

# The Presbyterian Church at Tenafly



***For Every Heart a Home***

**March 3rd, 2024  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent at 10:30am**

# Sacrament of Baptism of Sutton Everly Kurth

**Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie**

**Liturgist: Tim Patryk**

**Cantor: Cathy Coppolino**

*Welcome to worship! If you are visiting or here for the first time and would like to stay in touch with us, please consider filling in one of the contact cards that you will find alongside the hymnals or you can use this QR code. These can be placed in the offering plate or handed to an usher. Church School for children will happen after the baptism today and we welcome all children to come with Miss Sherrie and Miss Michelle.*



## **Prelude**

## **Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

## **Joys and Concerns**

## **Call to Worship**

### **\*Hymn**

### *Living Waters*

Are you thirsty Are you empty  
Come and drink these living waters  
Tired and broken Peace unspoken  
Rest beside these living waters

Christ is calling Find refreshing  
At the cross of living waters  
Lay your life down

All the old gone  
Rise up in these living waters

***Chorus:***

*There's a river that flows  
With mercy and love  
Bringing joy to the city of our God  
There our hope is secure  
Do not fear anymore  
Praise the Lord of living waters*

Spirit moving Mercy washing  
Healing in these living waters  
Lead your children  
To the shore line  
Life is in these living waters

***CHORUS***

Are you thirsty Are you empty  
Come and drink these living waters  
Love, forgiveness  
Vast and boundless  
Christ, He is our living waters

***CHORUS***

**Prayer of Approach to God and Confession**

Liturgist

**Kyrie Eleison**

**Martin sings:**

Kyrie Eleison

**Congregation & Cantor:**

Kyrie Eleison

**Martin sings:** Christe Eleison  
**Congregation & Cantor:** Christe Eleison  
**Martin sings:** Kyrie Eleison  
**Congregation & Cantor:** Kyrie Eleison

**Declaration of Forgiveness**

Liturgist

**Introduction to the Baptism**

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

**Baptism Song**

*Down to the River to Pray*

*As I went down to the river to pray studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way!*  
O sisters let's go down let's go down, come on down  
O sisters let's go down, down to the river to pray

*As I went down to the river to pray studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way*  
O brothers let's go down let's go down, come on down  
O brothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray

*As I went down to the river to pray studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way*  
O fathers let's go down let's go down, come on down  
O fathers let's go down, down to the river to pray

*As I went down to the river to pray studying about that good ol' way  
And who shall wear the starry crown? Good Lord show me the way*  
O mothers let's go down let's go down, come on down  
O mothers let's go down, down to the river to pray.

## Sacrament of Baptism

### Promises

**Martin, to the parents:** Do you desire that Sutton be baptized?

**Parents:** We do

**Martin, to the parents:** Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith, and to teach that faith to the child?

**Parents:** We do

**Martin to everyone else:** Do you, as members of the Church of Jesus Christ, and as friends and family promise to guide and nurture Sutton by word and deed, and with love and prayer?

**All answer:** We do!

### Profession of Faith

**Martin to Parents:** Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of darkness, and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**Parents:** We do.

**Martin:** Do you trust in Jesus as our Lord and Savior?

**Parents:** We do

**Martin:** Will you be Christ's faithful disciples, obeying his word and showing his love?

**Parents:** We will

**With the whole church throughout the world, we STAND to say the Apostles' Creed, a symbol of our faith:**

I believe in God the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
He ascended into heaven,  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. **AMEN**

## **Thanksgiving Over the Water**

**Martin:** The Lord be with you

**All:** And also with you

**Martin:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## **The Baptism**

## **The Anointing**

## Blessing Song

## May the Lord Bless You

Chords: E, A maj7, E, A maj7, B

May the Lord bless you, may the Lord keep you, may the Lord

Chords: E, A, E/B B, E/B B

make His face to shine up - on you. on you and

Chords: A, B, C#m, B, A, B, E

give you peace, and give you peace.

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for a three-part blessing song. The first line has a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes and half notes. The second line continues the melody with a repeat sign and two endings. The third line concludes the piece with a final cadence. Chords are indicated above the staff.

## Welcome and Presentation of Gifts

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

## Reading

## Psalm 19

Liturgist

The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens and its circuit to the end of them, and nothing is hid from its heat. The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than

honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless and innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

## **Choir Anthem**

### *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Music by John Rutter, Words by F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1917)

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies, over and around us lies. Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise. For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: sun and moon and stars of light. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild, for all gentle thoughts and mild. For each perfect gift of thine, to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n. Lord of all, to thee we raise, This our joyful hymn of praise.*

## **Reading**

### 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and



God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

**Sermon**

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

**Offering** during which we hear Cathy Coppolino sing *The Perfect Wisdom of Our God*, by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

*If you are visiting or would like to make an extra offering on top of your usual contribution to the church, you can use your smart phone to scan this QR code to make a donation by credit card (3% surcharge) or by debit card (no surcharge). Cash and check donations are always acceptable!*

GENERAL OFFERING



**\* Doxology**

**Dedication Prayer**

Liturgist

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

**The 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, the power  
and the glory for ever. AMEN**

**\*Hymn 450**

*Be Thou My Vision*

**Charge, Benediction and Celtic Amen**

*Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen (x2)*

**Postlude**

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**\*If you are able, please stand.**

**Livestreaming of Worship.** Today's service is broadcast live online. You can watch the service again later via our website homepage if you wish to. Huge thanks to our entire technical team.

## **Announcements**

**The flowers** this morning are given to the glory of God by the Kurth family in celebration of the baptism of Sutton Everly Kurth. God bless.

