THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL

An inclusive community of faith

Sunday, January 11, 2026
10 a.m.
BAPTISM OF THE LORD



8855 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Welcome!

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

Following today's service, we invite you to join us for refreshments and fellowship in Widener Hall.

Accessibility

Please see an usher for listening assistive devices and large-print bulletins.

Families with Children

- Nursery care for children through age two is available in the Strouse building—see an usher for assistance. Children who are three are encouraged to attend the Godly Play Sunday School class, but are welcome to remain in the nursery at the discretion of their guardians.
- Children's *Praise Packs* are available in the narthex to aid children with worship participation. Please return them after the service.
- All children in attendance are invited to attend Sunday School, which begins immediately after the Children's Message. Please scan the QR code to fill out a brief waiver for your child.

Before Worship

Please silence all electronic devices.
Please be mindful of our musicians, who rehearse in the Sanctuary between 9 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. We welcome all to enter the Sanctuary, but ask that you keep your conversations low.

Contact

If you'd like to receive regular updates about worship, church life and other events, please contact Office & Media Coordinator, Mary Frommer.
If you are interested in joining PCCH, please contact the Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle.

Order of Worship

OPENING VOLUNTARY *Das alte Jahr vergangen ist* — J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Andante tranquillo from *Sonata No. 3* — Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)

INTROIT *The Baptism of Jesus* — Peter Hallock (1924-2014)

Jesus autem hodie regressus est a Jordane (Jesus now returns today to the Jordan).
When Jesus Christ baptised was, the Holy Ghost descended with grace;
the Father's voice was heard in the place:
Hic est filius meus, ipsum intende (this is my beloved Son).

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In the beginning, at creation,
the Spirit hovered over the waters of the deep.
People: In the waters of the flood,
God cleansed the earth and humankind.
Leader: God caused the waters to part
so that Israel could cross from slavery to liberation.
People: God formed Jesus in the waters of Mary's womb.
Leader: Jesus taught us how to live
by washing his disciples' feet in water.
People: Drinking water from a well,
Jesus met a Samaritan woman,
the first person to recognize that he was the Christ.
Leader: Today we celebrate the baptism of Jesus, the Christ.
People: Today we remember with joy our own baptisms.
Let us worship the God who gives us life!

**Please stand as you are able.*

***HYMN 494** *Out of Deep, Unordered Water* RUSTINGTON

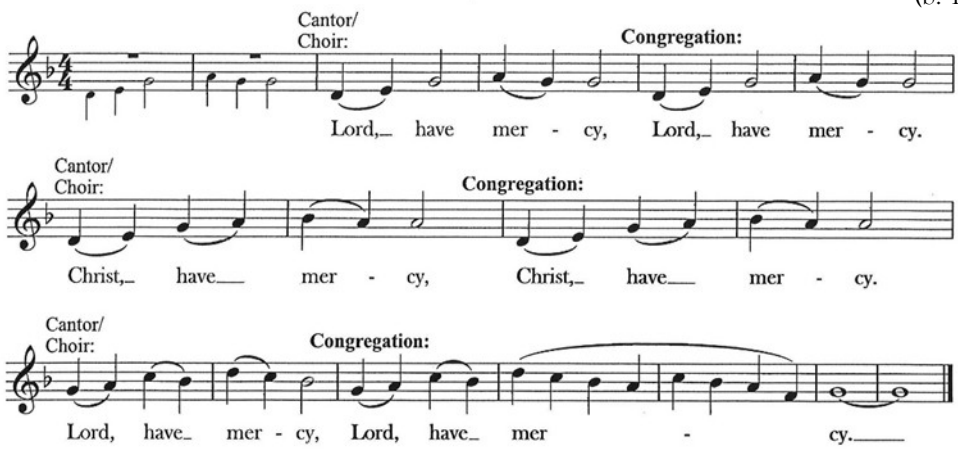
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,
you claim us and call us,
you support us and uphold us,
you save us and free us from our sin.
Yet we slip into old habits,
worshiping idols that have claimed our hearts,
disregarding our impact on the earth and our neighbors.
Forgive us.
Meet us at the water again,
that we might know we belong to you. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

KYRIE ELEISON

Kile Smith
(b. 1956)

