

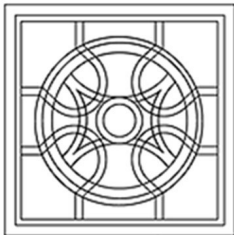
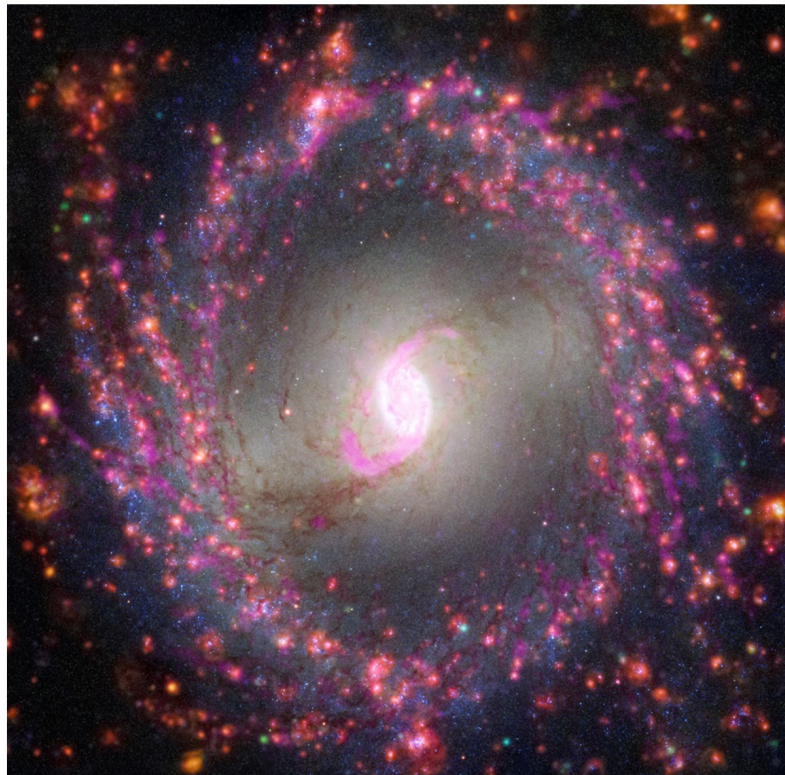
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL

An inclusive community of faith

Sunday, December 11, 2022

10:00 a.m.

THIRD 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 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 13.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The season of Advent means there is something on the horizon
the likes of which we have never seen before...

So stay. Sit. Linger. Tarry. Ponder. Wait. Behold. Wonder.
There will be time enough for running. For rushing. For worrying.
For pushing. For now, stay. Wait. Something is on the horizon.

—Jan L. Richardson

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* Ferruccio Busoni
(1866-1924)

INTROIT John Tavener
(1944-2013)
O do not move,
listen to the gentle beginning.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

- Leader:** We light the third candle of Advent. We look to John, the one sent by God, to point us to the light. The light will come into our world and enlighten everyone.
- God sent John the Baptist to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus Christ, the true light of the world. John called for people to repent of their sins and to live faithfully. He baptized with a cleansing water and proclaimed the new life that Christ, the one who would follow him, would bring. This Advent, we ask for God's mercy and a joyful new beginning.
- People:** **Merciful God, we give thanks that you send messengers like John to call us to greater faith. We ask that in these days we prepare for you in prayer and acts of holy compassion. Forgive us and lead us to your light.**
- All:** **Shine on us, O God of justice; guide our path through gloom of night; bear within us wisdom's glory; come to us, O Christ the Light.**

**Please stand as you are able.*

***BIDDING PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER**

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. The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 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 the shadow of death; for those that grieve and mourn, for those struggling in body or mind of spirit. We pray for the church in this place and everywhere, that our hope may be bold and our compassion strong. These prayers and praises let us humbly offer to God, in the words that Christ himself taught us.

