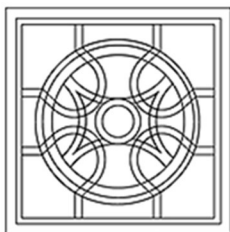


THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL
An inclusive community of faith

Wednesday, March 5, 2025
12 p.m.
ASH WEDNESDAY



8855 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Andante
from Sonata (Op. 120)

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

HYMN 471

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

ENTER TUNE

LITANY FOR LENT

Leader: For forty days and nights the rain fell, and the waters covered the face of the earth.

People: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: For forty years the people wandered, seeking the land of God's promise.

People: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Moses spent forty days on the mountain, learning the commandments of God.

People: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Elijah traveled forty days in the wilderness to hear the voice of God in silence.

People: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Jonah cried out to the people of Nineveh: Repent, or in forty days you will perish.

People: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days and was tested by the devil.

People: **Lead us, O Lord, from death to life.**

Leader: Eternal God, as we are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ, so give us the grace of repentance that we may pass through the grave with him and be born again to eternal life. For he is the One who was crucified, dead, and buried, and rose again for us, Jesus our Savior.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN 166

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Merciful God, your word is our way of truth and life.

Create in us hearts that are clean and put your Holy Spirit within us,
so that we may receive your grace and declare your praise forever;
through Jesus Christ our Lord; Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 51:1-17

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.

For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Jesus taught them, saying: “Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

REFLECTION

HYMN 470

There is a Longing in Our Hearts

LONGING

Congregation: refrain

Soloists: verses

INVITATION TO OBSERVE HOLY LENT

LITANY OF PENITENCE

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

Leader: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

People: We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Leader: We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness.
For the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives:

People: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: For our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work:

People: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: For our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in us:

People: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done. For the neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty:

People: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: For all false judgements, for uncharitable thoughts towards our neighbors, and for our prejudice and contempt towards those who differ from us,

People: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern for those who come after us,

People: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader: Restore us, O God of our salvation, and show us your steadfast love.

People: Turn to us in your mercy and redeem us.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

RESPONSE

Leader: Accomplish in us, O God,
the work of your salvation,

People: **That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

Leader: By the cross and passion of our Savior,

People: **bring us with all your saints to the joy of Christ's resurrection.**

HYMN 227

Jesus, Remember Me

REMEMBER ME

BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

arr. Mark Hayes
(b. 1953)

LEADING WORSHIP

PREACHING

Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle

MUSIC

Dr. Julie Snyder *Worship Leader*

Dr. Daniel Spratlan *Worship Leader*

Jeffrey DeVault *Pianist*

COVER ART

Mike Moyers, *Ash*, 2016, used with permission from the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library. The artist describes this work as “a painting depicting the cross of ashes imposed on Ash Wednesday. The painting style conveys the themes of mortality, brokenness, and our need of God’s grace.”

MUSIC AND TEXTS reprinted and performed with permission. CCLI copyright license #3140916; streaming license #4387474. Prayers in the bulletin are from the *Book of Common Worship*, copyright 2018, Westminster John Knox Press.

CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Ellen Williams Hensle Senior Minister and Head of Staff
The Rev. Cynthia A. Jarvis Pastor Emerita
Dr. Daniel Spratlan Director of Music
Jeffrey DeVault Organist/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 Sexton
Asante Carter Sexton
Debbie Lambeth Sunday Child Care Giver

CONTACT PCCH

Church office 215.247.8855
Preschool 215.247.8865
Center on the Hill 215.247.4654

info@chestnuthillpres.org

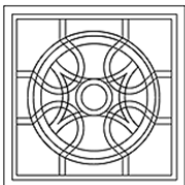
 chestnuthillpres.org

 [PCCHestnuthill](https://www.facebook.com/PCCHestnuthill)

 [chestnuthillpres.org/live](https://www.youtube.com/c/chestnuthillpres.org/live)



PCCH links and
online giving options



The Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill
8855 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118