



**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL  
PHILADELPHIA**



“The Baptism of Christ” by Aert de Gelder (1645-1727)

**ORDER OF WORSHIP  
BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**January 10, 2021**

**10:00 a.m.**

**INTROIT**

Everett Ticomb  
(1884-1968)

We have seen his star in the East,  
and are come with our offerings to worship the Lord.

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (from Psalm 29)

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name,  
**People: worship the Lord in holy splendor.**  
Leader: The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.  
**People: May the Lord give strength to his people;  
may the Lord bless his people with peace!**

**INVOCATION**

HYMN

# O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET 8.8.7.8.8.7.4.8.4.8

Philipp Nicolai, 1597

Alt. Johann Adolf Schlegel, 1768

Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863

Philipp Nicolai, 1599

Harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1740

1. O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright Thou beam - est  
2. Thou heav - en - ly bright - ness! Light di - vine! O deep with -

forth in truth and light! O Sov - ereign meek and low - ly!  
in my heart now shine, And make Thee there an al - tar!

Thou root of Jes - se, Da - vid's Son, My Lord and Sav - ior,  
Fill me with joy and strength to be Thy mem - ber, ev - er

Thou hast won My heart to serve Thee sole - ly! Thou art ho - ly,  
joined to Thee In love that can - not fal - ter! Toward Thee long - ing

Fair and glo - rious, all - vic - to - rious, Rich in bless - ing,  
Doth pos - sess me; turn and bless me; Here in sad - ness

Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing - ness!  
Eye and heart long for Thy glad - ness!

## WELCOME

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

O Lord our God, your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, that we may be obedient to your will and live for your glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALTER

Psalms 29:3-5, 7-11

Percy Buck  
(1871-1947)

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 for evermore.

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

## GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 1:4-11

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."

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

"It Begins Like This"

Brian Russo

## ANTHEM

*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.)*

There were three persons and one Lord,  
the son baptised with one accord,  
the father said this blessed word:  
Hic est filius meus, ipsum intende.

Now, Jesus, as thou are both God and man,  
and were baptised in from Jordan,  
at our last end, we pray thee, say then:  
Hic est filius meus, ipsum intende.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

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

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

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

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER (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.

## HYMN

### Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized

CAITHNESS CM

F. Bland Tucker, 1979; alt. 1982

Scottish Psalter, 1635  
Harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906



1. Christ, when for us You were bap-tized, God's Spir - it on You came,  
2. God called You "My be - lov - ed Son," The suf - fer - ing ser - vant true,  
3. Straight-way and stead-fast un - til death You then o - beyed God's call  
4. Bap - tize us with Your Spir - it, Lord, Your cross on us be signed,

As peace-ful as a dove and yet As ur - gent as a flame.  
Sent You the king-dom to pro-claim, God's ho - ly will to do.  
Free - ly as Son of Man to serve And give Your life for all.  
That, like - wise in God's ser - vice, we May per - fect free-dom find.

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Wie schön leuchtet*

Johann Pachelbel  
(1653-1706)

**WORSHIP LEADERS:** Brian Russo, Associate Pastor; Austin Crenshaw Shelley, Associate Pastor; John Wilkinson, Pastor

**LITURGISTS:** Adam and Luke Jones

**MUSIC:** Members of the PCCH Gallery Choir, Daniel Spratlan, conductor; Ken Lovett, organist

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#### **Church Staff**

John Wilkinson, *Pastor*

Brian D. Russo, *Associate Pastor for Youth and Senior Adults*

Austin Crenshaw Shelley, *Associate Pastor for Christian Education*

Daniel Spratlan, *Director of Music*

Ken Lovett, *Organist/Associate Director of Music*

Esther Cole, *Church Administrator*

Carla James, *Director, Preschool*

Mariangela Saavedra, *Director, Center on the Hill*

Leslie A. Lefer, *Communications Coordinator*

Evelyn F. Carpenter, *Administrative Assistant*

Felix Delgado, *Sexton*

Owintier Charles, *Sunday Sexton*

Icilda James and Debbie Lambeth, *Sunday Child Care Givers*

#### **The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill**

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Preschool: 215.247.8865

## **THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

### **WALKING IN FAITH: STEWARDSHIP 2021 THANK YOU**

Thanks to the many of you who have responded to our 2021 stewardship effort by returning a pledge card to the church. As of January 8, 2021 we have received 129 pledges totaling \$527,923. Send your completed pledge card to the church office or send a confidential email to [ecole@chestnuthillpres.org](mailto:ecole@chestnuthillpres.org). Your timely support is appreciated.

