# THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL

*An inclusive community of faith*

Sunday, January 25, 2026
10 a.m.
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY



8855 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

**OPENING VOLUNTARY** Prelude in E flat minor — J.S. Bach (1985-1750)

**INTROIT** *Epiphany Introit* — Ian Quinn (b. 1973)

The Lord has shown forth his glory;
Come let us adore him.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever; Amen.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation;
**People: whom shall I fear?**
Leader: The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
**People: of whom shall I be afraid?**
Leader: From our daily labors, the Lord summons us.
**People: Freed from fear, we are bold to follow.**
Leader: "Come! I will make you fishers of people."
**People: We respond with gratitude and praise!**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God,**
**we confess that we have not been faithful to you**
**in our thoughts and actions.**
**We have been selfish in our desires**
**and quarrelsome in our relationships.**
**We have allowed fear to divide us from those who seem different,**
**and let distrust separate us from our brothers and sisters.**
**Shine your light into our darkened hearts.**
**Save us from our divisive ways.**
**Unite us in the same mind as Jesus Christ,**
**who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit**
**in perfect harmony. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

## PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

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

## *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

**Saving God, source of our calling,**
**your Word is full of power and glory.**
**Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us**
**so that we may receive your grace**
**and live as your beloved children;**
**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**GOSPEL** Matthew 4:12-23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

"Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

**PSALM 27:1-7, 9**

Peter Hallock
(1924-2014)

The Lord is the strength of my life;
of whom then shall I be afraid?

When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh,
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.

Though an enemy should encamp against me,
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

And though war should rise up against me,
yet will I put my trust in him.

One thing have I asked of the Lord; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life;

To behold the fair beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter;
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness;
I will sing and make music to the Lord.

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**EPISTLE** 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

**CONVERSATION** Ellen Williams Hensle

## *AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the Confession of Belhar

Leader: We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
**People: who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.**
Leader: We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
**People: the communion of saints called from the entire human family.**
Leader: We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church
**People: as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.**
Leader: We believe that this unity is both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ,
**People: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.**
Leader: We believe that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that hatred among people is sin, which Christ has already conquered. Anything that threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.
**People: Together we fight against all that may threaten or hinder this unity.**
Leader: Together we celebrate our differences as opportunities for mutual service within the one visible people of God.
**People: Together we love each other.**

## 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**

PCCH links and
online giving options

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** *(unison)*

Leader: The Lord be with you.
**People: And also with you.**
Leader: Let us pray.
**All: We thank you, God, that you have blessed us**
**with an abundance of your gifts for the flourishing of your world.**
**May these offerings of our lives and labor reveal your love**
**as we seek to share your promised reign with all creation. Amen.**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** Peter Lutkin
(1853-1931)

Amen.

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY** Amazing Grace Mark Hayes
(b. 1953)

# Leading Worship today

**PREACHING**
**The Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle**

**LITURGIST**
**Emily Chapdelaine**

**CHILDRENS MESSAGE**
**Dr, Julie Snyder**

**MUSIC**
**PCCH Gallery Choir**
**Dr. Daniel Spratlan** Conductor and Director of Music
**Jeffrey DeVault** Organist

**FLOWER GUILD**
All team members

**FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY** are given to the glory of God and in memory of her husband **Gary Brunell,** by **Susan Brunell**.

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**COVER ART** *I Know That They Watch Me, Glowing: Portrait of Cortez Roberts,* Brian Ames, oil on canvas, 2025. From the Artist: "A powerful experience. I'm grateful to Melissa [French] (the mother) to share her stories that inspired me and the artwork. My outlook and understanding on our city has changed as a result." From Melissa French: "My son Cortez, aka my a Duda which was his nickname, he was a good kid; and for sure he was a typical teenager but he loved his family, he was a protector, he was creative, he was unique, he was my son… love you to the moon and back I will not say goodbye, I will say 'see you later, meet mommy at the crossroads.' Forever in my heart, love Mom…"

## CENTER ON THE HILL

If you have time in your day, we have something fun for you to do! Open Monday to Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. New Online content is posted Monday through Thursday at 12 p.m. on our programs page. Scan the QR Code for more information.

The Center on the Hill will be closed Monday, February 16, 2026 in observance of President's Day.

***Upcoming classes and events***

Registration is 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 to register.

**TANGLED DEED, PROPERTY RIGHTS, AND ESTATE PLANNING WORHSHOP**
*(registration required)*
Thursday, January 29, 11 a.m., free
If you have legal or estate questions, need inheritance or landlord/tenant advice, or need to know how to research a property, this is the place for you! Scheduled presenters include: LSIWCH Featured Estate Attorney, The Philadelphia Corporation for Aging, The City of Philadelphia Departments, Department of Deeds and Records, The Office of Information Technology, The Office of The Register of Wills, The Office of the District Attorney, The Department of Revenue.

**VALENTINES DAY MUSICAL CABARET** *(registration required)*
Monday, February 2, 11 a.m., $5
Rachel DeMasi returns to perform a compilation of wonderfully timeless songs that were made famous on the radio, in various films, TV shows and Broadway Musicals. Ranging from the 1930-1990s Rachel has handpicked some of her favorite Love Songs to share with you. Before each song you will find out a fun fact or two about the song you may or may not already know and singing along is encouraged! Light refreshments will be served.

**TRIVIA** (registration required)
Monday, February 2, 1 p.m., $2
Join us for entertaining themed games of Trivia at the Center. Give your brain a workout, learn something new, meet new people, and have a lot of fun! The theme for February is "Honoring Black History Month: Firsts, History, Literature, Music, Sports." Prizes and refreshments provided!

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** *(registration required)*
Monday, February 2-March 16 (no group on February 16), 1 p.m., free
We acknowledge the value of sharing time and stories with others who have also experienced a loss. Please join us for 6 informal gatherings as you grieve the loss of a loved one. The group dynamic allows for a supportive atmosphere to acknowledge all the different emotions/reactions that come when a loss occurs. Topics covered: Myths of Grieving, Grieving & the Holidays, Does Grief Ever End, Coping Skills, and others. The group is closed to new members after February 9, 2026.

## Church Staff

**The Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle** Senior Minister and Head of Staff
**Emily Chapdelaine** Interim Director of Congregational Life
**The Rev. Cynthia A. Jarvis** Pastor Emerita
**Dr. Daniel Spratlan** Director of Music
**Jeffrey DeVault** Organist and Associate Director of Music
**Dr. Julie Snyder** Director, Children's Education, Joyful Noise, and Youth Choir
**Rachel Cline** Church Administrator
**Megan Cullen** Director, Preschool
**Mariangela Saavedra** Director, Center on the Hill
**Mary Frommer** Office and Media Coordinator
**Felix Delgado** Full Time Sexton
**Nakeem Coleman** Part Time Sexton
**Debbie Lambeth** Sunday Child Care Giver

PCCH links and online giving options

## We are a Matthew 25 Congregation

PCCH is a Matthew 25 Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We are committed to building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty. Scan the QR code to learn more.

## Contact PCCH

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| Church office | 215.247.8855 |
| Preschool | 215.247.8865 |
| Center on the Hill | 215.247.4654 |

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