



HersheyPresbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

September 27, 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 Yaasha Hepperle and Caity Slate.

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: Ruth Adams (greeter), 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), Nathanael Marengo (sound), Katy McIlvaine (vocals), Brad Weaver (sound), Cooper Yingst (trumpet), Nick Yingst (piano).

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

Counters are Brad Weaver and Stephen Hepperle.

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:

Philemon 1:3

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Praising God

***Call to Worship:**

Psalm 33:18-22

*Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,*

*¹⁹ that he may deliver their soul from death
and keep them alive in famine.*

*²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD;
he is our help and our shield.*

*²¹ For our heart is glad in him,
because we trust in his holy name.*

*²² Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.*

*Response of Praise:

Wondrous King All Glorious

G Dsus D Em Bsus B C

1. Won-drous King, all - glo - rious, sov-'reign Lord vic - to - rious, oh, re -
 2. Heav - ens, spread the sto - ry of our Mak - er's glo - ry, all the
 3. O my soul, re - joic - ing, sing, thy prais - es voic - ing, sing, with
 4. Hal - le - lu - jahs ren - der to the Lord most ten - der, ye who

G Em D G D G Dsus D Em

ceive our praise with fa - vor! From thee welled God's kind - ness tho' we
 pomp of earth ob - scur - ing. Sun, thy rays be send - ing, thy bright
 hymns of faith a - dore him! All who here have be - ing, shout, your
 know and love the Sav - ior. Hal - le - lu - jahs sing ye, ye re -

Bsus B C G Em D G D G F C

in our blind - ness strayed from thee, our bless - ed Sav - ior. Strength - en thou,
 beams ex - pend - ing, light to all the earth as - sur - ing. Moon and star,
 voic - es free - ing, bow down in the dust be - fore him. He is God
 deemed, oh, bring ye hearts that yield him glad be - hav - ior. Blest are ye

D G D G C G D G Am G Am7 D7 G7

help us now; let our tongues be sing - ing, thee our prais - es bring - ing.
 praise a - far him who glo - rious made you; the vast heav - ens aid you.
 Sab - a - oth; praise a - lone the Sav - ior, here and there for - ev - er.
 end - less - ly; sin - less there for - ev - er, ye shall laud him ev - er.

WUNDERBARER KÖNIG 6.6.8.6.8.3.3.6.6.
 Joachim Neander, 1680; alt. 1990

Joachim Neander, 1680
 Tr. by William J. Schaefer, 1938
 Text from The Lutheran Hymnal © 1941. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission from CPH.

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith:**

Psalm 119:33-40

Our Confession of Faith today takes up Psalm 119 and affirms our belief that God's ways are good and right. We also are confessing that we need God to work in us so that we come to desire and follow his ways. The verses point beyond trying to find a right standing with God through law keeping, as we confess that we need the Lord to work repentance and faith in us. Our hope is not in ourselves becoming good people; our hope is in the Lord! Eternal life is not earned by us, it is a free gift from God. The New Testament makes it clear that we are justified by faith alone—that it is the perfect obedience of Jesus Christ and his death as our substitute that turns away our reproach, and it is Christ's righteousness imputed to us that is why we are counted righteous in God's sight. And so, in Christ, we confess our desire to follow him.

***Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes;
and I will keep it to the end.***

***³⁴ Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.***

***³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.***

***³⁶ Incline my heart to your testimonies,
and not to selfish gain!***

***³⁷ Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;
and give me life in your ways.***

***³⁸ Confirm to your servant your promise,
that you may be feared.***

***³⁹ Turn away the reproach that I dread,
for your rules are good.***

***⁴⁰ Behold, I long for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life!***

***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

Hebrews 13:5

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

*Keep your life free from love of money,
and be content with what you have, for he has said,
"I will never leave you nor forsake you."*

Confession of Sin

Declaration of Pardon in Christ

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.

