



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

September 20, 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

**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 Kumi Minagawa and Rachel Ballach.

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: Emily Church (vocals), Ephraim Church (violin), Isaiah Church (violin), Jericho Church (vocals), Laura Church (vocals), Thaddaeus Church (viola), Keith Dolon (sound), David Eakin (vocals), Peter Gibble (viola), Joe Kearns (leading worship), Bonnie Kertland (vocals), David Kertland (preaching), Nathanael Marengo (sound), Katy McIlvaine (vocals), Kentaro Minagawa (greeter), Cooper Yingst (trumpet), Nick Yingst (piano).

**Today's Ushers** are Michael Kitchens, Kentaro Minagawa, and Brad Weaver.

**Counters** are Nora Dolon and Kentaro Minagawa.

**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:

### Titus 1:4

*Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.*

# Praising God

**\*Call to Worship:**

**From Revelation 5:12-14**

*Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might  
and honor and glory and blessing!"*

***To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"***

*Amen!*



*Golden Countenance*  
by Makoto Fujimura

## \*Response of Praise: Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power



1. Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and pow - er,  
 2. Sound - eth the heav'n of the heav'ns with his name;  
 3. Ev - er as - cend - eth the song and the joy;  
 4. Give we the glo - ry and praise to the Lamb;



wis - dom and rich - es and strength ev - er - more  
 ring - eth the earth with his glo - ry and fame;  
 ev - er de - scend - eth the love from on high;  
 take we the robe and the harp and the palm;



give ye to him who our bat - tle hath won,  
 o - cean and moun - tain, stream, for - est, and flow - er  
 bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and praise—  
 sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,



whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne.  
 ech - o his prais - es and tell of his pow - er.  
 this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.  
 dy - ing in weak - ness, but ris - ing to reign.

O QUANTA QUALIA 10.10.10.10.  
 La Feille's *Méthode du plain-chant*. 1808

Horatius Bonar, 1866, alt.  
 Tune from the *Revised Church Hymnary* by permission of Oxford University Press.

## **\*Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

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

### **The Nicene Creed**

We confess our common faith today with the Nicene Creed, a summary of the Bible's teaching about God, our need of a sufficient Savior, and our dependence on the work of the Spirit.

**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.**

### **\*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.**

\* The term "very God of very God" means that our Lord Jesus Christ is "true God from true God."

\*\* "Catholic" here means universal. Not as a reference to what is today called the *Roman Catholic Church*.

# Facing Up to Our Sin before God

## Reading of God's Standard

## Ephesians 4:28

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

*Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor,  
doing honest work with his own hands,  
so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.*

## Confession of Sin

## Declaration of Pardon in Christ

## Ephesians 1:13-14

*In him you also, when you heard the word of truth,  
the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him,  
were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,  
<sup>14</sup> who is the guarantee of our inheritance  
until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.*

## Choral Response

## Benediction

Unison

1. May the grace of Christ our Sav - ior and the Fa - ther's bound-less love,  
2. Thus may we a - bide in u - nion with each oth - er and the Lord,

with the Ho - ly Spir - it's fa - vor, rest up - on us from a - bove.  
and pos - sess, in sweet com - mu - nion, joys which earth can - not af - ford.

# Offering Our Prayers to God

## Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

**Hershey PCA Prayer Requests for the Week of September 20 - 27**

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

- **In the Local Community:** Hershey Entertainment & Resorts
- **Civil Government:** Vice President JD Vance
- **Unreached People Group:** Bhuinhar of South Asia  
Population: 981,900; 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:** Donna K.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Deacon Brad Weaver
- **Supported Missionary or Organization:** Susquehanna Valley Presbytery

### **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:

## Jesus, Lover of My Soul

1. Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bos - om fly,  
 2. Oth - er ref - uge have I none, hangs my help - less soul on thee;  
 3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find:  
 4. Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin;

while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the tem - pest still is high:  
 leave, ah! leave me not a - lone, still sup - port and com - fort me!  
 raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
 let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in:

hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, 'til the storm of life is past;  
 All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;  
 Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness;  
 thou of life the foun - tain art, free - ly let me take of thee;

safe in - to the ha - ven guide, O re - ceive my soul at last!  
 cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of thy wing.  
 false and full of sin I am, thou art full of truth and grace.  
 spring thou up with - in my heart, rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

ABERYSTWYTH 7.7.7.7.D.  
 Joseph Parry, 1879

Charles Wesley, 1740

# 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 3:1-13**

*Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you?" <sup>2</sup> Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. <sup>3</sup> Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. <sup>4</sup> But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do." <sup>5</sup> And she replied, "All that you say I will do."*

*<sup>6</sup> So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. <sup>7</sup> And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down. <sup>8</sup> At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! <sup>9</sup> He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer." <sup>10</sup> And he said, "May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. <sup>11</sup> And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. <sup>12</sup> And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. <sup>13</sup> Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the LORD lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning."*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Ruth: Not Without a Redeemer (8)

**Sermon:**

**“A Willing Redeemer”**

Today's Text: Ruth 3:1-13; Pastor David Kertland

1) A \_\_\_\_\_ Request

2) A \_\_\_\_\_ Promise

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**

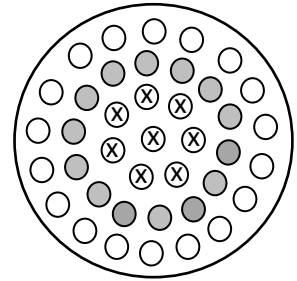
**Words of Institution:**

**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.



**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:**

**Arise, My Soul, Arise**

1. A - rise, my soul, a - rise, shake off your guilt - y fears;  
 2. He ev - er lives a - bove, for me to in - ter - cede,  
 3. Five bleed - ing wounds he bears, re - ceived on Cal - va - ry;  
 4. My God is rec - on - ciled; his par - d'ning voice I hear;

the bleed - ing Sac - ri - fice in my be - half ap - pears:  
 his all - re - deem - ing love, his pre - cious blood to plead;  
 they pour ef - fec - tual prayers, they strong - ly plead for me.  
 he owns me for his child, I can no lon - ger fear;

be - fore the throne my Sure - ty stands, be - fore the throne my  
 his blood a - toned for ev - 'ry race, his blood a - toned for  
 "For - give him, O for - give," they cry, "for - give him, O for -  
 with con - fi - dence I now draw nigh, with con - fi - dence I

Sure - ty stands, my name is writ - ten on his hands.  
 ev - 'ry race, and sprin - kles now the throne of grace.  
 give," they cry, "nor let that ran - somed sin - ner die!"  
 now draw nigh, and "Fa - ther, Ab - ba, Fa - ther!" cry.

LENOX 6.6.6.6.8.8.8.  
 Louis Edson, 1782

Charles Wesley, 1742  
 Alt. 1961; mod.

# Being Sent to Serve God

## \*Benediction:

## 2 Corinthians 13:14

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ  
and the love of God  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.*

## \*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. Musee 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](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Gleaners). In the public domain. Page 4: "Golden Countenance," by Makoto Fujimura. Macro Photography by Ryann Cooley. [https://byfor.org/golden\\_countenance.html](https://byfor.org/golden_countenance.html). Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 United States License.
- 2) **Music:** "Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power" (300), "Gloria Patri" (735), and the "Benediction" (730) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commissions Publications, Suwannee, GA, 2000). "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" (450) and "Arise, My Soul, Arise" (275) are 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:** <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).

\* 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)).



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