### **CHRISTMAS 2020 WORSHIP**

We have created a special “Christmas 2020” button on our home page, [www.chestnuthillpres.org](http://www.chestnuthillpres.org), so that you can easily find and view our various Christmas worship offerings. While all of our previous worship services remain on our website, that Christmas button will soon disappear. You are encouraged to view one last time our celebration of Jesus’ birth as we turn to the new year.

## **CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

### **CHURCH SCHOOL**

*Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.*

**Log onto our website at** <https://www.chestnuthillpres.org/> and click on the Church School button at the top of the page.

Church School begins at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday prior to worship for children of all ages. We would love to have the adults tuning in to pay attention to what we do in church school—often a purely behind the scenes venture. The sessions continue to be available on the website.

### **YOUTH GROUP**

*Senior High: Sunday, January 10, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.:* In the parking lot at the fire pit

*Junior High: Sunday, January 10, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.:* On Zoom (See Brian’s email)

## **THE CHURCH IN COMMUNITY**

### **ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES**

Wednesday – Bible Study, 12:00 noon, Facebook Live

Friday – Morning Prayer, 7:30 a.m., Facebook Live

Visit our website [www.chestnuthillpres.org](http://www.chestnuthillpres.org) and our Facebook page regularly for updates and events. Let us know if you have prayer concerns.

### **SECOND HOUR OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NEW YEAR**

Happy New Year from your Adult Education Committee. A new year will provide new opportunities for learning and spiritual growth. Join us on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom as we seek to grow in faith.

Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87560710917?pwd=Um1STVFNRR1J6WTJTCnVLQ3hhK1c2QT09>

- January 10
  - **Second Hour Bible Study: Exploring the Lectionary**
    - We will begin our programming each month with a discussion about where the lectionary will take us in the coming weeks. Join us as John Wilkinson helps us explore the historical and cultural context of this month's readings in hopes that greater understanding may help us to better apply the lessons to our own lives.
    - For this session we will focus on I Corinthians.
- January 17
  - **Sharing Our Stories**
    - As our lives continue to be disrupted by this pandemic, join us for an opportunity to share your experiences during this difficult time. Smith Wigglesworth once said, "God has chosen us to help one another" and in this spirit we hope this virtual opportunity may help us to better support each other even in the face of physical isolation.
- January 24
  - **Vaccines: What We Know**
    - At a time when our hope for a safer future rests on new vaccines, questions abound. How do vaccines work in a public health setting? Specifically, how do these new COVID vaccines induce immunity? How does approval take place? How is safety monitored? Our own Greg Dickinson has a PhD in immunology, conducted biomedical research in the field of vaccine design, and teaches vaccinology to nursing students in the area. Join us for a discussion of these questions as we explore vaccines in the age of COVID.
- January 31
  - **PCCH Book Club- Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths by Bruce Feiler**
    - On the last Sunday of each month, we will meet to discuss our Spring 2021 book. This week our discussion will focus on Chapters 1 and 2: The birth and call of Abraham. Join us as we discuss a biblical narrative that forms the foundation of three faiths. We will do some presentation but you are encouraged to order the book, available through Amazon or other sources.

## **SPEAKER SERIES ON THE HILL**

*Thursday January 14*

*Presented online live on Zoom at 12:30 p.m.*

*Link to watch live at 12:30 p.m. or the recorded version at 5:00 p.m. is here:*

<https://www.chestnuthillpres.org/education/speaker-series-hill/>

**Speaker: David Thornburgh**

**Topic: The 2020 Election's (Almost!) Over: Now What? The Challenges to Politics and Governance in Pennsylvania**

David Thornburgh is president and CEO of the Committee of Seventy, a nonpartisan civic leadership organization that advances representative, ethical and effective government in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania through citizen engagement and public policy advocacy. He is a frequent commentator on public policy and regional development issues. He will be speaking to us about this most recent election and some of the challenges that will be facing Pennsylvania in the year ahead.

