

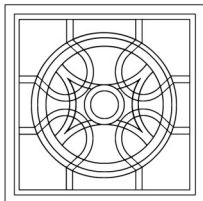
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL

An inclusive community of faith

Sunday, July 12, 2026

10 a.m.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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. With pastoral care concerns or prayer requests, please contact our Seminary Intern Dr. William "Buddy" Storm.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Praeludium from Partita
in B flat major*

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

INTROIT

Über allen Gipfeln ist Ruh

Fanny Hensel
(1805-47)

*Über allen Gipfeln
ist Ruh,
in allen Wipfeln
spürest du
kaum einen Hauch;
die Vögelein schweigen im Walde.
Warte nur, balde
ruhest du auch.*

Over ever mountaintop
lies peace,
in every treetop
you scarcely feel
a breath of wind;
the little birds are hushed in the wood.
Wait, soon you too
will be at peace.

CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 119

Leader: When my soul clung to the dust,
People: Your word revived me!
Leader: When my soul had questions,
People: Your word answered me!
Leader: When my soul melted away from sorrow,
People: Your word strengthened me!
Leader: When my soul was consumed with fear,
People: Your word comforted me!

*HYMN 483

Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we are quick to say,
“We didn’t know.”
“We didn’t mean to.”
“We didn’t expect that to happen.”
But we have not tended the soil of our lives.
We let it stay shallow and rocky
by not learning from the experience of others.
We let it be riddled with thorns
by succumbing to our own prejudices.
Life-giving God,
Help us to tend our soil.
Open us to being challenged,
enable us to learn,
so that your word will take root
and bear good fruit in our lives. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

KYRIE ELEISON

Healey Willan
(1880-1968)

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

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

***GLORIA PATRI**

WESTMINSTER ABBEY
(Hymn 416)

Laud and honor to the Father,
Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one;
one in might and one in glory,
while unending ages run.

***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

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Master Planning Committee

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of abundant life,
Your grace is our daily bread.
Nourish us by your Word
And fill us with your Spirit
So that we may grow in faith and love;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 25:19-34

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife because she was barren, and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other;
the elder shall serve the younger."

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle, so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel, so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau because he was fond of game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

Leader: Holy wisdom, Holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:105-112

Plainchant

Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light upon my path.

I have sworn and am determined
to keep your righteous judgments.

I am deeply troubled;
preserve my life, O Lord, according to your word.

Accept, O Lord, the willing tribute of my lips,
and teach me your judgments.

My life is always in my hand,
yet I do not forget your law.

The wicked have set a trap for me,
but I have not strayed from your commandments.

Your decrees are my inheritance for ever;
truly, they are the joy of my heart.

I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes
for ever and to the end.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT AND DISMISSAL

*Children depart for church school in the Strouse building.
Joyful Noise will meet today from 11 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel.
Parents, your children will be brought to you in Widener Hall.
Youth Choir will resume in September.*

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.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. If you have ears, hear!"

"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Leader: Holy wisdom, Holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Learning to Value

William Storm

"But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

Matthew 13:23

*HYMN 313

Come Down, O Love Divine

DOWN AMPNEY

*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

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 SOLO

*Litanei auf das
Fest Aller Seelen*

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

*Ruhn in Frieden alle Seelen,
die Vollbracht ein banges Quälen,
die vollendet süßsen Traum,
lebenssatt, geboren kaum,
aus der Welt hinüber schieden:
alle Seelen ruhn in Frieden!*

May all souls rest in peace;
those who fearful torment is past,
those whose sweet dreams are over;
those sated with life, those barely born,
who have left this world:
may all souls rest in peace!

*Und die nie der Sonne lachten,
unterm Mond auf Dornen wachten,
gott, im reinen Himmelslicht,
einst zu sehn von Angesicht:
alle, die von hinnen schieden,
alle Seelen ruhn in Frieden!*

And those who never smiled at the sun,
who lay awake beneath the moon on beds of thorns,
so that they might one day see God face to face,
in the pure light of heaven:
may all who have departed hence,
may all souls rest in peace!

*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: Throughout our lives,
God of unending gifts,
we praise you for your abundant goodness.
As you are generous, we want to be generous too.
May the gifts we bring
extend your generosity into the world,
so that all people may be made whole
by your goodness and grace. Amen.**

***HYMN 538**

Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

*Andante from
Suite in G major*

J.H. Fiocco
(1703-41)

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHING

Dr. William “Buddy” Storm

LITURGIST

The Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Rachelle Pretz

MUSIC

Ben Ferriby Bass

Ben D’Annibale Organist

GREETERS

Melissa Montgomery and Jeannette Quirus Elders

Stephen Bishop and Beth Wrigley Deacons

USHERS

Joan Demme Team #3 Leader

Peter Cooke, Tom Hensle, Doug Olson, Jeannette Quirus and John Quirus

FLOWER GUILD

Sue Shuchat and Angie Fredrickson

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of William A. Cobb, Jr by the Cobb family.