Unison *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.*

THE FIRST LESSON

The good news to people in exile

Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the

flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen

Donald Cashmore
(1926-2013)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came, a floweret bright,
amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Michael Praetorius
(1571-1621)

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright,
she bore to men a Savior, when half spent was the night.

This Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere;
true man, yet very God,
from sin and death he saves us, and lightens every load.

THE SECOND LESSON

God promises to send a king

Jeremiah 23:5-6

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.**

THE THIRD LESSON

*God promises that the king will come
to Israel in peace*

Zechariah 9:9-10

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 warhorse 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.**

YOUTH ANTHEM

Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain

Carolyn Jennings
(b. 1936)

Climb to the top of the highest mountain,
joyous tidings proclaim to the world,
lift up your voice, shout the good news:
Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd,
He will carry the lambs in his arms,
He will ever keep them safe from harm.
Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He who made the stars in the heaven,
He who fashioned the earth and the sea,
from time eternal he was God,
the Alpha and Omega, He.
Behold, your Lord!

He will come in power and glory,
He will rule with mercy and truth,
hope of all the nations,
light of all the world.

He will love the little children,
He will hold them in his arms.
love him and trust him as a child,
Behold, your Lord comes to you.

Children through 7th grade depart for church school in the Strouse building, followed immediately by Joyful Noise rehearsal in the chapel for children through 5th grade. Following rehearsal the children will be brought to their families in Widener Hall.

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FOURTH LESSON

Jesus speaks about John

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE FIFTH LESSON

Gabriel visits Mary

Luke 1:26-35

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, favoured 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 favour 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 for ever, 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. Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

Angelus ad Virginem

14th century carol,
arr. Andrew Carter
(b. 1939)

Gabriel, from heaven's king sent to the maiden sweet,
brought to her blissful tiding and fair 'gan her to greet.
'Hail be thou, full of grace aright!
For so God's Son, the heaven's light,
Loves man, that He | a man will be | and take
Flesh of thee, maiden bright,
Mankind free for to make of sin and devil's might.'

Gently to him gave answer the gentle maiden then:
'And in what wise should I bear Child, that know not man?'
The angel said: 'O dread thee nought.
'Tis through the Holy Ghost that wrought
shall be this thing | whereof tidings | I bring:
Lost mankind shall be bought by thy sweet childbearing,
and back from sorrow brought.'

When the maiden understood and the angel's words had heard,
mildly, of her own mild mood, the angel she answered:
'Our Lord His handmaiden, I wis, I am, that here above us is:
and touching me | fulfilled be | thy saw; that I, since His will is,
be, out of nature's law a maid with mother's bliss.'

Filled full of charity, thou matchless maiden-mother,
pray for us to him that He for thy love above other,
away our sin and guilt should take, and clean of every stain us make
and heaven's bliss, | when our time is | to die,
Would give us for thy sake; with grace to serve him by
till He us to him take. Amen.

MEDITATION

John Wilkinson

*HYMN 5

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sergei Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)

*Bogoroditse dyevo, raduisya,
Blagodatnaya Mariye Gospod s Toboyu.
Blagoslovenna Ty v zhenakh, I
blagosloven plod chreva Tvoyevo,
Yako Spasa rodila yesi dush nashikh.*

Rejoice, O mother of God. Virgin Mary,
full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women, and
blessed is the fruit of thy womb, for thou
hast borne the Savior of our souls.

***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 THANKSGIVING** (*unison*)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Almighty God, you have made us and all things to serve you. Now prepare the world for your rule. Come quickly to save us, so that wars and violence shall end, and your children may live in peace, honoring one another with justice and love; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

***HYMN 38**

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Orlando Gibbons
(1583-1625)

Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHING

John Wilkinson

LITURGIST

Brian Russo

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Gregory and Madeline Dickinson

READERS

Barbara Frazier, Ryan Mann, Melissa Montgomery, Harry Spaeth

MUSIC

Gallery Choir

Daniel Spratlan conductor

Joyful Noise and Youth Choir

Julie Snyder conductor

Jeffrey DeVault organist

GREETERS

Michelle Shachtman and Taylor Slaughter Elders

Linda Pettengill and Amy Raphael Deacons

USHERS

Bill Cobb, Team #3 Leader; Robert Bausman, Peter Cooke, Doug Olson, Dom Rebeck

FLOWER GUILD

Jill Bown, Susan White

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the birthday of Virginia Yinger, daughter of Sue and Dick Brown.

