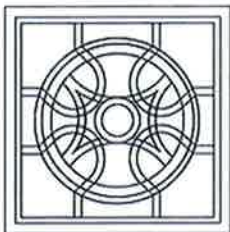


THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL

An inclusive community of faith

Sunday, December 19, 2021
10:00 a.m.
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



8855 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

WELCOME!

Welcome to the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill! Whether you're a first-time guest or a long-time 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.

All are invited for refreshments and fellowship immediately following the service 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 15.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gabriel addresses his majestic words in an unlikely setting to an unlikely person, someone poor and powerless, extremely vulnerable in her place and time, a young peasant woman about to find herself pregnant before her wedding. But if the angel's words express the hopes of generations of Israel, Mary's response is silence. The angel spells out the wonders that are about to ensue. Mary says very little, and she says it simply: "Here am I," and "let it be."

—Kathleen Norris

"Incarnation," *Amazing Grace*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Gilbert Martin
(b. 1941)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Advent is a season of signs:

The nation shall beat their swords into plowshares.

People: **The wolf shall dwell with the lamb.**

Leader: A little child shall lead them.

People: **The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad.**

Leader: Today, we are reminded that God will give us a sign: "The young woman is with child. She shall bear a son and name him Emmanuel: 'God is with us.'"

Let us be aware of signs all around us, as we light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

People: **Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

***HYMN**

Of the Father's Heart Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Of the Father's heart begotten, ere the world began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending, he.
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

This is he, whom seer and sybil sang in ages long gone by;
this is he of old reveal-ed in the page of prophecy;
lo! he comes, the promised Savior; let the world his praises cry
evermore and evermore.

Sing, ye heights of heav'n, his praises; angels and archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful, let your joyous anthems ring,
ev'ry tongue his name confessing, countless voices answering,
evermore and evermore!

BIDDING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*congregation seated*)

Leader:

Beloved in Christ, as we await the great celebration of Christmas, let us prepare ourselves so that we may be shown its true meaning. Let us hear, in lessons from Holy Scripture, how the prophets of Israel foretold that God would visit and redeem the waiting people. Let us rejoice, in our carols and hymns, that the good purpose of God is being mightily fulfilled. Let us celebrate the promise that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, will bring all peoples and all things into the glory of God's eternal kingdom. All will see and hear. All will be healed. The dead are raised up, and the poor hear the gospel as good news.

But first, let us pray for the world that God so loves, a world beset by division and warfare, by human suffering and oppression. The very earth cries out for healing. We pray for those who walk in darkness and the shadow of death; for those that grieve and mourn, for those struggling in body or mind or spirit. And we pray for the Church in this place and everywhere, that it may be freed from all evil and fear, and may in pure joy lift up the light of the love of God. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words that Christ himself taught us.

All:

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.

Leader:

The Almighty God bless us with grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15

Adam and Eve sin and are expelled from the garden

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR CAROL

Veiled in Darkness

Glenn L. Rudolph
(b. 1951)

Veiled in darkness Judah lay,
waiting for the promised day,
while across the shadowy night
streamed a flood of glorious light,
heav'nly voices chanting then,
"Peace on earth, good will to men."

Still the earth in darkness lies.
Up from death's dark vale arise
voices of a world in grief,
prayers of men who seek relief:
Now our darkness pierce again,
"Peace on earth, good will to men."

Light of light, we humbly pray,
shine upon thy world today;
break the gloom of our dark night,
fill our souls with love and light,
send thy blessed Word again,
"Peace on earth, good will to men."

THE SECOND LESSON

Jeremiah 23:5-6

God promises to send a King

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN 9**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

THE THIRD LESSON

Zechariah 9:9-10

God promises the King will come to Israel in peace

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR CAROL

This Is the Day

Ken Berg
(b. 1955)

This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it!
Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

Children through fifth grade may proceed to the Chapel.

