



Hershey Presbyterian
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

The First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2018

Front Cover Artwork

Winter Scenes from the Metropolitan Museum of Art:

William Sommer (1867-1949), *Winter Trees*, 1890, 18 x 12.5 in., graphite on paper, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. In the public domain.

The word “advent” means “the arrival of a notable person or thing.” In the Christian church, the Advent Season is “the first season of the Church year, leading up to Christmas and including the four preceding Sundays.” During this time, we remember the first coming of Jesus Christ into the world, and we look forward to his return. “Most celebrations of Advent in history had a twin focus. The Latin word *adventus* was the translation of the Greek *parousia*—a word used for both the coming of Christ in human flesh and his Second Coming. Advent, then, always tended to focus on both. ... This double meaning in Advent history signals an important reality... Advent and Christmas are never held as a full re-enactment of the life of Christ but point to our place between the Resurrection and Second Coming. Advent and Christmas are not merely about the coming of Jesus, but about everything since the birth of Jesus....” This... “twin focus of both the Incarnation and the Second Coming... make Advent instructive, not only historically but also in terms of biblical theology. We are not a people who merely look to the one moment God broke into history. We await his coming again in glory, when the King’s reign shall be on earth as it is in heaven.”

Throughout the Advent Season this year, the covers of our worship booklets will feature “Winter Scenes from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.” There is something about winter that creates in us a longing for the return of spring and the fulness of summer. We see the barren trees and the cold landscapes. They have a certain beauty—the sparkle of ice on the limbs of empty branches, the tracks of rabbits and deer on freshly fallen snow—and we are thankful to God for this present beauty. And yet, during this time we live in a world not quite what it could be, not quite what it will be, when summer returns. We begin to long for the fulness of leaves, and warmth, and freshly picked fruit. In a similar way, the church today remembers with thanksgiving that Jesus came into the world which gives our days a certain beauty and joy. And, yet, we also ache and long for the fulness of our joy when he returns.

“O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight.”



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 leaning to *worship God, proclaim Christ, and love others.*

hersheypca.com

Preparing to Worship God

Welcome

Welcome to Hershey PCA! We are glad to have you join with us in the worship of God through Jesus Christ, our Savior and King.

A **nursery** is available today for *infants through age 3* in our Education Wing.

A **private area for nursing mothers** is located at the back of the worship area.

A **Junior Church** for young worshippers from *age 4 through 2nd grade* meets in Classroom 2 in our Education Wing. Children are dismissed during the Song of Preparation and remain in Junior Church until the end of the worship service. Parents, please pick up your children at the end of the service.

Thank you to all our volunteers who make our gathered time of worship possible.

Prelude

Use the prelude time to find a seat and to prepare for joining in with God's people to worship God with joy and gladness. Thanks to Anita Wood for playing for us this morning.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

The season of Advent "is a time to remember the promise of the peace of Christ and to yearn for the full measure of the hope that his coming brings." Candles on the advent wreath are lit each week as an Old Testament Scripture passage is read. As the candlelight shines throughout the service, let it remind you that there is only one true light in this dark world—Jesus. "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Today's Advent Readers:

The Gehron Family

"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'"

Praising God

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 117

Praise the Lord, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!

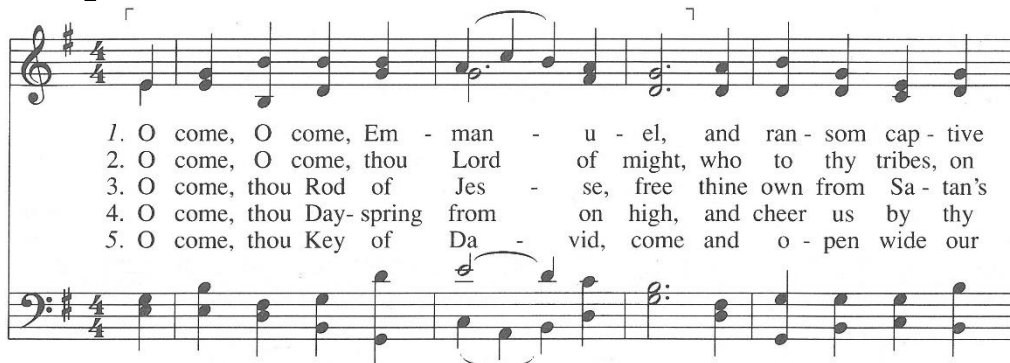
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

Praise the Lord!