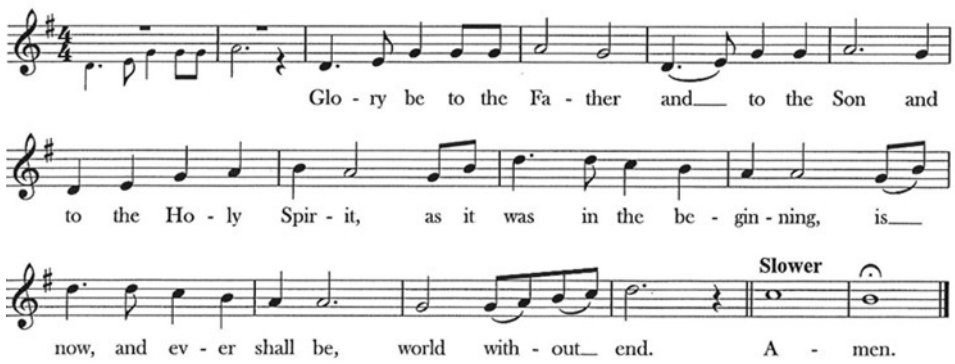


PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

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

*GLORIA PATRI

SMITH



*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

**God who still speaks,
as these words from Scripture are read,
may it be for us as if the heavens are opening
and we see your Spirit descending on us like a dove,
revealing your love for us as your children. Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT Acts 10:34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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

PSALM 29:3-5, 7-11

Peter Hallock
(1924-2014)

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord
all are crying, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as King forevermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his people;
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT AND DISMISSAL

Children through eighth grade depart for church school in the Strouse building.
Joyful Noise will meet following church school from 11 a.m. until 11:40 a.m.
Youth Choir will meet in the Strouse building from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Parents, your children will be brought to you in Widener Hall.

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

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

SERMON

Ellen Williams Hensle

"This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."
Matthew 3:17

***HYMN 10** *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* WINCHESTER NEW

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. 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 ANTHEM Claudio Casciolini (1697-1760)

Asperges me, Domine, hyssopo et mundabor,
Lavabis me, et super nivem dealbabor.
Miserere mei, Deus, secundum magnam misericordiam tuam.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto
Sicut erat in principio et nunc et semper
Et in secula seculorum. Amen.

Thou shalt sprinkle me with hyssop, and I shall be cleansed:
Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be made whiter than snow.
Have mercy on me, O God, according to thy great mercy.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is not, and will be forever. Amen.

***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: Great, saving God,
you have gathered us into one baptism,
regardless of our backgrounds and conditions.
Therefore we praise you with our tithes and offerings.
May they join with others to become a mighty river,
bringing your peace and healing to the world. Amen.

***HYMN 443** *O Christ, the Great Foundation* AURELIA

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE Peter Lutkin (1853-1931)

Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Leading Worship today

PREACHING
The Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle

LITURGIST
Emily Chapdelaine

CHILDRENS MESSAGE
MaryAnn Hartzell

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

GREETERS
Melissa Montgomery and **William Murphy** Elders
Nicolette Cobbold and **Ann Goslin** Deacons

USHERS
Harry Spaeth Team #2 Leader
Troy Foxworth, Graeme Frazier, Kate Houstoun, Jason Jones, and **Beth Wrigley**

FLOWER GUILD
Diane Cornely and **Grace Stewart**

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in celebration of **loved ones,** by **Dolores Edwards**.

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COVER ART *Baptism of Christ,* Dave Zelenka, painting, 2005. In 1993 David Zelenka began developing educational media under the company name Interactive Earth; and has spent years creating websites, graphic design, educational materials, and books that reflect the creativity in "human endeavor" and the "natural world." His work as a state certified math teacher is not so subtly reflected in his painting *Baptism of Jesus* where the golden ratio spirals from Jesus, to the dove, to John, and then through the water.

HAPPENING AT PCCH

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY HOURS
The offices at PCCH and Center on the Hill will be closed on Monday, January 19 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

PCCH WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Harris room. Our next meeting will be on January 14. The Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle will lead the discussion, focusing on the biblical text for the upcoming Sunday's sermon. All are welcome.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP
Men's Fellowship meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month. The next Men's Fellowship meeting is Thursday, January 15 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the reception room. Please call Ron Rising at 203.206.7299 with any questions or concerns.