THE FOURTH LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A new covenant is promised which will be written on our hearts

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR CAROL

How Beautiful Upon the Mountains

John Stainer
(1840-1901)

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings,
that publisheth peace; that publisheth salvation;
that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

THE FIFTH LESSON

Isaiah 25:1-6

The prophet foretells the Glory of the Kingdom of God

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When

the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines stained clear.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***HYMN 12**

People, Look East

BESANÇON

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35

Gabriel salutes Mary

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR CAROL*Ave Maria*Franz Biebl
(1906-2001)

Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae
et concepit de Spiritu Sancto.

*The Angel of the Lord announced to Mary
and she conceived by the Holy Spirit.*

Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Dominus tecum,
benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee:
blessed art thou amongst women,
and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

Maria dixit:
Ecce ancilla Domini
Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum.

*Mary said:
Behold the handmaiden of the Lord.
Do to me according to your word.*

Et verbum caro factum est
Et habitavit in nobis.

*And the Word was made flesh
and dwelt among us.*

Ave Maria ...

Hail Mary ...

Sancta Maria, mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus.
Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis nunc
et in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen.

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners.
Holy Mary, pray for us now,
and at the hour of our death.
Amen.*

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Mark 1:1-15

Jesus proclaims the coming of the Kingdom of God

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more

powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.
People: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN 5**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jonathan Dove
(b.1959)

Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion
and turneth the shadow of death into the morning.
Alleluia, yea, the darkness shineth as the day,
the night is light about me. Amen.

*RESPONSE

TRURO

Redeemer, come! I open wide
My heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel;
Thy grace and love in me reveal.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, as you led your people in ages past, you guide our journey into the future. As we offer these gifts, we give you thanks that you came to us in Jesus, and we await his coming again. Fill us with gratitude overflowing that we may share life and love in praise to you. Amen.

***HYMN** (*see opposite*)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

You came, O Lord, with gladness, in mercy and goodwill,
To bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still.
I patient expectation we live for that great day
When your renewed creation your glory shall display.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

**Please stand as you are able.*

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 *4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes oncemore.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)
 Music: St. Louis, Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908)

CMD

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

LITURGISTS

Brian D. Russo

Roberta J. Kearney

Beth Shalom Hessel

Barbara Frazier

Lydia Hessel-Robinson

Thomas Webber

Mark Bernstein

Rebecca, Ella and Cade DePasquale

MUSIC

Gallery Choir

Daniel Spratlan Conductor

Ken Lovett Organist

Joyful Noise

Julie Snyder Conductor

GREETERS

Jill Bown and Matt Eastman Elders

Beth DeSoo and Sara Eastman Deacons

USHERS

William Cobb Team #3 Leader; Robert Bausman, Peter Cooke, B. Graeme Frazier and Douglas Olson

FLOWER GUILD

Elizabeth Podraza and Alison Rudolf

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of George Lyons by his wife Anne Lyons

COVER ART He Qi, "The Annunciation," from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

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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 can access today's Bulletin online (with links to more information) by scanning the QR code.



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.

MATTHEW 25 Get connected in this way:

- Read “400 Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019” and join our discussion.
- Pray for Presbyterian higher education institutions who support students of color.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY AT PCCH

Stewardship 2022



STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Thanks to all who have returned your 2022 pledge cards thus far. As of Thursday, December 16 we have received 105 pledges totaling \$479,619.00 in commitments. Thank you!

Your Stewardship Committee hopes you will return your pledge soon, as it helps in our planning for the next year. You can:

- *Return your pledge during worship on a Sunday morning.
- *Mail a completed pledge card to the church office. If you need a pledge card, let us know.
- *Email a confidential pledge to mmcgowan@chestnuthillpres.org.

CAROL SING—Today following worship

Join us after worship today in Widener Hall as Ken Lovett leads us in singing our favorite Christmas carols. Grab a cookie and enjoy the music. All ages welcome!

John Wilkinson is away this weekend officiating at a family wedding.