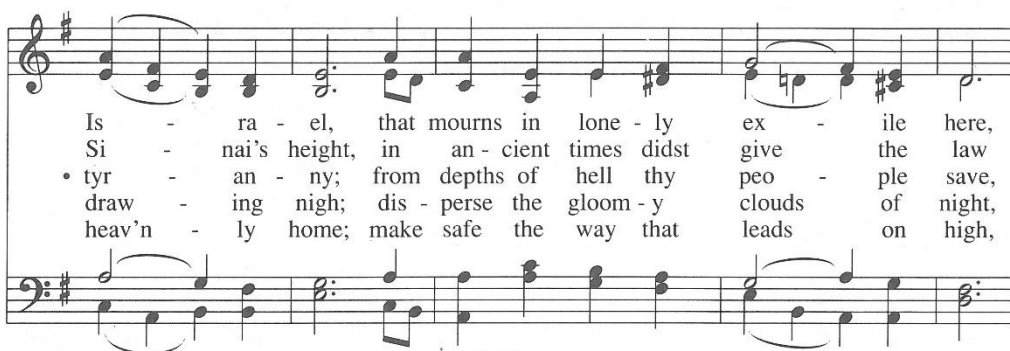
Light Text = Read by Leader
Bold Text = Read by All

*Response of Praise:

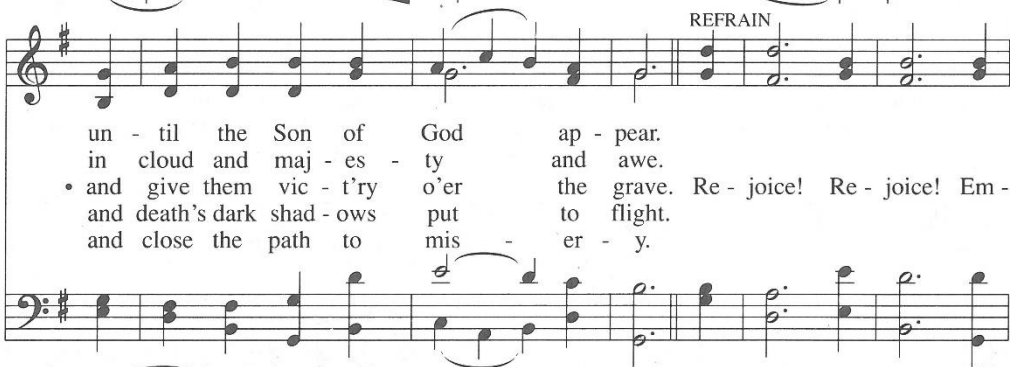
O Come, O Come Emanuel



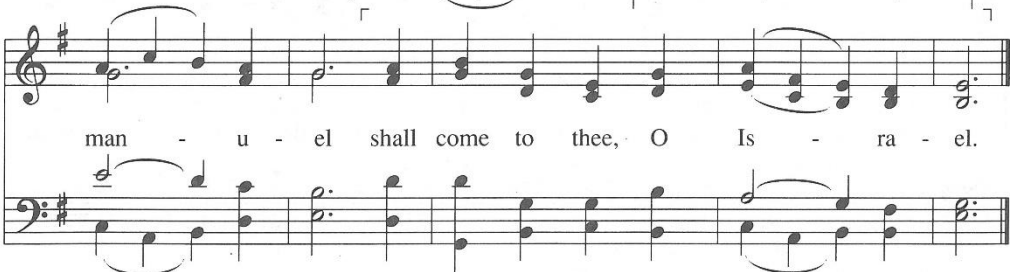
1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on
 3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
 4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
 5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,
 Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law
 • tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,



REFRAIN
 un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 • and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 and close the path to mis - er - y.



man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

***Prayer of Adoration & Invocation**

***Confession of Faith:**

The Apostles' Creed

We confess our faith together using the Apostles' Creed. It is an ancient summary of what the Bible teaches about God, our need of a sufficient Savior, and our dependence on the work of God's Spirit.

I believe in **God the Father Almighty**,

Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in **Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord**,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the **Holy Spirit**,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting.

Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, And to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost: as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men, a-men.

