

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL

An inclusive community of faith

Sunday, August 28, 2022

10:00 a.m.

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



8855 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

WELCOME!

Welcome to the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill!

Whether you're a first-time guest or a longtime member, we are grateful for your presence. There's a place for you here!

See an usher for hearing devices or large-print bulletins.

Nursery care for infants through age 2 is available in the Strouse building—ask an usher for assistance. Children age 3 and older depart from worship for church school.

We encourage you to fill out the black fellowship pads in the pews, to help us to get to know all who've shared worship with us today.

Following the 10:00 a.m. service, all are invited for refreshments and fellowship in Widener Hall.

We send regular email updates about worship, church life, and other events. Please contact the church office if you'd like to receive them.

Please silence all electronic devices.

Find more information about PCCH on page 11.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Wherever people love each other
and are true to each other
and take risks for each other,
God is with them and they are doing God's will.

– Frederick Buechner

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Praeludium in C major

Johann Ludwig Krebs
(1713-1780)

INTROIT

CHESHIRE

Lord, who may dwell within your house or on your holy hill?
Those who do good and speak the truth, whose lives are blameless still.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 112)*

- Leader: Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord,
who greatly delight in God's commandments.
- People: **The generation of the upright will be blessed.**
- Leader: They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.
- People: **It is well with those who deal generously,
who conduct their affairs with justice.**
- Leader: For the righteous will never be moved;
they will be remembered forever.
- People: **They are not afraid of evil tidings;
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.**
- Leader: Their hearts are steady,
they will not be afraid.
- People: **They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endured forever.**

**Please stand as you are able.*

*HYMN 487

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

Healey Willan

(1880-1968)

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

Leader: Friends, believe the good news.
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*GLORIA PATRI

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

(Hymn 416)

Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
Ever three and ever one;
One in might and one in glory,
While unending ages run.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: As a forgiven people, let us share Christ's peace with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

Guide us, O God, by your word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find wisdom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALTER

Psalm 112:1-7, 9

PLAINSONG

Hallelujah!
Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in his commandments!
Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last for ever.
Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.
For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.
They have given freely to the poor,
and their righteousness stands fast for ever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT AND DISMISSAL

*Children through fifth grade may process to the chapel.
Families, please pick up your children in the chapel following worship.*

HYMN (*seated*)

TALLIS' CANON

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
Through this and every coming day,
That in your Spirit strong and true,
Our lives may be our gift to you.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Love as an Action Verb

John Wilkinson

*HYMN 353

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here

DAS NEUGEBORNE KINDELEIN

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Be Thou Faithful Unto Death
from *Saint Paul*

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

Sei getreu bis in den Tod,
so will ich dir die Kronedes
Lebens geben,
Fürchte dich nicht,
ich bin bei dir.

*Be thou faithful unto death,
and I will give to thee
a crown of life.
Be not afraid,
my help is nigh.*

*DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

***PRAYER OF THANKGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Receive these gifts, loving God, made in love to strengthen works of love offered in your name. Send us forth from this place to serve you and your people with joy and hope. We pray in Christ's name and for his sake. Amen.

***HYMN 376**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

RANDOLPH

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you.
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Toccatina in F major

Denis Bédard
(b. 1950)

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHING

John Wilkinson

LITURGIST

Roberta Kearney

MUSIC

Steve Williamson, tenor soloist

Paul Fleckenstein guest organist

GREETERS

Bob Fles and Kate Houstoun Elders

Jane Kaufman and Kristin Lawton Deacons

USHERS

Jim Burns, Jason Jones, Barbara Olson

FLOWER GUILD

Cathy Brzozowski and Susan White

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Levi and Henry Yinger, grandsons of Susan and Richard Brown

COVER ART Pieter Brueghel the Elder, *The Peasant Wedding*, 1567, oil on panel, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna. This painting is said to be an accurate depiction of 16th-century wedding customs. Pieter Bruegel the Elder enjoyed painting peasants and different aspects of their lives in so many of his paintings that he has been called Peasant-Bruegel, but he was an intellectual, and many of his paintings have a symbolic meaning as well as a moral aspect.

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GOOD TO KNOW

If you are interested in exploring membership at PCCH, please contact John Wilkinson at the church office or at jwilkinson@chestnuthillpres.org.