COVER ART NGC 3351, 2022, image via the Webb telescope. Credit: NASA, ESA, ESO-Chile, ALMA, NAOJ, NRAO. This image of spiral galaxy NGC 3351 combines observations from several observatories to reveal details about its stars and gas. Radio observations from the Atacama large millimeter/submillimeter array show dense molecular gas in magenta. The very large telescope's multi unit spectroscopic explorer instrument highlights where young massive stars illuminate their surroundings, set off in red. The Hubble space telescope's images highlight dust lanes in white and newly formed stars in blue. High-resolution infrared images from the Webb space telescope will help researchers identify where stars are forming behind dust and study the earliest stages of star formation in this galaxy.

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SPECIAL MUSIC DURING WORSHIP TODAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

As we begin this season of expectation and wonder, today's worship service will be an Advent Lessons and Carols service. The story of the coming of Christ as told by the prophets will be read, while the choir intertwines musical responses focused on the preparation and anticipation of Advent.

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.



MATTHEW 25

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.

Visit our Matthew 25 page: chestnuthillpres.org/matthew-25 for more information about Matthew 25 news and events.

SAVE THE DATE: MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY GATHERING—JANUARY 7

We will hold an informal gathering for those interested in church membership, or just interested in learning more about the church, on **Saturday, January 7, 2023** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Lunch will be provided. If you are interested in attending, or want further information, contact John Wilkinson at the church office or at jwilkinson@chestnuthillpres.org.

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

TODAY AT PCCH

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.

2022 TAX REMINDER

To be able to deduct donations and pledge payments made to PCCH for 2022, funds must be dated December 31, 2022 and hand-delivered to the church office no later than Sunday, January 1, 2023 OR postmarked December 31, 2022 if mailed. All gifts of stock need to be received by the church by December 31, 2022.

2023 PLEDGE ENVELOPES HAVE ARRIVED

If you ordered 2023 pledge envelopes you may pick them up today in the church office. If you would like 2023 pledge envelopes and neglected to order them, please call the church office.

ADVENT GIFT-GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Several opportunities are available to you as we prepare for the Advent season:

- Reverse Advent Boxes: place items in the Reverse Advent box to be distributed among four ministries—Germantown Avenue Crisis Ministry; Face to Face; Philadelphia Interfaith Housing Network (PIHN); and West Kensington Ministry. Bring your boxes to church by **Thursday, December 24**, Christmas Eve. Boxes are available at church or by contacting Megan Petero, mpetero@chestnuthillpres.org.
- Gathering Winter Clothing for West Kensington Ministry: West Kensington Ministry is in need of gloves, scarves and hats of all sizes, baby to adult. Please bring new or gently used items to the church and leave them in the reception room. Help us make our mission partners feel warm and loved during this beautiful season. If you have any questions about this effort, please contact Laura Brobyn at brobynlaura@gmail.com. Thank you for your anticipated giving and kindness.
- Christmas Giving Tree: support the 2023 youth mission trip to Colorado Springs by taking a star, or two, off the large tree in Widener Hall beginning this Sunday, December 11, 2022. Return the stars with a check made payable to PCCH and indicate “youth mission trip” on the memo line. The **gold stars are \$75, the silver stars are \$25 and the red stars are \$50**. Thank you for your generosity.



Here's where we stand on December 8

- 122 total pledges, including 11 first-time pledges and 10 returning pledges
- \$496,481 total pledged amount

The Finance Committee is at work on the 2023 budget, so your timely response will be greatly appreciated!