2021 TAX REMINDER

To be able to deduct donations and pledge payments made to PCCH for 2021, funds must be dated December 31, 2021 and hand-delivered to the church office no later than Monday, January 3, 2022 OR postmarked December 31, 2021 if mailed. All gifts of stock need to be received by the church by December 31, 2021.

REVERSE ADVENT BOXES AND GIFTS FOR BABY JESUS

Boxes may be placed in the reception room any time between now and January 2. If you are attending Christmas Eve worship at 4:30 p.m. please bring your gifts for Baby Jesus to worship for presentation during the offering. Otherwise leave your baby gift in the Reverse Advent box. Contact Roberta Kearney rkearney@chestnuthillpres.org for more information.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DETAILS

Costume fitting today, Sunday, December 19 at 11:30 a.m. in the chapel. Please return any costumes you have at home from last year's pageant. Final preparations for pageant, December 24 in the sanctuary at 3:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

Today is the last day we will receive the Christmas Joy Offering, an offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Christmas Joy Offering supports:

- The assistance program of the Presbyterian Board of Pensions, which supports retired church workers facing critical financial need.
- Three Presbyterian-related academic institutions supporting students of color, in particular Black and indigenous students.

Envelopes are located in your bulletins. Please give generously as you are able. To learn more visit www.pcusa.org/christmasjoy

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR TORNADO RELIEF

In addition to the Christmas Joy Offering, we will receive a special offering today to support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's' response to the devastating tornadoes in Kentucky. Simply write "tornado relief" in the check memo line. Online donations for disaster assistance are also welcome. Please click the "Give Now" link at the top of the church's homepage. Indicate that your contribution is a *Special Opportunity* donation. Please indicate the purpose of your contribution (disaster assistance) in the *Notes* section. To learn about Presbyterian Disaster Assistance's response, visit www.pda.pcusa.org.

EPIPHANY PARTY—January 9 following worship in Widener Hall

A celebration of the coming of the wise men to worship Jesus—games, crafts and activities for children and families.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Following the Joyful Noise anthem we will dismiss and head to the chapel where we will keep our masks on and maintain physical distancing. Rehearsal with the Joyful Noise choir occurs immediately after Sunday school in the chapel.

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

CHILD CARE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL DECEMBER 26 AND JANUARY 2

We will offer child care on these days but no Sunday School. Sunday school resumes on January 9.

CHILD CARE ACCESS BELOW SANCTUARY

We are testing a wireless doorbell to provide access to child care at the door down the stairs from the sanctuary. Sunday, December 19 will be a trial run to ensure everything is in working order.

We are grateful for our teachers (and potential teachers) who are ready to teach our children as soon as parents feel comfortable returning to worship. Please contact Roberta Kearney at rkearney@chestnuthillpres.org for more information on involving your children or to teach our children.

During Advent, Sunday school children will be interacting with a series of *Wondering Stories*. Families can celebrate Advent at home using the Advent devotional found in the Reverse Advent box.

JOYFUL NOISE

All children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to participate! Weekly rehearsals will begin immediately following church school and end at approximately 11:30 a.m. Your children will be brought to you at fellowship in Widener Hall.

YOUTH CHOIR

Youth choir practices following worship/church school. All young people in grades 6 through 12 are welcome. Rehearsals are held in the youth room of the Strouse Building.

JR. HIGH YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (5th–7th Graders)

Friday, December 24, 4:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Pageant

SR. HIGH YOUTH FELLOWSHIP (8th–12th Graders)

Sunday, December 19, 5:00–6:00 p.m.: Christmas Party with Secret Santa

Friday, December 24, 4:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Pageant

PRESCHOOL UPDATE

The Session has named Diana Rodgers as interim director of the PCCCH preschool. We are grateful to Diana for taking on this task.

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN & CONNECT

UPCOMING SECOND HOUR

Please join us for Second Hour, stimulating discussions on faith and life covering a broad range of topics. All are welcome! We begin at 11:30 a.m. following coffee hour.