Sunday worship is live-streamed at chestnuthillpres.org/live and is recorded for later viewing. This offering extends our reach across the country and beyond. Visit us when you're away and tell your friends about this new opportunity to join us.

Please share any pastoral care needs or concerns with Brian Russo at the church office or at brusso@chestnuthillpres.org.

If you would like to receive a ride to church for Sunday worship, please contact the church office.

Please see the back cover for information about our church staff and how to contact and connect with us. You also can access today's Bulletin online.



The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill has committed itself to be a Matthew 25 congregation, joining an initiative of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) focused on three areas:
Building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism,
eradicating systemic poverty.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY AT PCCH

PCCH SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Regular office hours will resume after Labor Day.

PHILADELPHIA COVID UPDATE

Masks during worship and other gatherings will be optional, not required. Thank you for your prayers and understanding as we seek to navigate in this season with full measures of care and compassion.

TRIVIA NIGHT AT CARTESIAN BREWING

Thursday, September 1, arrive between 6:30–7:00 p.m.

Dust off your treasure trove of arcane knowledge and join a PCCH team at Trivia Night at Cartesian Brewing (1326 East Passyunk Avenue, Philadelphia). There will be a food provider on site, or bring in your own (plenty of nearby options, including Pat's and Geno's)! Contact Jeff Podraza (jeffpodraza@gmail.com) if you're interested, and we'll work out details in the interim. Cartesian Brewing was recently named Best New Brewery in Philadelphia Magazine's Best of Philly 2022! The brewery is owned by the husband of Caroline Podraza (who will hopefully join the PCCH team so as to lower our average age and improve our popular culture knowledge).

THE FORUM ON THE HILL

September 15, 12:30 p.m.

John Wilkinson, *The Post-Pandemic Church*

The church landscape was evolving well before the onset of COVID. COVID seemed to accelerate and magnify the change, some welcome, some unwelcome. John's presentation will focus on key aspects of what the church has experienced and learned, and what this season suggests for the future.

The Forum on the Hill provides opportunities for the community to engage with speakers who present on current topics. Open to all church members—come and invite a friend.

Presented at 12:30 p.m. on the second Thursdays of the month, in person for a limited number of people in Widener Hall, and recorded so it can be watched online here after 5:00 p.m.:

<https://www.chestnuthillpres.org/education/forum-on-the-hill>. Bring your own brown bag lunch.

Light refreshments and snacks will be provided. A \$5.00 donation is requested. Registration required to attend in person.

PARENTS ON TAP

Tuesday, September 27, 7:30p.m., Iron Hill Brewery

Introducing a new group for the new year! Beginning on September 27 and reoccurring on the fourth Tuesday of every month, parents of children still in and around the home are invited to join Brian Russo and others at Iron Hill Brewery on Germantown Avenue as we join in fellowship together to discuss all things parenting. From joys to miseries, to questions and suggestions, from sharing stories and experiences, we will try to tackle it all, including the biggest topics confronting both us and our kids. Let Brian know if you'll be there to meet him (brusso@chestnuthillpres.org).

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Jesus often told parables to describe life in the Kingdom of God. In the remaining weeks of this summer the children will hear four parables. Today is Parable of the Mustard Seed.

Nursery care is available for children ages two and under and is staffed by two fully vaccinated, fully background-checked adults. Nursery workers will continue wearing masks.

THANK YOU NOTE

Many thanks to the youth and adults who helped remove unneeded items from the children's center. Also, great thanks to the adults who helped make Vacation Bible Camp a success, as several of our projects needed extra hands to help our young ones. It is such a delight to see the gifts of our members and children at work.



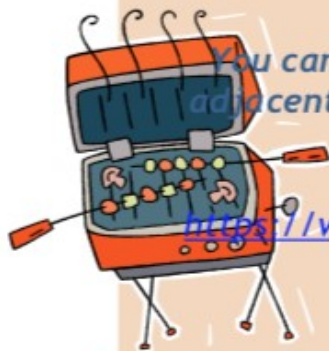
PCCH HOMECOMING PICNIC

*Sunday, September 11, 2022
Following Worship*

Join us to greet new and familiar friends as we launch a new program year in the life of the church.

Volunteers are needed to help with this year's picnic. We need people to set-up and clean-up as well as provide side dishes.

You can sign-up on the bulletin board adjacent to the main office or through this sign-up genius:



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4FAFA82CA1FE3-pcch3>

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN & CONNECT

JOIN THE MATTHEW 25 TEAM!

“Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’

Last September, our Session approved our becoming a Matthew 25 congregation. The Matthew 25 commitment is a partnership with the Presbyterian Mission Agency of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to build congregational vitality, dismantle racism and all other “isms,” and eradicate poverty. This committed us to focus educational efforts and actions around three focus areas:

- Building congregational vitality by challenging people and congregations to deepen their faith and get actively and joyfully engaged with their community and the world.
- Dismantling structural racism by advocating and acting to break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.
- Eradicating systemic poverty by working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency more succinctly states: “The work of Matthew 25 is a direct response to the good news of Jesus and a faithful expression of what it means to be Christ’s disciples in this time and place.” Learn more about the Matthew 25 vision here:

bit.ly/3tXChWc

During the past year, we have raised awareness of this initiative by becoming more purposeful in our social witness outreach, increasing conversations and education around systemic racism, and partnering with area churches of color. Now, we’d like YOUR input and help in integrating Matthew 25 into our daily life!

Please join us today, **Sunday, August 28** to learn more and to share your thoughts and goals around how we can embrace Matthew 25 in all we do. Please RSVP to John Wilkinson (jwtwilkinson@chestnuthillpres.org)

SUMMER BOOK GROUP

“On Juneteenth,” Sunday, August 28

Join us following worship as we review Annette Gordon-Reed’s recent work, “On Juneteenth.” This timely volume is brief in length but substantive in content. Gordon-Reed, who teaches at Harvard, uses her own autobiography and Texas history to help us consider many of the issues we are facing today. Please join us—reading the book (which you can do somewhat quickly) is helpful but not necessary.

FALL BOOK GROUP

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall Kimmerer is the book we will read as a congregation this year. Our approach will be to read 3-4 essays, meditating on them and then coming together for discussion of personal reflection questions to be provided in advance of each discussion. As the discussion questions are meant to encourage personal reflection and sharing it is not necessary to have read a particular essay in order to join in the conversation.

Kimmerer, a biologist, describes her book as a braid of stories meant to heal our relationship with the world. The braid is woven from three strands: indigenous ways of knowing, scientific knowledge, and the story of an Anishinabekwe scientist trying to bring them together in service to what matters most. It is an intertwining of science, spirit, and story—old stories and new ones that can be medicine for our broken relationship with earth, a pharmacopoeia of healing stories that allow us to imagine a different relationship, in which people and land are good medicine for each other.

Braiding Sweetgrass, still on the *New York Times* best seller list after more than 100 weeks, broadens our work as a Matthew 25 congregation.

Our first discussion will be during Second Hour on Sunday, September 25 at 11:30 a.m. in the Reception Room.

PRESBYTERY FALL 2022 ANTI-RACISM BOOK STUDY

Mondays in October at 12:00 noon, via Zoom: October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

You are invited to participate in the presbytery’s fall anti-racism book study. This fall’s book is “You Mean It or You Don’t: James Baldwin’s Radical Challenge,” by Jamie McGhee and Adam Hollowell. Learn more at You Mean It Or You Don’t (prayingwithjamesbaldwin.com) The book is available now.

Here is the ZOOM link for our meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84867525188?pwd=OWlFSFhpazZCMmJCS1llb3ZKaEhpZz09>

Contact John Wilkinson for more information.

CENTER ON THE HILL

Center on the Hill is open this summer Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. with all our practices and protocols in place (sanitation practices, limited number of participants per class, social distancing, and UV air filters). New online content, such as virtual tours, fitness videos, art lessons, recorded presentations and more, is posted Monday–Thursday at 12:00 p.m. on our programs page: chestnuthillpres.org/center-on-the-hill/programs Registration required for all activities and classes at the Center as space is limited for social distancing. Call 215-247-4654 or email msaavedra@chestnuthillpres.org.

YOGA WITH ATTITUDE

Fridays, Ongoing, 9:30–11:00 a.m.

\$45 per calendar month; first class \$10, walk-ins; \$15 for a single class

This is basic yoga with breath warm-ups, asana and meditation. Students of all ages and levels of experience are welcome. The class provides a method which allows us to adopt an “attitude” when confronted and to respond to the adventures in our lives. Participants practice alternative viewpoints, “while standing in truth and light.

SCRABBLE—OPEN PLAY

Fridays, join at any time, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., \$2

Do you love to play board games? Are you a great speller or want to be a great speller?