It's easy to do—
you can put a completed pledge card
in the offering plate on a Sunday morning,
you can mail it to the church office,
or you can send a confidential pledge
to mcullen@chestnuthillpres.org.




DINNER CHURCH



Sunday, December 11
5:30 p.m.
Widener Hall

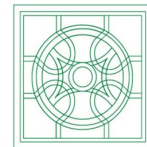
The Gallery Choir and Music and Arts Committee
will host this installment of Dinner Church,
with a Hymn/Carol Sing at the end!



Please bring a side, salad, or dessert.
Main courses and beverages will be provided—
BYOB, if you like!

Please join us for a special evening!

The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill
215.247.8855 www.chestnuthillpres.org



SOULS SHOT PORTRAIT PROJECT™

*Portraits of Victims
of Gun Violence*



*My Gift to Omar, Portrait of Omar Jenkins.
by Sally Berton*



*Josalissa, Portrait of Josalissa Melendez
by Wendy Eliot-Vandivier*

Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill

presents

Souls Shot Portrait Project Exhibition

This project pairs fine artists with families and friends of victims of gun violence. The artists create portraits using diverse approaches and emphasize the individuality and uniqueness of the victims portrayed. The exhibition is a truly moving tribute. Please join us for this powerful experience.

Free and open to the public

**NOVEMBER 4 TO
DECEMBER 15, 2022**

Gallery hours:

M 9-4, T 9-12, 3-4, F 9-4,
or by appointment, 215 247 8855
or 215 740 8678.

Closed November 24 and 25.



**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF CHESTNUT HILL**

8844 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19118
215 247 8855



soulsshotportraitproject.org



@soulsshot



@soulsshotportraitproject



@SoulsShot



Souls Shot Portrait Project



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 (12/24/2022) and the Christmas day bulletin (12/25/2022).

**Please submit your names to the church office by
Monday, December 19**

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: _____

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

Partway through worship, the children are invited to come forward for a children's moment. After that, children through grade 7 will proceed to the Strouse Education Building (church school wing) for church school. Church School classes include a visual story and time for the children to create, read, and play!

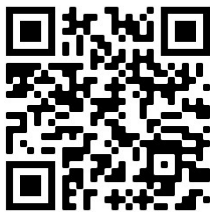
Joyful Noise, the musical component of our children's ministry, meets weekly in the chapel immediately following Church School on Sunday mornings, concluding at 11:40 a.m. The children will sing in worship once each month. All children through grade 5 are invited to participate.

Youth Choir rehearses weekly on Sundays from 4:30–5:00 p.m. and sings in worship once each month. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to participate. Please note that beginning in January 2023 we will have a 45-minute rehearsal time and will move our start time to 4:15 p.m.

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.

CALLING ALL KIDS

All children ages 3 through grade 5 who like to sing are invited to join Joyful Noise, our children's choir, as they rehearse and perform the musical *Who Built the Ark?*, based on the



Old Testament story of Noah. Children who participate will gain confidence, musical and theatrical skills, and an understanding of the relevance of Noah's story to their lives. Church attendance is not required for participation, and friends are welcome to join us.

Rehearsals will take place on Sundays from 11:10 a.m.–12:10 p.m. (children who are not yet in kindergarten will be dismissed at 11:40 a.m.). Rehearsal dates: January 8–May 7 (no rehearsal 2/5, 2/12, 4/9).

Performance date: Sunday, May 14 at 10:00 a.m. during the worship service. Scan the QR code to register. Deadline to register is January 2.