- December 19: Christmas Carol Sing—join us during coffee hour to sing our favorites
- December 26: Merry Christmas
- January 16: Join us for a conversation regarding equity and equality in education led by Beth Vaccaro Jones.
- January 23: “*Four Hundred Souls*” Part four. We will continue our meaningful discussion of this important work. You need not have attended the previous session and a copy of the book can be borrowed from the church office.
- January 30: Caring for God’s Creation, Part three—Food. Led by Bill Toffey.

BIBLE STUDY

We will NOT MEET on December 22 and December 29. Starting on January 5 we will be studying the gospel of Luke using: *Luke (N.T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guides)*. We will move to the Harris Room beginning on January 5. All are welcome to join us!

CHURCH-WIDE BOOK STUDY

The Adult Education Committee is commending “*Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019*” as a book to read for the upcoming program year. Edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain, this work is an anthology, written by eighty authors from different fields—novelists, historians, sociologists, political scientists, activists, lawyers, and ten poets; each takes a five year period for their brief chapter. The chapters are divided into ten, 40-year sections, and each section is capped by a poem. A copy of the book for borrowing is available in the church office.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Theology on Tap is cancelled for December due to a scheduling conflict. See you in January 2022.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL

An Inclusive Community of Faith

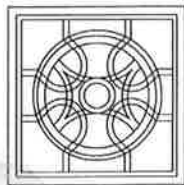
In this holy season, we pray with hope for the health
of our community and justice for our neighbors...

Join us Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m.
in person in our sanctuary and
live stream at www.chestnuthillpres.org

CHRISTMAS EVE

Friday, December 24

- 4:30 p.m. *Pageant of Lessons and Carols*
(for all ages, including families with children)
- 9:30 p.m. - *Prelude – Festival Brass*
- 10:00 p.m. - *A Festival of Lessons and
Carols with the Gallery Choir*



The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill

John Wilkinson, Pastor

8855 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118

www.chestnuthillpres.org • 215.247.8855



Christmas Flowers

A Meaningful Way to Remember Loved Ones

During the Christmas season the sanctuary will be overflowing with beautiful flowers and greens in celebration of Christ's birth. By donating to the Christmas Flower Fund, you can remember your loved ones as always. You can also highlight a special family event like a birth or anniversary, or give to the Flower Fund in thanksgiving for a special person, for grandchildren, or in honor of programs you love about our church (for example Music and the Arts, The Mission Trip, or Center on the Hill.) Names of those being honored will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletins (12/24/2021) and the Sunday after Christmas bulletin (12/26/2021).

Please submit your names to the church office by

Monday, December 20.

Your dedication is:

In honor of _____

In thanksgiving for _____

In celebration of _____

In memory of _____

Amount Donated _____

In the past we have suggested a donation of \$25 for those wishing to remember a loved one on these Sundays. That amount does not fully cover our cost. Rather than simply raising the suggested amount, we are trusting your generosity as well as hoping that more in the congregation will take this occasion to lift up someone or some ministry that has been important to them.

Given by: _____

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

USHER TEAM OPPORTUNITIES

As we return to worship, we are looking to refresh several of our usher teams. Ushering is a great way to serve, to get to know people and to provide hospitality. Typically, ushers are members of a team that serves once a month, and substitute options are available.

If you'd like to serve, or to learn more, contact Michael Baughman at michael.baughman@troutman.com.

FOOD DONATIONS RECEIVED EVERY SUNDAY AND ALL WEEK

As food insecurity grows, PCCH will continue to receive shelf stable food donations to support several mission partners. You may bring items to the church every Sunday and during the week. NO GLASS CONTAINERS PLEASE. Thank you for your support.

CENTER ON THE HILL

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Center on the Hill will be closed from December 20 through January 2 for the Holidays. Classes and events will resume Monday January 3, 2022. Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Center on the Hill is open for in-person activities this winter! When in person at the Center we are following all recommended guidelines and precautions, including masks, proof of vaccination and strict sanitation practices. New online content, such as virtual tours, fitness videos, art lessons, recorded presentations and more, posted Monday–Thursday at 12:00 noon on our programs page
here: <https://www.chestnuthillpres.org/center-on-the-hill/programs/>

Upcoming Classes and Events this winter:

Registration required for all activities and classes at the Center.

