



**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CHESTNUT HILL
PHILADELPHIA**

Church is other people, a worshipping community. The worship, or praise of God,
does not take place only when people gather on a Sunday morning,
but when they gather to paint the house of an elderly shut-in,
when they visit someone in the hospital or console the bereaved,
when the Sunday school kids sing Christmas carols at the nursing home.

~ Kathleen Norris
Amazing Grace

Gracious God, by your providence we live and work and join in communities,
and from your hand we receive those things we need, gift on gift, all free.
We thank you for the harvest of goodness you supply: for food and shelter,
for words and gestures, for all our human friendships.
Above all, we praise you for your son, who came to show mercy,
and who names us as his friends.
Glory to you for great kindness to us and all your children. Amen.

~ Prayer for Thanksgiving Day
The Worshipbook
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 1970

ORDER OF WORSHIP CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

November 22, 2020

10:00 a.m.

INTROIT

Christopher Tye
(1505-1573)

O come, ye servants of the Lord,
and praise his holy name
from early morn to setting sun,
his might on earth proclaim.
His laws are just, and glad the heart:
he makes his mercies known.
Ye princes come, ye people too,
and bow before his throne.

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 100)

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into God's presence with singing.

People: **Know that the Lord is God.
It is God that made us, and we are God's;
we are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.**

Leader: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving,
and God's courts with praise.
Give thanks to God, bless God's name.

People: **For the Lord is good;
God's steadfast love endures for ever,
and God's faithfulness to all generations.**

INVOCATION

HYMN

We Gather Together

KREMSER 12.11.12.11

Netherlands folk hymn, 1625
Trans. Theodore Baker, 1894

Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck, 1626
Harm. Eduard Kremser, 1877

1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
3. We all do ex - tol Thee, Thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

He chas - tens and has - tens His will to make known;
Or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing His king - dom di - vine;
And pray that Thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

The wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing,
So from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;
Let Thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion;

Sing prais - es to His name; He for - gets not His own.
Thou, Lord, wast at our side; All glo - ry be Thine!
Thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

WELCOME

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Gracious God, help us so to hear your holy word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe and believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALTER

Psalm 100

John Stainer
(1840-1901)

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God;
he himself has made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and call upon his name.

For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting;
and his faithfulness endures forever.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 25:31-46

‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“When...”

John Wilkinson

ANTHEM*At the River*Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Shall we gather by the river,
where bright angel's feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?

Yes, we'll gather by the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints by the river
that flows by the throne of God.

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease,
soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace.

Yes, we'll gather by the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints by the river
that flows by the throne of God.

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

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

Martin Rinkart, c. 1636

Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt.

Stanza 3, *Rejoice in the Lord*, 1985

Johann Crüger, 1648

Harm. adapt. *Lobegesang*, Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

1. Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voic - es,
2. O may this boun - teous God Through all our life be near us,
3. All praise and thanks to God, Who reigns in high - est heav - en,

Who won-drous things hath done, In whom this world re - joic - es;
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us;
To Fa - ther and to Son And Spir - it now be giv - en.

Who, from our moth - ers' arms, Hath blessed us on our way
And keep us in God's grace, And guide us when per - plexed,
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom heaven and earth a - dore,

With count-less gifts of love, And still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.
The God who was, and is, And shall be ev - er - more.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Now Thank We All Our God

J. S. Bach
(1685-1750)

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

LITURGIST: Katie Connelly and Sandy Connelly

MUSIC: Members of the Gallery Choir: Katy Avery, Julie Snyder, Kevin Radtke and Jackson Williams; 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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facebook link: www.facebook.com/PCChestnutHill

Preschool: 215.247.8865

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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

Sunday, November 22: Senior High (8th—12th Grade), Firepit Night at the church.

THE CHURCH IN COMMUNITY

WALKING IN FAITH: STEWARDSHIP 2021

This Sunday, November 22, is Stewardship Sunday. Come to the church for “Drive-Through” pledging, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (before worship) *or* 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. (after worship). You may drop your pledge card off in a socially-distanced way and receive a treat and thank you gift. You are also encouraged to bring shelf-stable food items for our mission partners. We hope to see you on Sunday as we continue “Walking in Faith.”

SECOND HOUR LIVE (ON ZOOM)

November 22 at 11:00 a.m.: Big Worship Questions, 2

Right as COVID came, we were in the middle of a very engaging series on how and why we worship the way we do. We gathered nearly 25 questions for further discussion. On these two Sundays, John Wilkinson will lead us through a consideration of *some* of them: the way we celebrate communion, passing of the peace, Apostles’ Creed vs. other affirmations, use of lectionary, Lord’s Prayer translation, etc. Come join us for this lively and interactive conversation. Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86312882088?pwd=ZUdESFhEdXZLWkQwU1hYNUc1bTB2UT09>

ADVENT RETREAT

Saturday, December 12, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, (via Zoom)

“The Gifts of Christmas” led by John Wilkinson

Join us as we reflect on the promises of Advent and Christmas through prose, poetry, music and art. RSVP at 215.247.8855 or ecarpenter@chestnuthillpres.org by December 10 to receive Zoom link and retreat materials.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday – Bible Study, 12:00 noon, Facebook Live (Returns December 2)

Friday – Morning Prayer, 7:30 a.m., Facebook Live (Returns December 4)

Visit our website www.chestnuthillpres.org and our Facebook page regularly for updates and events. Let us know if you have prayer concerns.

THE CHURCH IN SERVICE

SOULS SHOT EXHIBITION

November 1, 2020—January 15, 2021

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 215-247-8855 ahead is recommended. Safety protocols must be followed: masks must be worn, visitors must stay at least 6 feet apart, occupancy numbers will be limited.