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT

There will be a mandatory pageant rehearsal on Sunday, December 18 immediately following worship. Questions, please contact either Brian Russo at brusso@chestnuthillpres.org or Megan Petero at mpetero@chestnuthillpres.org.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 11

- 11:10-11:40 a.m. Joyful Noise rehearsal in the chapel
- 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Theology and Pretzels brunch at Iron Hill Brewery
- 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Campfire Christmas Stories
- 4:30-5:00 p.m. Youth Choir rehearsal in the choir room
- 5:30-6:45 p.m. Dinner Church in Widener Hall
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. Confirmation class (grades 7-9) "*The Gospels*"

Saturday, December 17

- 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. Christmas in NYC

Sunday, December 18

- 11:10-11:40 a.m. Joyful Noise rehearsal in the sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Christmas Eve pageant rehearsal
- 4:30-5:00 p.m. Youth Choir rehearsal in the choir room
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. Confirmation class (grades 7-9) "*The Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus*"

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN & CONNECT

SECOND HOUR

Join us following worship in December for these lively and engaging conversations. Reception room, 11:30 a.m.

- **Sunday, December 11:** Discussion on the lectionary in Advent. We will explore the three-year Advent lectionary cycle and dive in to this year's passages.
- **Sunday, December 18:** Prose and poetry of the season. We will look at well-known and lesser-known writings to help us find deeper meaning in this season.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday, December 14, 11:00 a.m., Harris room

We will be exploring the lectionary texts for the following Sunday. All are welcome to attend as you are available. Any questions, contact John Wilkinson or Brian Russo.

CAROLING, CAROLING NOW WE GO, CHRISTMAS BELLS ARE RINGING!

Saturday, December 17 and Sunday, December 18, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Mark ye well the song we sing; gladsome tidings now we bring! Led by Beth Vaccaro and Rebecca Thornburgh, the ever-merry band of PCCH Carolers will be out and about again this year, offering glorious al fresco renditions of beloved Christmas tunes for members of our PCCH family. Please join us for this warm and fun tradition! If you're a singer, we'd love to have you lend your special notes to our cheery blend; or if you'd like to have us stop by your home to warble a handful of shiny songs for you, please make haste to let Rebecca know at unbecca@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS DAY READERS SOUGHT

Since Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, Sunday morning will feature a festive service of readings and carols. If you would like to serve as a reader, please contact John Wilkinson at the church office or at jwilkinson@chestnuthillpres.org.

CENTER ON THE HILL

Center on the Hill is open Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. with all our practices and protocols in place. New online content is posted Monday to 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 mсаavedra@chestnuthillpres.org.

The Center on the Hill will be closed for a holiday break from Monday, December 19 until Friday, December 30 and will reopen on Monday, January 2, 2023.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE CENTER ON THE HILL.

This season we are asking you to help make it possible for us to continue offering our excellent programming at little or no cost to our participants, as well as developing new and engaging activities in the upcoming months. If you have enjoyed Center on the Hill, and our classes and events, will you please consider supporting us by donating to our 2022 Annual Campaign? Your contribution will help us to fulfill our vision of offering quality programming both in-person safely and online, to people who are newly discovering us, as well as those returning to “the place for active adults.”

To donate by credit card please visit us online at tinyurl.com/bdhcbvj2 to donate through our PayPal button on that page. To donate by check, please make checks payable to “PCCH,” write “COTH Donation” on the memo line, and mail them to: Center on the Hill, 8855 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19118

COMMUNITY HOLIDAY PARTY*

Thursday, December 15, 12:30–2:00p.m., \$10 per person in advance, \$12 at the door
Pre-registration and payment is required by Monday December 12, or you will be charged the at the door rate. Join us for this wonderful holiday party with music, friends, festive decorations, light bites and dessert buffet! Entertainment provided by the PCCH preschool and the Snyder School of Singing.

*This party is subject to all current CDC Covid guidelines, gathering limits, and social distancing recommendations at the time of the event.

MINDFULNESS PRACTICE

Tuesdays, drop in, start anytime, 9:30–11:00 a.m., \$12 per session

“Like water to the parched traveler; meditation, as well as prayer, quench the inner thirst.” –Unknown
Many say “it’s too hard.” But its essence is simply awareness of breathing and our sensations and thoughts. All that’s really required is a safe place, a few minutes (or more) and a willingness to stay with it (focused relaxation). The instructor and the group’s energy also usually make it easier. You are invited to be a part of us. Simply come with a light, wholehearted willingness to participate, and a beginner’s mind.