Call 215-247-4654 or email msaavedra@chestnuthillpres.org to register.

STRONG BONES EXERCISE CLASS

Session 1: Tuesdays, January 11–February 15; Session 2: Tuesdays, February 22 –March 29, 2:30–3:30p.m , \$72 for 6 Week Session or \$15 per class drop in

This class will include standing and floor exercises to improve postural alignment, balance, and strength. Joanne’s 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. Joanne Fagerstrom, PT, CFP, has been a physical therapist since 1978.

UNDERSTANDING BACK PAIN

Thursday, January 20, 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., free

Presented in person for a limited number of people, and recorded to stream online the following day.

Join us for an interactive presentation addressing one of the most common diagnoses and gateway to disabilities in the United States. Learn posture and body mechanics in order to prevent and treat back pain. After this presentation, you will understand back pain as well as how to avoid it with early intervention. Finally, we will discuss natural treatments. Presented by Elizabeth Edmonds, OTR/L, CDP Fox Rehab, Debbie Golstein, Sunrise of Lafayette Hill and Kristen Bogle, Sunrise of Lafayette Hill

AFTERNOON MOVIE

Are you looking for an enjoyable activity that’s economical and during the daytime so you don’t have to drive at night? Are you looking to see a movie in an intimate setting with easy parking and no long lines? Then join us for an enjoyable afternoon at the movies.

Thursday, January 20, Showing “Knives Out,” 1:30 p.m., \$2

Harlan Thrombrey (Christopher Plummer) spent a lifetime becoming a rich and successful crime novelist. And on his 85th birthday, he invites his extended family to his mansion, hoping to move past their dysfunctional past and bring them together. Things take a turn for the worse when Harlan is found dead during the party, prompting Detective Benoit Blanc (Daniel Craig) to investigate. But will he be able to find the killer when everyone there that day had a reason to do it? From Harlan's dysfunctional family to his devoted staff, Blanc sifts through a web of red herrings and self-serving lies to uncover the truth behind Harlan's untimely death.

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

Tuesday, January 25, 12:00 p.m., \$10

Registration Required by Friday January 21

(Registrations received after January 21 will be charged \$12)

Where else in the community can you go for lunch where you'll see both familiar and new faces, where the atmosphere is relaxed and welcoming, where the food is consistently good and served by a wonderful corp of volunteers, and where it only costs you ten dollars? Our large room is full of round tables that are simply decorated and set with white linens and festive tableware. Join us as our ever popular Community Luncheons return in 2022. We'd love to see you there! *Luncheons are subject to all current Covid guidelines, including proof of vaccination, gathering size limits, and social distancing practices.

BEGINNING BRIDGE LESSONS

Wednesdays, January 26—March 16, 1:30—3:30 p.m., \$80 for 8 classes

Minimum of 5 students to run., Registration Deadline: Monday January 24.

The game of bridge is a lot of fun, and many people keep on playing even into their 90s. In addition, studies have shown that playing bridge keeps your mind sharp and reduces the chance of Alzheimer's disease. This class assumes no prior knowledge of bridge. Bring pencil and paper.

BRIDGE REFRESHER LESSONS

Thursdays, January 27—March 17, 1:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m., \$80 for 8 classes

Minimum of 5 students to run. Registration Deadline: Monday January 24.

If you have taken the Beginning Bridge class and want to learn more, or if you want to improve your skill, or if you played bridge "back in the day" and want to learn more modern improvements in bridge, this course is for you. Have fun while you learn. Bring pencil and paper.

NAME THAT TUNE

Thursday, January 27, 2:30—3:30p.m., Free.