Choral Response

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings 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 September 27 – October 4**

Intercession for the World:

- **In the Local Community:** Hershey Area Small Businesses
- **Civil Government:** US Supreme Court Justices
- **Unreached People Group:** Bhuinmali of South Asia
Population: 298,000; Language: Bengali; 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:** Peter M.
- **Leaders of Our Congregation:** Deacon Kentaro Minagawa
- **Supported Missionary or Organization:** David & Aliece

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: Lord, We Hear Your Word with Gladness

G D G G/D D7 G



1 Lord, we hear your word with glad-ness: you have spo-ken— we re - joice:
 2 May we hear with un - der-stand-ing, by your Spir - it taught and led.
 3 You have spo-ken; yours the full-ness, ours the wealth of this your Word.

G D G G/D D7 G



words of love and life and free-dom— help us make their truth our choice!
 May the springs of all our be - ing by your liv - ing Word be fed.
 Debt-ors, then, as liv-ing let - ters we must make your gos - pel heard!

G D7 G D



Now in ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion for your Word we wor - ship you;
 May our hearts ac - cept with meek-ness all the grace your light makes known.
 By your Spir - it's power trans - form us; shed your sav - ing light a - broad

G D G G/D D7 G



spo-ken, writ - ten, known in Je - sus, ours to - day to prove a - new.
 May o - be-dience mark our foot-steps till we make each word our own.
 till our lives by love in ac - tion show our world the truth of God!

87 87 D
 HOLY MANNA

Text: Margaret Clarkson (b. 1915)
 Music: Columbian Harmony (1825)
 Text © 1987, Hope Publishing Co.

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 3:1-18

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?" ² Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. ³ 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. ⁴ 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." ⁵ And she replied, "All that you say I will do."

⁶ So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. ⁷ 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. ⁸ At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! ⁹ He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer." ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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. ¹² And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. ¹³ 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."

¹⁴ So she lay at his feet until the morning, but arose before one could recognize another. And he said, "Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." ¹⁵ And he said, "Bring the garment you are wearing and hold it out." So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her. Then she went into the city. ¹⁶ And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "How did you fare, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her, ¹⁷ saying, "These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said to me, 'You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'" ¹⁸ She replied, "Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

Ruth: Not Without a Redeemer (9)

Sermon:

“A Righteous Redeemer”

Today's Text: Ruth 3:1-18; Pastor David Kertland

1) A _____ for God

2) A _____ to God's Ways

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

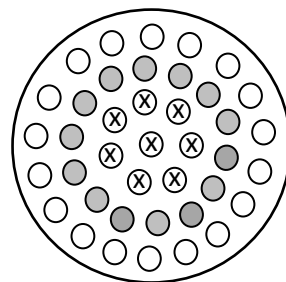
Words of Institution:

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: God Be With You Till We Meet Again

Unison

1. God be with you till we meet a - gain;
 2. God be with you till we meet a - gain;
 3. God be with you till we meet a - gain;
 4. God be with you till we meet a - gain;

Harmony

by his coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with his sheep se -
 'neath his wings pro - tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na
 when life's per - ils thick con - found you, put his lov - ing
 keep love's ban - ner float - ing o'er you, smite death's threat - 'ning

Unison

cure - ly fold you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 still pro - vide you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 arms a - round you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 wave be - fore you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880

Tune from the *English Hymnal* by permission of Oxford University Press.

RANDOLPH Irreg.
 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

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. In the public domain.
- 2) **Music:** "Wondrous King All Glorious" (166), "Gloria Patri" (735), the "Doxology" (731), and "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" (385) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commissions Publications, Suwannee, GA, 2000). "Lord, We Hear Your Word With Gladness" (89) is reprinted from *Sing! A New Creation: Pew Edition* (Grand Rapids, MI: co-published by Calvin Institute of Worship, Faith Alive Christian Resources, and Reformed Church in America, 2001). 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).



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