RUMMY TILES (aka Rummikub) OPEN PLAY

Wednesdays, ongoing, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., \$2

Join us for this fast-paced, fun and easy game combining elements of the card game rummy and mahjong. Open play space is limited, so please RSVP for each week you plan to come and play. Game sets provided.

GOLDEN YOGA

Wednesdays, start at any time, 3:00–4:00 p.m., \$10 per class, \$35 for 4 Classes, \$85 for 10 classes

Golden Yoga is a classical yoga, adapted by the SKY Foundation, to accommodate those who have difficulty getting up and down from the floor. The practices include stretching, breathing, relaxation, and meditation techniques—all done while sitting in a chair or standing.

MAH JONGG BEGINNER/INTERMEDIATE OPEN PLAY

Wednesdays, join at any time, ongoing, 1:30–3:30p.m., \$2

Come join some new friends, and enjoy the game of Mah Jongg in a relaxed environment! For beginners and intermediate players. Participants should be familiar with the game and have some previous experience playing it..

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY



Saturday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service with Pageant led by Children and Youth

9:30 p.m. Prelude, PCCH Festival Brass

10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service of Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Worship

A Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols

HAPPENING HERE THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, December 11

Worship

Church School
Joyful Noise rehearsal
Fellowship
Second Hour
Theology and Pretzels brunch
Campfire Christmas Stories
Youth choir rehearsal
Dinner Church
Confirmation class
Philadelphia Women's Music Project rehearsal

Advent III

sanctuary, 10:00 a.m.
Strouse, 10:20 a.m.
sanctuary, 11:10 a.m.
Widener Hall, 11:15 a.m.
reception room, 11:30 a.m.
Iron Hill Brewery, 11:30 a.m.
chapel, 11:45 a.m.
choir room, 4:30 p.m.
Widener, 5:30 p.m.
Harris, 7:00 p.m.
chapel, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY, December 12

Sketching & watercolor class
Italian conversation group
Classic table games open play
Bridge group game
Water media level 2 class
Pennsylvania Girlchoir rehearsal
Pennsylvania Girlchoir rehearsal
Philomusica Chorale rehearsal
Youth Committee meeting
Finance Committee meeting

room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Harris, 10:00 a.m.
room 5, 12:00 p.m.
room 4, 12:30 p.m.
room 1&2, 1:30 p.m.
chapel and room 3&4, 4:00 p.m.
choir room, 5:30 p.m.
Widener Hall, 6:30 p.m.
zoom, 7:00 p.m.
Harris, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, December 13

Mindfulness practice group
Preschool holiday show rehearsal
Sketching and watercolor class
Create Your Website class
Mah Jongg open play
Commonwealth Youthchoirs rehearsal
Boy Scouts Round Table
Royal Scottish Country Dancers group
Philadelphia Women's Music Project concert
Session

room 4, 9:30 a.m.
Widener, 9:30 a.m.
room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Harris, 10:00 a.m.
room 5, 12:30 p.m.
choir room, 6:00 p.m.
room 1&2, 7:00 p.m.
chapel, 7:15 p.m.
chapel, 7:30 p.m.
Harris, 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, December 14

Rotary Club meeting	Widener Hall, 7:30 a.m.
Tai Chi beginners	Widener Hall, 10:00 a.m.
Rummy Tiles open play group	room 5, 10:30 a.m.
Bible study	Harris, 11:00 a.m.
Crossing recording set-up	sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.
Continuing Tai Chi	Widener Hall, 11:15 a.m.
Bridge open play group	room 1&2, 11:30 a.m.
Diabetes and Nutrition cooking workshop	kitchen, 1:00 p.m.
Buddhist Philosophy discussion	room 3&4, 1:00 p.m.
Staff meeting	Melcher, 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday Diabetes and Nutrition workshop	Harris, 1:00 p.m.
Mah Jongg beginner and intermediate open play	room 5, 1:30 p.m.
Crossing rehearsal	sanctuary, 2:00 p.m.
Golden Yoga class	Widener Hall, 3:00 p.m.
Weight Watchers meeting	room 1&2, 5:15 p.m.
Pennsylvania Girlchoir rehearsal	all rooms, 6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, December 15