Do you love music? Do you wish you knew a little more about some of your favorite songs? Join us for a fun and interactive music appreciation class this winter! Back by popular demand, your instructor Michael Kraus, will guide you through monthly lessons featuring songs from the past. Learn about the musical roots of songs you have known since childhood, and songs you still love to sing along with today. These classes will be entertaining, engaging, educational and fun! Can you Name That Tune? Come and find out!

HAPPENING HERE THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, December 19

Worship	sanctuary, 10:00 a.m.
Church School	Strouse building, 10:20 a.m.
Joyful Noise Rehearsal	chapel, 11:00 a.m.
Youth Choir Rehearsal	youth room, 11:15 a.m.
Pageant Costume Fitting	chapel, 11:30 a.m.
Fellowship and Carol Sing	Widener, 11:15 a.m.
Crossing Choir Set-up	sanctuary, 12:00 p.m.
Crossing Concert	sanctuary, 5:00 p.m.

MONDAY, December 20

TUESDAY, December 21

Staff Meeting	reception room 1:00 p.m.
Royal Scottish Dancers	chapel, 7:30 p.m.
Social Witness Committee	Zoom, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, December 22

Rotary	Widener, 7:30 a.m.
Flower Guild	sanctuary/kitchen, 9:00 a.m.
Flower Guild	sanctuary/kitchen, 1:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, December 23

Flower Guild	sanctuary/kitchen, 9:00 a.m.
Boy Scouts Board of Review	Harris, 6:00 p.m.
Gallery Choir	sanctuary, 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, December 24

Pageant Rehearsal	CHRISTMAS EVE
Christmas Eve Worship with Pageant	sanctuary, 3:30 p.m.
Music Prelude	sanctuary, 4:30 p.m.
Christmas Eve Worship	sanctuary, 9:30 p.m.
	sanctuary, 10:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, December 25

CHRISTMAS DAY

SUNDAY, December 26

Worship	sanctuary, 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship	Widener, 11:15 a.m.

ABOUT PCCH

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL is a lively congregation that has been serving Philadelphia and beyond since 1852. We have been located on this site since 1950. We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

Our traditional worship service connects with contemporary approaches to questions of faith and life. We support a wide range of mission partners throughout the city and are home to a number of music groups.

Our membership is drawn from the city and surrounding communities. We aspire to be an inclusive community of faith in our work and worship together.

SESSION

Martha Agate	Jack Evans	Jeffrey Podraza
Linda Amsterdam	Robert Fles	Alison Rudolf
Rebecca Bernstein	Lisa Guyer	Taylor Slaughter
Jill Bown	Kate Houstoun	James Spause
Ryan Cavanaugh	James Lutz	Margaret R. Spencer
Gregory Dickinson	Katherine Magid	Beth Nell Vaccaro
Matthew Eastman	Ryan Mann	Christen Webber
	Melissa Montgomery	Kevin Welsh

BOARD OF DEACONS

Alison Abernethy	Debby Evans	Jane McGill
Karen Asper	Courtney Franklin	Barbara Olson
Emily Barth	Trish Franklin	Linda Pettengill
Kelly Baughman	Beverly Heimbach	Amy Raphael
Rebecca DePasquale	Cynthia Hillsley	Dominick Rebeck
Beth DeSoo	Lyn Huertgen	Deborah Robinson
Jess DeSoo	Jane Kaufman	Edna Russo
Sara Eastman	Kristin Lawton	Beth Vaccaro

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
Ken Lovett Organist/Associate Director of Music
Megan McGowan Church Administrator
Diana Rodgers Interim Director PCCH Preschool
Mariangela Saavedra Director Center on the Hill
Leslie A. Lefer Communications Coordinator
Evelyn F. Carpenter Administrative Assistant
Felix Delgado Sexton
Owintier Charles and **Donna Marciel** Sunday Sextons
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

✉ info@chestnuthillpres.org

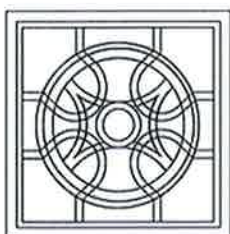
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PCCH Bulletin online



The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill
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