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COVER ART *A Parable–The Sower*, Cara Hochhalter, block print on paper, 2019. From the artist “Over the last thirty years, through my work as a Christian Educator, a seminary student and UCC minister, I have created images that interpret the powerful stories around the life of Jesus. These stories hold universal truths not limited to Christianity but relevant for all our lives and times. I find that art provides a very special means to break into these texts.”

HAPPENING AT PCCH

DEACONS' ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Join us today after worship for our annual Ice Cream Social! Craft your perfect frozen treat to enjoy during fellowship. All are welcome.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you a secret master craftsman or prestigious painter? Our Summer Sunday School is looking for volunteers to assist with building the set for our production of "It's Cool in the Furnace." To volunteer, or with any questions please reach out to Dr. Julie Snyder: jsnyder@chestnuthillpres.org.

PCCH PRESCHOOL ADVERTISING ASSISTANCE

The PCCH preschool is looking for volunteers to display lawn signs advertising open enrollment in their front yards. If you are interested, please stop outside of the main office to pick up a sign!

ACHIEVEABILITY BACKPACK DRIVE

Help Us Send 1,600 Kids Back to School with Confidence! PCCH is partnering with ACHIEVEability to help provide high quality school supplies and backpacks to children and teens in need throughout West Philadelphia. ACHIEVEability's goal is to give away 1,600 fully stocked backpacks to students of all ages, and we can play a big role in making that happen! To sign up to donate supplies scan the QR Code. Please drop off all supplies in the reception room by Sunday, August 9. We will be packing all of the backpacks during fellowship on Sunday, August 16.



BIBLE STUDY	LADIES CIRCLE	MEN'S FELLOWSHIP	THEOLOGY ON TAP
July 15, 10:30 a.m.* Harris Room Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Will resume in September	July 16, 2 p.m. Reception Room Ron Rising 203.206.7299	Will resume in September

**Bible Study will pause for the summer beginning July 29.
We will resume Bible Study on Wednesday, September 2.*

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Date SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

07/12 Michelle Shachtman, Rachelle Pretz, and Dan Pretz

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Summer Sunday School program (children age three through rising sixth graders) will take place in our air conditioned Chapel. We will meet until 11:30 a.m. each week.

YOUTH GROUP UPDATE

The youth of PCCH are invited to join us for the Youth Group Mission Trip, in Pittsburgh, PA, from August 8 through August 12. All other youth programming will resume in the fall.

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MUSIC UPDATE

Youth Choir (grades six through twelve) will be on summer break until September. Joyful Noise (our children's choir age three to grade five) will rehearse as part of Sunday School.

IT'S COOL IN THE FURNACE

PCCH Summer Children's Ministry

Join us as we study the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, rehearse and perform the children's musical *It's Cool in the Furnace*, and explore the many ways that immigrants have contributed and continue to contribute to our communities. Mark your calendar for our performance on Sunday, August 30 during worship!

Children's Ministry Summer Mission Project

Our Children's Ministry is collecting hygiene and household items for the Nationalities Service Center. **The following items will be collected from June 14 through August 30:** Full size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, laundry detergent, and Clorox wipes.



CENTER ON THE HILL

If you have time in your day, we have something fun for you to do! Open Monday through 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.



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.

TAI CHI: WHAT IS IT GOOD FOR? ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING! *(registration required)*

Tuesday, July 14, 11 a.m., \$15

Support your bone health, increase the comfort and ease of your joints, your balance and your energy by joining Elissa for this fun workshop. Tai Chi is one of the most effective exercises for your wellbeing; with focus on improving your quality of life and feeling empowered. It has been proven to improve cardiovascular fitness, lower blood pressure, prevent falls, and help with arthritis. It also can help to lower anxiety, stress and depression; while improving memory, focus and sleep. Experience Tai Chi's fun and discover how it could help you meet your wellness goals.

