

The Presbyterian Church at Tenafly



Icon of the healing of the man born blind in John 9

For Every Heart a Home

**March 15th, 2026 at 10:30am
4th Sunday in Lent**

Sacrament of Baptism of Luke Joseph Kulig

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Liturgist: Carolyn Rocco

Ushers: Brian Coats-Thomas and Christopher Kuttner

Coffee Hour: Christina Chan

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 happens during the 10:30am worship service. Ask one of the ushers for directions if you would like to take your child through to join in.



Prelude

Welcome, Sharing the Peace and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Call to Worship

***Hymn 465**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Liturgist

Kyrie Eleison

Martin sings:	Kyrie Eleison
Congregation:	Kyrie Eleison
Martin sings:	Christe Eleison
Congregation:	Christe Eleison
Martin sings:	Kyrie Eleison
Congregation:	Kyrie Eleison

Declaration of Forgiveness

Liturgist

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, forever. **AMEN**

Collect for the Day

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Introduction to the Baptism

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Baptism Song

Down in 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

Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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

E A maj7 E A maj7 B
May the Lord bless you, may the Lord keep you, may the Lord

E A E/B B E/B B
make His face to shine up - on you. on you and

A B C#m B A B E
give you peace, and give you peace.

Welcome and Presentation of Gifts

Hymn (Psalm 23) *The Lord's My Shepherd* (see page 8)
(During which children leave for church school)

Dramatic Reading John 9:1-41: The Healing of the Man Born Blind

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some were saying, 'It is he.' Others were saying, 'No, but it is someone like him.' He kept saying,

'I am the man.' But they kept asking him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." Then I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?' And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.' He said, 'He is a prophet.' The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.' So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, 'Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' Then they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?' And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.' He said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, 'Surely we are not blind,

are we?’ Jesus said to them, ‘If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, “We see”, your sin remains.

Hymn 649

Amazing Grace

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Sharing our Gifts during which we hear the anthem, *O Nata Lux*, by Edmund Jolliffe

*O nata lux de lumine
Jesu redemptor saeculi
Dignare Clemens supplicum
Laudes precesque sumere*

*O glorious light, born of the light,
Jesus, the savior of us all.
We bring to you our praise and prayer,
and ask your blessing on us here.*

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**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Prayer of Dedication

Liturgist

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

***Hymn 39**

Great is Thy Faithfulness

***Benediction and Celtic Sung Amen**

Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen (x2)

Postlude

***Those who are able, please stand.**

Announcements

NEXT SUNDAY

Worship at 9:30am in the Chapel

Worship at 10:30am in the Sanctuary

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.

Pastor Martin is on vacation from the afternoon of March 15th until the evening of March 23rd. During this time for any pastoral emergencies, please contact Rev. Dr. Kee Boem So on his cell phone (617) 955-6452.

TONIGHT - Piano Concert at 4:30pm in the Sanctuary with outstanding pianist Victoria Schwartzman. Program includes works by Chopin, Beethoven, and Prokofiev. Free Admission!

LAST CALL TO ORDER - Easter Flowers. This Easter we will once again have an opportunity to order six-inch pots of flowers to help make our worship festive and beautiful. Please use the order forms available in the Narthex or call the church office. **Deadline is tomorrow March 16th.**

One Great Hour of Sharing is the PCUSA Lent appeal. Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed. This Lenten season, please give generously to *One Great Hour of Sharing*. Please bring your offering (including fish banks – available in the Narthex) on Palm Sunday, March 29th. Remember: Giving a little adds up to a lot. Thank you! Mission Committee Co-chairs, Gillian Iappelli and Mary Jane Eimer

Adventures in Faith will not meet this Wednesday, March 18th. We'll see you again on Wednesday March 25th at 12noon.

College Student Care Packages. The Church School kiddos are putting together care packages for our college students and would like your help collecting snacks. We'll be sending out 8 packages this year. This is a fun way for us to stay connected. Snacks can be dropped off in the Care Package box found in the narthex from March 1 - March 22.

Ideas for contents of care packages: *Snack size cookies, Lunch size chips, Individual bags of nuts or trail mix, Microwave popcorn, Ramen noodles, Granola bars, Protein bars, Oatmeal (single serving pack or microwave oatmeal cups), Candy, Mac & Cheese (microwave cups)*

Carriage House Concert Sunday March 22nd at 5pm in the Chapel.

A stunning program for string quartet including Dvorak's No. 12 Op. 96 'American'. Tickets available using the QR code, priced \$30.



Sanctuary Space is next up on Thursday March 26th at 7pm. Introduction to meditation at 7pm with Jenny Jackson Miller then free time by candlelight with music until 9pm. Experience the gentle power of sharing in this together.

Holy Week and Easter Worship: Maundy Thursday supper at 6:30pm and Tenebrae service at 8:30pm; Good Friday Walk of Witness begins at the episcopal church at 1pm; Easter Eve, Saturday April 4th at 8pm The Great Vigil of Easter with lighting of the new fire and baptism of Ihhyun, Ethan and Evan Rhee; Easter Communion Celebration at 10:30am on April 5th.

PCAT Men's Dinner - Save the Date: Tuesday April 7th at 7pm at Café Europe in Tenafly.

The Presby Readers next meeting will be Sunday, April 12th at Viki Shima's home at 4pm. We will be discussing *How to Read a Book: A Heartfelt Novel of Redemption and Unlikely Friendships in a Small Town....* By Monica Wood.

Regular Groups at PCAT

GROUP	WHEN	CONTACT
AA (Morning Glory)	Saturdays 10:30am JHH	Jay McSherry JayMcSherry@earthlink.net
Adventures in Faith	Wednesday 12pm Church House	Pastor Martin pastorpcat@gmail.com
Bell Choir	Tuesdays 4pm Room 203	Jim Millar Dirmusic@tenaflypresby.org
Choir	Sundays 9am	Jim Millar Dirmusic@tenaflypresby.org
Church School and Childcare	Sundays 10:30am	Sherrie Reilley reilleysherrie@gmail.com
Cro-Knitters	Tuesdays 2pm-4pm Lounge	Joan Roselle (201) 569-3819
English Second Language (ESL)	Tuesdays 10am-12pm Church House	Jun Motai Motaicoaching@gmail.com
Mommy/Daddy/and Me		Christina Chan Shanghai68@gmail.com
PresbyReaders	Meets monthly (Sundays at 4pm)	Mary Jane Eimer mjeimer@aol.com
Women's Group		Marilyn Coats-Thomas coathomas@aol.com or Christina Chan Shanghai68@gmail.com
Men's Group		Pastor Martin pastorpcat@gmail.com or Jim Crook rjamescrook@gmail.com

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie, M.A., B.D, PhD, Pastor

55 Magnolia Avenue, Tenafly, NJ 07670

Phone (201) 567-0111 / Fax (201) 567-0529

Office Email: office@tenaflypresby.org

Pastor Martin's email: pastorpcat@gmail.com

Pastor's Cell # (551) 755-0950

Sherrie Reilley, Dir. of Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Email: Reilleysherrie@gmail.com

Jim Millar, Director of Music Email: Dirmusic@tenaflypresby.org

Will Farnham, Associate Director of Music Email: farnham.william@gmail.com

Web page: www.tenaflypresby.org

Look for us on Facebook, Instagram, and X