LADIES CIRCLE GROUP
If socializing, Bible Study and stimulating/lively discussions appeal to you, then you may want to join our group of great women to learn and share. We typically meet on the third Tuesday of every month (September through June) at 10 a.m. The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 20 in the reception room. Please contact Taylor Slaughter, praetextum@gmail.com or 215.983.8561, with any questions.

THEOLOGY ON TAP
Join us on Thursday, January 22 from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Stotesbury, 812 E. Willow Grove Ave in Wyndmoor for Theology on Tap. Please note the new day of the week and location. As we look for a venue to replace Campbell's Place, which has closed, we are experimenting with different options before we decide on a new home and regular meeting time. Please come if you can and let us know what you think.

OFFICE HOURS WITH EMILY CHAPDELAINE
Our Interim Director of Congregational Life, Emily Chapdelaine, is here! Please feel free to join her during open office hours throughout January. Her office hours will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday, January 15, 22, and 29.

WOMEN'S RETREAT
Save the date for PCCH's first women's retreat: March 13 through March 14 at Pendle Hill, a Quaker retreat center in Wallingford, PA. The retreat will include study, rest and recreation (and some delicious meals). The Rev. Diane Fitch will facilitate our conversation about God's call to make Sabbath rest part of the rhythm of our lives. Register during Fellowship today through Sunday, January 25. The retreat is $200 for and overnight stay, or $100 for Saturday only; scholarships available.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Date	Godly Play (age three—kindergarten)	Growing in God's Love (first—second grade)	Christian Studies (third—fifth grade)	Follow Me (sixth—eighth grade)
1/11	**Zach Cline** and **Sarah Wright**	**Mallory Becker** and **Vincent Rota**	**Dom Rebeck** and **Linnea Johnson**	**Amy Raphael** and **Tara Evans**

SUNDAY SCHOOL
Our Sunday School program for children age three through grade five begins with a brief opening in the chapel. For more information about our Sunday School classes and children's music program please scan the QR code.

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE
On evenings we have Confirmation Class Youth Group will meet from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Please note that all middle school and high school youth, regardless of confirmation status, are welcome to come to Youth Group! Feel free to bring a friend! Please contact Kate Magid for more details.

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MUSIC UPDATE
Joyful Noise, our Children's Choir (age three to grade five) will rehearse today from 11 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. Children will proceed directly from Sunday School or Joyful Noise and will be brought to their parents in Widener Hall after rehearsal. New singers and drop-ins are always welcome.

Youth Choir (grades six through twelve) will rehearse today from 11:45 p.m. to 12:30 p.m. Youth Choir will not meet the first Sunday of each month in order to engage in community service with the Youth Group. New singers and drop-ins are always welcome.

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, January 19, 2026 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of service.

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.

JANUARY ART SHOW: THE JOINED HANDS ARTISTS COLLECTIVE—MIXED MEDIA

Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Joined Hands Artists Collective was founded in 2012 by Elke Hildegard Muller, with three other members of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts. We are all Quaker, or Quaker-friendly, artists who create through various medium. Our collective meets monthly to share our works-in-progress with one another, to teach each other skills, and to attend events.

FORUM ON THE HILL: JIM MURPHY—REAL HISTORY, REAL FAST *(registration required)*

Thursday, January 15, 12:30 p.m., $5 suggested donation

Find out what Jim Murphy learned during the eleven years he spent writing "Real Philly History, Real Fast." A longtime resident of Philadelphia, Jim Murphy is a certified tour guide who does frequent in-person and online presentations on "The Amazing Success of William Penn." He has been researching Philadelphia history since 2010.

HORTICULTURAL THERAPY WORKSHOP *(registration required)*

Tuesday, January 20, 1:30 p.m., free

Join Well Rooted HT to create your own botanical décor! This horticultural therapy session includes: herbal tea, aromatherapy, and hand massages. This class blends the healing properties of nature with gentle movement, elements of aromatherapy, and touch therapy to reduce stress and encourage relaxation in a fun, safe space.