Then join in on this classic crossword game that is full-on fun. You can feel the excitement begin as soon as you rack up your letters, choose a great word, and hope to land on a triple-word score. Scrabble game provided.

STRONG BONES EXERCISE CLASS

Session 1: Tuesdays, September 6–October 18 (no class September 27), 1:00–2:00p.m., \$72 for 6 Week Session or \$15/per class drop in, registration required

Did you know that 1 in 2 women and 1 in 4 men over the age of 50 will have an osteoporosis-related fracture in their remaining lifetime, and that osteoporosis is responsible for 1.5 million fractures a year in the United States? Hundreds of clinical studies have indisputably proven that doing the right exercises, improving your balance, and making some lifestyle changes are critical factors in building stronger bones. In addition, active lifestyles are associated with reducing the risk of hip fracture by half. This class will include standing and floor exercises to improve postural alignment, balance, and strength. This Strong Bones program is derived from evidence-based research in the field of osteoporosis. Bring your own mat, but all other equipment will be provided.

HAPPENING HERE THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, August 28

Worship	sanctuary, 10:00 a.m.
Church School	Chapel, 10:15 a.m.
Fellowship	Widener, 11:15 a.m.
Summer Book Discussion	Harris 11:30 a.m.
Matthew 25 Planning Discussion	Harris, following book discussion

MONDAY, August 29

Sketching and Watercolor	room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Classic Table Games	room 5, 12:00 p.m.
Bridge Group	room 4, 12:30 p.m.
Watercolor and Drawing, Level 2	room 1&2, 1:30 p.m.
Qigong	Harris, 2:00 p.m.
Girl Choir Rehearsal	choir room, 5:00 p.m.
Philomusica Rehearsal	Widener, 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, August 30

Mindfulness Practice	room 4, 9:30 a.m.
Sketching and Watercolor	room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Mah Jongg Open Play	room 5, 12:30 p.m.
PCCH Staff Meeting	Melcher, 1:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, August 31

Rotary Club	Widener, 7:30 a.m.
Beginning Tai Chi	Widener, 10:00 a.m.
Rummy Tiles Open Play	room 5, 10:30 a.m.
Continuing Tai Chi	Widener, 11:15 a.m.
Bridge Open Play	room 1&2, 11:30 a.m.
Mah Jongg Beginners	room 5, 1:30 p.m.
Golden Yoga	Widener, 3:00 p.m.
Weight Watchers	Harris, 5:15 p.m.

THURSDAY, September 1

BNI Group Meeting
Qigong Healing Movements
Thursday Bridge Game
Outdoor Gardeners
Preschool Back to School Event
Boy Scouts

Melcher, 7:45 a.m.
Harris, 9:00 a.m.
room 5, 10:00 a.m.
Widener, 11:00 a.m.
Playground, 4:00 p.m.
room 1&2, 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, September 2

Yoga with Attitude
Scrabble Game
Yoga, A Chair and You
CPR Class
International Folk Dancing

Harris, 9:45 a.m.
room 5, 10:00 a.m.
Harris, 11:30 a.m.
room 1&2, 12:15 p.m.
Widener, 12:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, September 3

Building Cleaned

SUNDAY, September 4

Worship
Church School
Fellowship

LORD'S SUPPER
sanctuary, 10:00 a.m.
chapel, 10:15 a.m.
Widener, 11:15 a.m.

CHURCH STAFF

John Wilkinson Pastor
Brian D. Russo Associate Pastor for Youth and Senior Adults
Roberta J. Kearney Interim Associate Pastor for Faith Formation
Beth Shalom Hessel Parish Associate
Daniel Spratlan Director of Music
Julie Snyder Director, Joyful Noise
Megan Cullen Church Administrator
Diana Rodgers Interim Director, Preschool
Mariangela Saavedra Director, Center on the Hill
Leslie A. Lefer Communications Coordinator
Evelyn F. Carpenter Administrative Assistant
Felix Delgado Sexton
Donna Marciel Sunday Sexton
Icilda James and Debbie Lambeth Sunday Child Care Givers

CONTACT PCCH

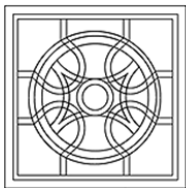
Church office 215.247.8855
Preschool 215.247.8865
Center on the Hill 215.247.4654

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