Facing Up to Our Sin before God

Reading of God's Standard:

Philippians 3:17-21

Join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon in Christ

Philippians 4:19-20

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Offering Our Prayers to God

Prayer of Intercession & the Lord's Prayer

Our time of intercession will close 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

Tithes and offerings are an expression of our worship to God.

Offertory

*During this song, children from 4 years old to 2nd grade are invited to attend
Junior Church in our Education Wing.*

*Song of Preparation:

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

The musical score is written on two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, with each line of music corresponding to a line of text. The lyrics are: 1. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der; 2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I; 3. The shep - herds heard the sto - ry, pro - claimed by; 4. This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness; 5. O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our.

1. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der
2. I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I
3. The shep - herds heard the sto - ry, pro - claimed by
4. This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness
5. O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our

stem hath sprung, of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing,
 have in mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it,
 • an - gels bright, how Christ, the Lord of glo - ry,
 fills the air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor
 hu - man woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry,

as men of old have sung. It came, a flow'r - et bright,
 the vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right
 • was born on earth this night. To Beth - le - hem they sped
 the dark - ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God;
 who dost our weak - ness know, bring us at length, we pray,

a - mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
 she bore to men a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
 • and in the man - ger found him, as an - gel her - alds said.
 from sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
 to the bright courts of heav - en and to the end - less day.

German hymn, ca. 1500
 St. 1-2 tr. by Theodore Baker, 1894
 St. 3-4 tr. by Harriett R. Spaeth, 1875
 St. 5 tr. by John C. Mattes, 1914

ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN 7.6.7.6.6.7.6.
 German melody, 15th cent.
 Arr. by Michael Praetorius, 1609; alt.

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**

Philippians 2:19-30

I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. ²⁰ For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²² But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. ²³ I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, ²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

²⁵ I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, ²⁶ for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. ²⁷ Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. ²⁹ So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, ³⁰ for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

**Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.*

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

Sermon: Our Citizenship is in Heaven (16):
“Work Out Your Own Salvation”: Illustrated
Pastor David Kertland Text: Philippians 2:19-30

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

Opening:

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them up to the Lord.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

Memorial Acclamation:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

Words of Institution & Prayer

Distribution of the Elements

Please wait until all are served before eating. Our communion bread is gluten-free.

The tray of communion cups provides a choice of grape juice or grape wine (see diagram).

Prayer

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

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 receive grace from him, to hold out your empty and faltering hands to him, to allow him to feed and strengthen you, and to remind you that He is *for you* and *will help you* as you seek to follow him this week.

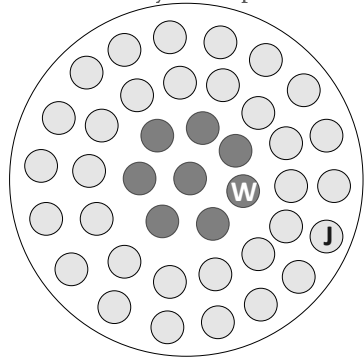
If you are *not* a baptized believer in Jesus today, we are glad that you are here with us this morning! We ask you not to participate in this part of the service. We do invite you to stay and observe this celebration of the Christian's union with the risen Jesus. As the bread and wine pass by, let them urge 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 as my Savior and Lord." *If you prayed this prayer for the first time this morning, please share that with a friend or talk with our pastor who can help you take the next steps in the faith.*