AFTERNOON MOVIES: *HAMNET* *(registration required)*

Thursday, July 16, 1:30 p.m., \$2

Join us for an enjoyable afternoon at the movies, in a relaxing setting with easy parking and no longlines! Popcorn and water will be provided, but feel free to bring your own snacks! *Hamnet*: In late sixteenth century England, Agnes, a healer sensitive to the world around her, builds a home with William, a local tutor and aspiring playwright. As their lives fracture, they are tested by distance, silence, and grief. Winner of Best Actress Oscar and Nominated for Best Director and Best Picture. Starring Jessie Buckley, Paul Mescal, Zac Wishart.

QIGONG *(registration required)*

Mondays, 2 p.m. and Thursdays, 9 a.m., \$40 for four classes, \$12 drop in rate

Come and experience the gentle, healing movements of the ancient Chinese art of Qigong (chee gung). It is the practice of moving Chi, life energy, through the body for good health and well-being. These easy movements can be done in a standing or seated position. Enjoy the peaceful, calming feelings brought about by this wonderful art. Michael McCormack has taught the healing arts for over twenty years. All are welcome.

MAH JONGG: OPEN PLAY *(registration required)*

Tuesdays, 12:30 p.m., \$2

This is an opportunity to simply enjoy others' company and play the game of Mah Jongg. Not for beginners: participants should be familiar enough with the game to play without formal instruction.

HAPPENING HERE THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, July 12

Worship	sanctuary, 10 a.m.
Church School	Strouse, 10:20 a.m.
Deacons' Ice Cream Social	Widener, 11 a.m.
Joyful Noise rehearsal	chapel, 11 a.m.

MONDAY, July 13

Sketching and Watercolor class	room 1&2, 10 a.m.
Tai Chi group	room 3&4, 10:15 a.m.
Memorial Service for William A. Cobb, Jr.	sanctuary, 11 a.m.
Table Games Open Play group	room 5, 12 p.m.
WaterMedia Level Two class	off site, 1:30 p.m.
Qigong class	Harris, 2 p.m.

TUESDAY, July 14

Meditation Practice group	Harris, 9:30 a.m.
Sketching and Watercolor class	room 1&2, 10 a.m.
Tai Chi class	Widener, 11 a.m.
Mah Jongg Open Play group	room 5, 12:30 p.m.
Strong Bones class	Widener, 1 p.m.
Strong Bones class	Widener, 2:15 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, July 15

Beginning Tai Chi class	Widener, 10 a.m.
Rummy Tiles Open Play group	room 5, 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study group	Harris, 10:30 a.m.
Continuing Tai Chi class	Widener, 11:15 a.m.
Bridge Open Play group	room 3&4, 11:30 a.m.
Making Art Makes Us Smarter: Drawing class	room 1&2, 1:30 p.m.
Golden Yoga class	Widener, 3 p.m.

THURSDAY, July 16

Qigong class	Harris, 9 a.m.
Painters group	room 1&2, 9:30 a.m.
Afternoon Movie— <i>Hamnet</i>	Harris, 1:30 p.m.
Mah Jongg group	room 5, 1:30 p.m.
Making Art Makes Us Smarter: Drawing class	room 1&2, 1:30 p.m.
French Conversation group	room 3&4, 1:30 p.m.
Men's Fellowship group	reception, 2 p.m.

FRIDAY, July 17

Yoga with Attitude class

Scrabble Play group

Yoga, A Chair, and You class

International Folk Dancing group

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

SATURDAY, July 18

Building cleaned

SUNDAY, July 19

Worship

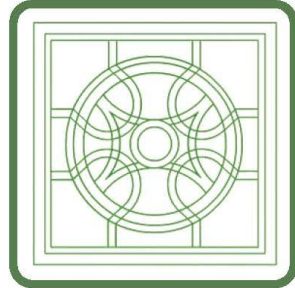
Church School

Fellowship

Joyful Noise rehearsal

sanctuary, 10 a.m.
Strouse, 10:20 a.m.
Widener, 11 a.m.
chapel, 11 a.m.

PCCH YOUTH HYGIENE DRIVE



This summer, our Children's Ministry will be collecting hygiene and home items for Nationalities Service Center as a part of our Summer Sunday school curriculum. We are collecting the following items: FULL SIZE shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, laundry detergent, and Clorox wipes. We will have a collection box in Sunday School beginning June 14.



CONTACT DR. JULIE SNYDER WITH ANY QUESTIONS:
JSNYDER@CHESTNUTHILLPRES.ORG

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

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

The Rev. Emily Chapdelaine Associate Minister of Congregational Life (on leave)

Dr. William “Buddy” Storm Seminary Intern

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

The Rev. Cynthia A. Jarvis Pastor Emerita



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



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