**Lunar New Year Chinese lunch.** Plan to join us after worship in the church house to celebrate the Lunar New Year. Donation \$5 per person or \$15 a family. Happiness is enjoying good friends and good food.

**Communion** in March will be celebrated on Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am. You are invited to bring gifts of nonperishable foods that will be taken to the Center for Food Action in Englewood.

**Lent Study** This year we'll be focusing on the Book/Movie/Show *Les Miserables* for a special Lent series that looks at the major Christian themes which emerge through the characters and plot of this iconic piece of culture! *Cookies and drinks provided - bring your lunch* each Wednesday at noon (see back page for list). **Two evening sessions will be held at 7:30pm to cover**

**the themes on March 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up in the Narthex for the evening sessions.**

**Care Packages** Children and Youth ministries would like your help collecting snacks for our college students. We'll collect from February 18th to March 17th. Let's send our young adults some love!

**St. Patrick's Dinner** Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Church House. Adults only event. \$20pp. Bring your own drinks of choice. Sign up in the narthex.

**PCAT Women's Group** will celebrate St. Patrick's Day a little late by going to an Irish pub this time around. We hope you can join us!

Date: Thursday, March 21st Time: 6pm

Place: Tommy Fox's, 32 South Washington Avenue, Bergenfield

Please let us know if you plan on coming so we can coordinate with the restaurant. Marilyn (201) 888-0402 and Christina (917) 887-0308

**NEW WELCOME TEAM being developed – we would love to have many of you join this new effort to make Sunday mornings even richer.**

PCAT has seen great progress over the past many months since we fully came out of the Covid period. With Pastor Martin's arrival and the increased level of activities for us all to experience, we now want to make Sunday morning a special time for our regular members and our guests who come to "try us out" or visit on special occasions.

After Covid, we merged the Greeters and the Ushers into a single team leveraging a small group that volunteered to serve as greeters, ushers, and to collect the offering. We are now considering a return to a team approach like we had prior to Covid. Our ideas for this new approach include:

- Establish 4 or 5 teams that will rotate across the weeks on a regular cycle

- Each team to have 5-6 individuals with one volunteer serving as the captain of the team
- Team responsibilities will be similar to our current process ... welcome members and guests as they arrive, distribute bulletins, collect the offering and support other logistical matters as required
- 3 team members will be required at each service – meaning the captain will coordinate which of the 5 or 6 team members are on duty for a particular Sunday (this will allow for personal schedule issues during the year)
- Request those on duty to arrive 30 minutes before the service since some do arrive early – especially visitors.

If you are interested in being a part of this effort, please contact Nancy in the church office, speak with Martin or contact Brian Coats-Thomas via email ([cgbrian.thomas@gmail.com](mailto:cgbrian.thomas@gmail.com)). Thank you for thinking about this opportunity – it will not require a significant time commitment but allows you to support what we do every Sunday morning.

**PresbyReaders** Our next meeting will be Sunday, April 7 at 4:00 p.m. at Carolyn and Al Rocco's home. We will be discussing James McBride's, *The Color of Water*.

## Regular Groups at PCAT

PCAT provides meeting space for the *Tenafly Morning Glory Group of Alcoholics Anonymous*, which convenes every Saturday morning at 10.30am in Jim Henry Hall. The Open Speaker meeting is OPEN to anyone who believes they may have a problem with alcohol or who is interested in learning more about the AA program of recovery.

**Adventures in Faith:** Wednesdays at 12noon in the church house. Contact Pastor Martin

**PresbyReaders:** Meets monthly on Sunday afternoons. Contact Mary Jane Eimer.

**Bell Choir:** Contact Jim Millar

**Choir:** Sundays 9am in the chapel. Contact Jim Millar

**Church School:** Every Sunday 10:30am. Contact Sherrie Reilley

**Childcare:** Every Sunday at 10:30am. Contact Sherrie Reilley

**Cro-Knitters:** Tuesdays 2-4pm in the lounge. Contact Mickey Sechrist

**English as a Second Language (ESL):** Meets in Spring & Fall (10x's). Contact Jun Motai

**Mommy/Daddy and Me group:** Saturday mornings from 9.30-11am. Contact Christina Chan

**Women and Men's Groups:** meet periodically.

Doodle away . . .

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY**

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Look for us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter



# LENT PROGRAM FOR ADULTS



## *Les Miserables*

This year we'll be focusing on the Book/Movie/Show *Les Miserables* for a special Lent series that looks at the major Christian themes which emerge through the characters and plot of this iconic piece of culture!

You are invited to gather to watch the movie in the Church House on **Wednesday 14th February at 12noon.** Cookies and drinks provided - bring your lunch!!

Then there will be the following discussion sessions:

**Wed 21st at noon:** Grace Well Received

- The Story of Jean Valjean

**Wed 28th at noon:** When Grace and Justice Collide

- The Story of Javert

**Wed March 6th at noon:** The Poor are Always With You

- The Story of Fantine

**Wed March 13th at noon:** The Gift of Love

- The Story of Marius and Cosette

**Wed March 20th at noon:** Building the Barricade

- The Story of Les Amis

**Wed March 27th at noon:** The Blessed Garden

- A Hopeful Vision

We will also have two evening sessions on Wednesdays March 6th and 13th which will cover all the themes over two weeks! These will be in the Church Lounge at 7.30pm.



**CELEBRATE**  
*Saint  
Patrick's  
Day*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH @ 6PM**



**MUSIC | DINNER | BYOB**

**ADULTS ONLY \$20PP**

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY**

**RSVP:  
(201) 567-0111**

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