BNI meeting	Melcher, 7:45 a.m.
Qigong class	Harris, 9:00 a.m.
Clergy consultation group	reception room, 9:30 a.m.
Preschool holiday show rehearsal	Widener Hall, 9:30 a.m.
Thursday painters group	room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Thursday bridge group	room 5, 10:00 a.m.
COTH Holiday party	Widener Hall, 12:30 p.m.
Julie Snyder rehearsal	choir room, 1:30 p.m.
Boy Scouts meeting	room 1&2, 7:30 p.m.
Gallery Choir rehearsal	choir room, 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, December 16

Souls Shot portrait project removal
Yoga with Attitude class
Scrabble game
Yoga, a Chair and You
International folk dancing group

Widener Hall, 9:00 a.m.
Harris, 9:45 a.m.
room 5, 10:00 a.m.
Harris, 11:30 a.m.
room 3&4, 12:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, December 17

Girlchoir rehearsal
Girlchoir parent meeting
PCCH youth group to NYC
PCCH Carolers

all rooms, 8:00 a.m.
Harris, 9:30 a.m.
NYC, 10:00 a.m.
off site, 2:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, December 18

Worship

Church School
Joyful Noise rehearsal
Christmas Pageant rehearsal
Fellowship
Second Hour
Crossing concert set-up
Crossing concert reception
PCCH Carolers
Youth Choir rehearsal
Crossing concert
Confirmation class

Advent IV
sanctuary, 10:00 a.m.
Strouse, 10:20 a.m.
chapel, 11:10 a.m.
sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.
Widener Hall, 11:15 a.m.
reception room, 11:30 a.m.
sanctuary, 12:00 p.m.
Widener Hall, 2:00 p.m.
off site, 2:00 p.m.
choir room, 4:30 p.m.
sanctuary, 5:00 p.m.
Harris, 7:00 p.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

Linda Amsterdam
Rebecca Bernstein
Jill Bown
Shannon Cavanaugh
Gregory Dickinson
Matthew Eastman
Jack Evans
Robert Fles

B. Graeme Frazier
Lisa Guyer
Kate Houstoun
Kathryn Krantz
James Lutz
Katherine Magid
Ryan Mann
William Murphy

Michelle Shachtman
Taylor Slaughter
Harry Spaeth
James Spause
Margaret Spencer
Beth Nell Vaccaro
Christen Webber
Kevin Welsh

BOARD OF DEACONS

Emily Barth
Kelly Baughman
Mark Bernstein
Cathy Brzozowski
Emily Camp
Rebecca DePasquale
Beth DeSoo
Sara Eastman

Debby Evans
Courtney Franklin
Trish Franklin
Becky Frazier
Beverly Heimbach
Lyn Huertgen
Jane Kaufman
Kristin Lawton
Jane McGill

Barbara Olson
Linda Pettengill
Amy Raphael
Dominick Rebeck
Deborah Robinson
Edna Russo
Beth Vaccaro
Sarah Wright

CHURCH STAFF

John Wilkinson Pastor
Brian D. Russo Associate Pastor for Youth and Senior Adults
Megan Petero Acting Coordinator of Children's Ministry
Beth Shalom Hessel Parish Associate
Cynthia A. Jarvis Pastor Emeritus
Daniel Spratlan Director of Music
Jeffrey DeVault Organist/Associate Director of Music
Julie Snyder Director, Joyful Noise and Youth Choir
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
Debbie Lambeth Sunday Child Care Giver

CONTACT PCCH

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Preschool 215.247.8865
Center on the Hill 215.247.4654

info@chestnuthillpres.org

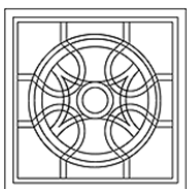
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