KITCHEN ORGANIZATION AND MEAL PLANNING *(registration required)*

Thursday, January 22, 11 a.m., free

Your kitchen doesn't have to be a headache! Perfect for the person leaning into a more plant forward lifestyle, as well as anyone wanting to get healthier and cook more at home. During this course your will learn how to stock your kitchen with plant forward ingredients, save money, and time, and tips and tricks to make meal planning and grocery shopping a fun part of your week. You will also sample a seasonal recipe using what we've learned in class.

Happening Here This Week

SUNDAY, January 11	**Baptism of the Lord**
Worship	sanctuary, 10 a.m.
Church School	Strouse, 10:20 a.m.
Fellowship	Widener, 11 a.m.
Joyful Noise rehearsal	Strouse or sanctuary, 11:10 a.m.
Youth Choir rehearsal	Strouse, 12 p.m.
Youth Group	Harris, 6 p.m.
Confirmation Class	Harris, 7 p.m.
MONDAY, January 12	
Sketching & Watercolor Class	room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Tai Chi Private Practice group	room 3&4, 10:15 a.m.
Table Games Open Play group	room 5, 12 p.m.
WaterMedia Level Two class	room 1&2, 1:30 p.m.
Qigong class	Harris, 2 p.m
Finance Committee meeting	Harris, 7:30 p.m.
TUESDAY, January 13	
Sketching & Watercolor class	room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Meditation Practice group	room 4, 9:30 a.m.
Mah Jongg Open Play class	room 5, 12:30 p.m.
Strong Bones class	Widener, 1:30 p.m.
Strong Bones class	Widener, 2:15 p.m.
Session meeting	Harris, 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, January 14	
Tai Chi class	Widener, 10 a.m.
Rummy Tiles open play	room 5, 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study group	Harris, 10 a.m.
Tai Chi class	Widener, 11:15 a.m.
Bridge Open Play group	room 1&2, 11:30 a.m.
Golden Yoga class	Widener, 3 p.m.
THURSDAY, January 15	
Qigong class	Harris, 9 a.m.
Painters group	room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Forum on the Hill	Widener, 12:30 p.m.
Mah Jongg group	room 5, 1:30 p.m.
French Conversation group	room 1&2, 1:30 p.m.
Men's Fellowship	reception, 2 p.m.

FRIDAY, January 16

Yoga with Attitude class	Harris, 9:45 a.m.
Scrabble Play group	room 5, 10 a.m.
Yoga, a Chair and You class	Harris, 11:30 a.m.
International Folk Dancing class	room 3&4, 12:30 p.m.
Souls Shot Opening reception	Widener, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, January 17

Building cleaning

SUNDAY, January 18

Worship	sanctuary, 10 a.m.
Church School	Strouse, 10:20 a.m.
Fellowship	Widener, 11 a.m.
Joyful Noise rehearsal	sanctuary or Strouse, 11:10 a.m.
Youth Choir rehearsal	Strouse, 12 p.m.
Cantatas and Chamber Music—Nickolas James	Sanctuary, 4 p.m.

WEEKEND OF SERVICE

MATTHEW 25

Sunday, January 18

sandwich and casserole making | during coffee hour

Sign up to provide ingredients by using the QR Code

Cantatas and Chamber Music

Nickolas James, Tenor

Sunday, January 18 | 4 p.m.

preconcert reception | 3:30 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

Jill Bown
Rebecca DePasquale
Gregory Dickinson
Jack Evans
Graeme Frazier
Kelley Garner DiCesare
Melissa Montgomery
William Murphy
Elizabeth Podraza
Jeannette Quirus
Dominick Rebeck
Diana Rodgers
Harry Spaeth
James Spause
Margaret R. Spencer
William Storm
Tennyson Tippy
Clarke Woodruff

BOARD OF DEACONS

Kelly Baughman
Mark Bernstein
Stephen Bishop
Sue Brunell
Nicolette Cobbold
Debby Evans
Becky Frazier
Ann Goslin
Kristin Lawton
Emily McCahery
Jane McGill
Laura Messenger
Thanice Petrak
Rachelle Pretz
Amy Raphael
Sharyn Walker
Sarah Wright
Beth Wrigley

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
Katherine McGill Magid Director of Youth Ministry
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

Church office	215.247.8855
Preschool	215.247.8865
Center on the Hill	215.247.4654

info@chestnuthillpres.org
chestnuthillpres.org
PCCHestnuthill
chestnuthillpres.org/live