blessed by the LORD, whose kindness has not forsaken the living or the dead!" Naomi also said to her, "The man is a close relative of ours, one of our redeemers."²¹ And Ruth the Moabite said, "Besides, he said to me, 'You shall keep close by my young men until they have finished all my harvest.'"²² And Naomi said to Ruth, her daughter-in-law, "It is good, my daughter, that you go out with his young women, lest in another field you be assaulted."²³ So she kept close to the young women of Boaz, gleaning until the end of the barley and wheat harvests. And she lived with her mother-in-law.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Ruth: Not Without a Redeemer (7)

Sermon: **“Rekindled Hope”**

Today’s Text: Ruth 2:17-23; Pastor David Kertland

1) Pointing Others to the _____ of the Lord.

2) Renewed Trust in the Lord’s _____ .

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

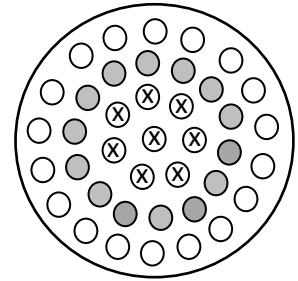
Words of Institution:

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 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 Commitment:

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)

righ - teous - 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 all a - round my soul gives way, he
 him be found; dressed in his righ - teous - 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 Timothy 4:22

The Lord be with your spirit. Grace 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: Jean-François Millet (1814-1875), *Des glaneuses (The Gleaners)*, 1857. Oil on canvas. 32.8 in. x 43.3 in. Musée d'Orsay, Paris, France. Accession Number RF 592. <https://www.musee-orsay.fr/en/artworks/des-glaneuses-342>. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Gleaners. In the public domain.
- 2) **Music:** "We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator" (97), "Gloria Patri" (735), "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" (728), "Thy Loving-kindness Lord, Is Good and Free" (607), "My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less" (521) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commissions Publications, Suwannee, GA, 2000). Music used by permission: CCLI License #20711820 and CCLI Streaming License #20711837.
- 3) **Quotes: Page 2:** <https://www.musee-orsay.fr/en/artworks/des-glaneuses-342>. 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).



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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