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. Please join us for this powerful experience. Questions: soulshotportraitproject@gmail.com

PIHN VIRTUAL EMPTY BOWL EVENT

Sunday, November 22, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network (PIHN) and Arcadia University cordially invite you to the 2020 Empty Bowl Dinner. As PIHN's signature event and favorite of the Northwest Philadelphia region, the Empty Bowl Dinner combines the warmth of community and a hearty meal for the purpose of raising support of our mission. **This year's dinner will be hosted virtually on Zoom**, as we navigate the execution of the Empty Bowl Dinner under the social distancing guidelines put in place by the CDC. However, the virtual Empty Bowl will feature children's activities, The 2020 Empty Bowl Dinner Cookbook, raffles, a silent clay-artist auction, and the gifting of a beautifully restored car to a PIHN family. To register visit <https://www.givegab.com/campaigns/empty-bowl-dinner>

WALK OF THE HOLY FAMILY IN THE SPIRIT OF LAS POSADAS

Saturday, December 12, 4:30 p.m.

Commencing at Christ Ascension Lutheran Church, 8300 Germantown Avenue PCCCH will join with area churches in a Christmas event that raises critical funds for the Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network (PIHN) to support homeless families in our community.

Las Posadas a traditional Latin American festival that commemorates the journey of Mary and Joseph as they seek shelter to welcome the birth of the baby Jesus.

The walk commences at *Christ Ascension Lutheran Church* (8300 Germantown Avenue) and concludes at *St. Paul's Episcopal Church* (22 E. Chestnut Hill Avenue) with numerous stops at businesses along Germantown Avenue. The walk is approximately 6/10 of a mile and is suitable for all ages. Walkers will wear masks and travel in small groups to maintain social distancing. Join us as a walk-a-thon fundraiser, create a team of walkers with church friends, or simply participate by making a donation of your choice. To learn more about the event and how to take part visit <http://philashelter.org/index.php/news-and-events/walk-of-the-holy-family/>

THE FACE TO FACE SANDWICH BRIGADE MARCHES ON!

Last month we had such an *amazing* congregational response—nearly 200 sandwiches and lunch bag items—to Face To Face's request to supply its food-insecure clients, that we have signed on for several more dates. Mark your calendars to join the next sandwich brigade on **Thursday December 16**; details to follow. In the meantime, we are collecting shelf-stable items for the lunch bags: granola bars, packets of nuts, fruit cups or applesauce, bottled water, sandwich size Ziploc bags, and paper lunch bags. Drop these off in the Reception Room at your convenience.

In addition to in-home sandwich-making, we will be looking for a few volunteers to help assemble the lunch bags that Thursday evening, and to transport them to Face to Face on Friday morning. Questions? Contact Beth Vaccaro (bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com) or Suzan Willcox (sewillcox@comcast.net).

SUPPORTING ACHIEVABILITY AT CHRISTMAS

This holiday season, PCCH has committed to collecting gifts for 40 children participating in the Achievability program. **ACHIEVEability**, works to permanently break the generational cycle of poverty for low income, single parent, and homeless families through higher education, affordable housing, supportive services, community and economic development, and accountability. Every year, ACHIEVEability provides holiday gifts to children in West Philadelphia that would otherwise go without—and this year will be no exception. ACHIEVEability has made the process both safe and easy for us to give this year. After Thanksgiving, we will receive Amazon wish lists for each child we will sponsor. Congregation members can choose to deliver gifts to PCCH or have them sent directly to ACHIEVEability. Please be on the lookout for more details about how to sign up to sponsor a child. You may go ahead and let Beth Vaccaro know that you would like to participate at bethnellvaccaro@gmail.com and she will get you a wish list when we receive information from ACHIEVEability.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE UPDATES AND FALL SCHEDULE

During the three blood drives in September the Red Cross collected 84 units of blood which will help up to 252 hospital patients in the area. Our contact at the Red Cross is very grateful for our support and many donors have expressed gratitude for a local donation site. Future blood drives:

- Friday, December 11 — 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

If you can volunteer to greet potential donors, take their temperature, and check them in using the Red Cross computerized system, please email Liz Podraza at lizpodraza@gmail.com.

If you would like to be a blood donor, go to redcrossblood.org and search for Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill using the zip code 19118. You must have an appointment to donate; no walk-ins can be accepted, but appointments may be made the day of the drive.

THE CENTER ON THE HILL

The Center on the Hill is returning to activities offered and streamed **ONLINE ONLY** for people to participate in or watch from home. New online content, such as virtual tours, fitness videos, art lessons, recorded presentations and more, is also posted Monday—Thursday at Noon on our programs page here: <https://www.chestnuthillpres.org/center-on-the-hill/programs/> The links and schedule for upcoming online events can also be found there.

Upcoming events and classes in-person and online:

REGISTRATION REQUIRED for online participation in real time.

Recorded versions are posted on our programs page in the days following the event.

Managing Your Grief over the Holidays

Monday, November 23, 12:30 p.m.—1:30 p.m., Free

Presented online and by phone.

The death of someone we love is difficult in itself. The expectations of the holiday season compounds that difficulty. Now, add the challenges with grieving amidst a pandemic. Come and be part of a practical presentation surrounding the topic of grief and the holidays.

The Healthy Brain

Thursday, December 3, 11:00 a.m.—12:00 noon, Free

Presented online and by phone.

Brain Health and Heart Health are very similar but most of us do not think about brain health. Age and health are often dependent on your genes but lifestyle choices can help to maintain both a healthy body and brain. The discussion will include tips to enhance brain health and what you can do now to support a healthy brain.