## **CANTATAS AND CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT**

*Friday, January 15 at 7:00 p.m.*

Please join us as PCCH presents our next Cantatas and Chamber Music Livestream Performance: *An evening of French and American Art Song* with Rebecca Myers, soprano, and Laura Ward, piano. These wonderful Philadelphia-based musicians will be performing works by Debussy, Barber, Boyle and Lasser.

To watch, please visit <https://www.chestnuthillpres.org/music-arts/cantatas-and-chamber-music/>.

## **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. REFLECTION**

*Monday, January 18, 7:00 p.m.*

*Live on Zoom*

Join us for a brief time of reflection as we share selections from Dr. King's writings and reflect on our response to his ministry in 2021.

The link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86429318922?pwd=OWZJZXFQVk1TM01hQXA3ME5YVXJ4UT09>

## **THE CHURCH IN SERVICE**

### **SOULS SHOT EXHIBITION**

Through January 15, 2021 in Widener Hall, free and open to the public. Visiting hours Monday—Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment. Calling the church office is recommended. COVID protocols must be followed. The Souls Shot Portrait 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. Questions: [soulshotportraitproject@gmail.com](mailto:soulshotportraitproject@gmail.com).

### **THE SANDWICH BRIGADE MARCHES ON!**

Thanks to the many of you who have diligently prepared PBJ sandwiches for Face to Face to supply its food-insecure clients with weekend food. You have filled hundreds of lunch bags! It is much appreciated.

Let's make more! Our next date is **Thursday, January 21**. Please assemble as many sandwiches as you can (peanut butter on *both* slices of bread, jelly in between) and drop off individually bagged sandwiches by **5 P.M.** In addition, we welcome packets of nuts and other snacks, sandwich bags, and bottled water. We also need **two volunteers** to help assemble the lunch bags on Thursday (it takes about 90 minutes), and another to drop the bags off at Face to Face on Friday morning between 9:00—10:00 a.m. Please contact Beth Vaccaro ([bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com](mailto:bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com)) or Suzan Willcox ([sewillcox@comcast.net](mailto:sewillcox@comcast.net)).

## **THE CENTER ON THE HILL**

The Center on the Hill is offering ONLINE ONLY events, and classes for participation from home for the winter months of January, February and March. New Online content, such as virtual tours, fitness videos, art lessons, recorded presentations and more, are also posted Monday—Thursday at 12:00 noon on our programs page here:

<https://www.chestnuthillpres.org/center-on-the-hill/programs/> The schedule for upcoming online events can also be found there.

**Upcoming online classes and events:**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED for online participation. Call 215-247-4654 or email [msaavedra@chestnuthillpres.org](mailto:msaavedra@chestnuthillpres.org) to register.

## **STRENGTHEN YOUR VOICE**

*Mondays, starting January 11, ongoing 1:00 p.m.—2:00 p.m., \$25 per class, join at any time. Presented on Zoom for participation by Computer, Tablet or Smartphone.*

Designed for those interested in improving their singing voices, although no prior singing experience is necessary. Students will warm up as a group and work on several songs each week. New songs are added every 3-4 weeks based on student interest!

## **WEDNESDAY DIABETES and NUTRITION WORKSHOP**

*First and Second Wednesdays of the month, Ongoing 12:00 p.m.—1:00 p.m., FREE. Presented live through Zoom for participation by computer, tablet or call in by phone.*

You can live well with diabetes, pre-diabetes or other chronic disease including obesity with the most nutritious diet. Certified diabetes educator Kirsten Puskar, RDN, CDCES, will help you understand managing your diet and diabetes to stay healthy. All are welcome to take part in her interactive discussions.

## **T'AI CHI, LEVEL ONE FOR BEGINNERS**

*Wednesdays, January 20—March 24, 10:00—10:50 a.m., \$100 for the 10 classes. Presented on Zoom for participation by computer, tablet or smartphone.*

The ancient Chinese martial art of t'ai chi is a low impact activity that offers benefits of meditation and cardio exercise. Requiring no special equipment, it can be done anywhere. Practiced regularly, t'ai chi can improve balance, reduce stress and anxiety, lower blood pressure, and promote general well-being.