Communion Cup Tray Layout

Light Gray = Grape Juice

Dark Gray = Grape Wine

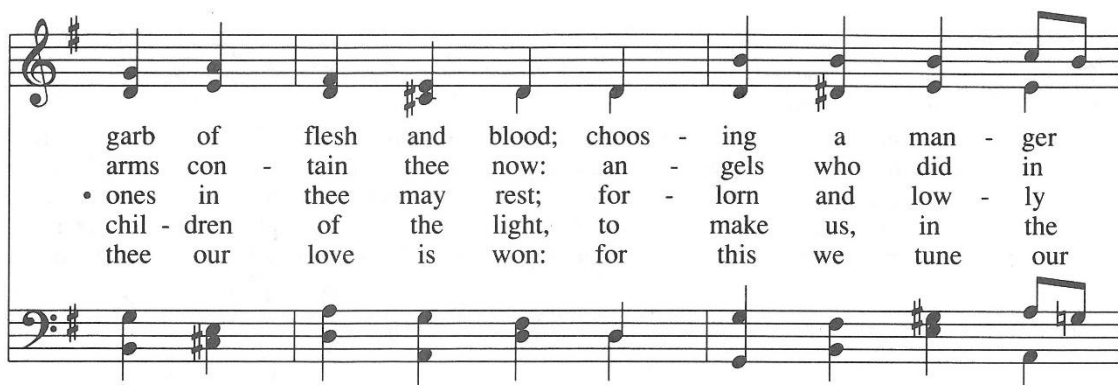


Renewing Our Devotion to God

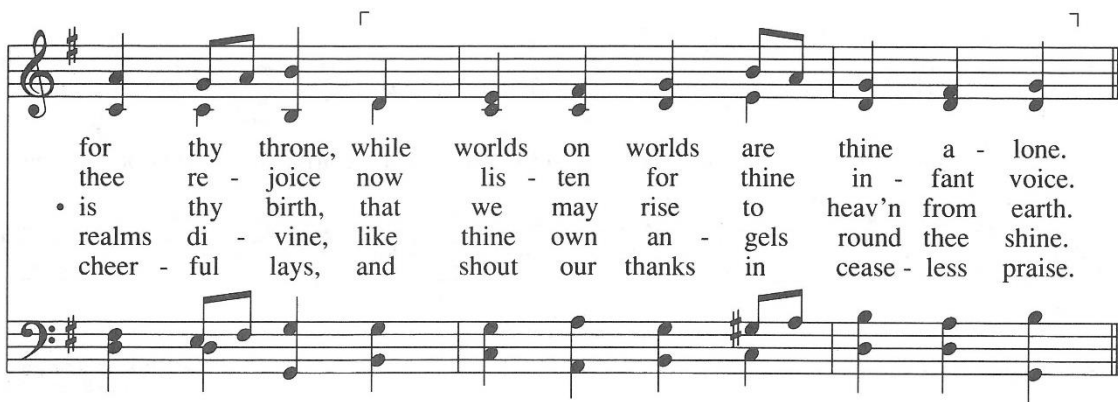
*Song of Dedication and Service: All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord



1. All praise to thee, e - ter - nal Lord, clothed in a
 2. Once did the skies be - fore thee bow; a vir - gin's
 3. A lit - tle child, thou art our guest, that wea - ry
 4. Thou com - est in the dark - some night to make us
 5. All this for us thy love hath done; by this to



garb of flesh and blood; choos - ing a man - ger
 arms con - tain thee now: an - gels who did in
 • ones in thee may rest; for - lorn and low - ly
 chil - dren of the light, to make us, in the
 thee our love is won: for this we tune our



for thy throne, while worlds on worlds are thine a - lone.
 thee re - joice now lis - ten for thine in - fant voice.
 • is thy birth, that we may rise to heav'n from earth.
 realms di - vine, like thine own an - gels round thee shine.
 cheer - ful lays, and shout our thanks in cease - less praise.

Receiving God's Blessing

*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

Use this time to greet someone that you don't know. If you see someone sitting or standing alone, welcome them in the name of Christ. The time after our worship is a great time for mutual, one-another ministry in Christ.

To our guests: We are glad that you have joined us for worship today. We would like to invite you to stay for a little while for conversation with our pastor and other Hershey PCA members.

To our members: As an act of fellowship and service, after a time of conversation and fellowship (approx. 15 minutes), please help to tear down today. We would love your help!

Today's Service Information

- 1) **Artwork:** William Sommer (1867-1949), *Winter Trees*, 1890, 18 x 12.5 in., graphite on paper, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/12628?search%20field=All&sortBy=relevance&ft=winter&offset=80&rpp=20&pos=97>. Accessed 11/28/2018. In the public domain.
- 2) **Music:** "O Come, O Come Emanuel" (194), "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (221), and "All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord (219) are reprinted from *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000). Music used by permission: CCLI License #703337.
- 3) **Quotes:** Page 2: Advent definitions are from <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/advent>. The dual focus of Advent quote is from <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/ryan-reeves/the-history-of-advent/>. Song lyrics are from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" in *The Trinity Hymnal* (Great Commission Publications, Atlanta, GA, 2000, 194) Accessed 11/30/2018. Page 3: from 2015 PCA Advent bulletin insert distributed on Sunday, November 29, 2015. Biblical quotes are from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless otherwise noted. Various quotes used to explain prayers in our worship service from *Leading in Prayer: A Workbook for Worship* by Hughes Oliphant Old (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995).
- 4) 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