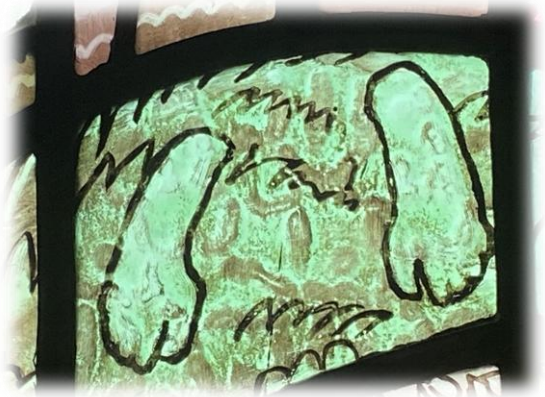


The Presbyterian Church at Tenafly



For Every Heart a Home

**May 17th, 2026 at 10:30am
7th Sunday of Easter
Ascension**

Sacrament of Baptism of Howie and Cooper Hassard

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Liturgist: Nancy Smith

Ushers: Christopher Kuttner and Melissa Rexroth

Coffee Hour: Lisa Schmid

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. Children are welcome to stay in church for the baptism and then go to Church School afterwards. 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 409**

God is Here

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 and 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 E 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.

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 eighth 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, and lyrics are written below the notes.

Welcome and Presentation of Gifts

(children leave for church school)

Reading

2 Kings 2: 1-15

Liturgist

Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.' Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the LORD has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the LORD will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.' Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it

up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, 'Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?' When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over. When the company of prophets who were at Jericho saw him at a distance, they declared, 'The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.' They came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

Choir Anthem

Wade in the Water, by Mark Hayes

Wade in the water, wade in the water, children, wade in the water. God's gonna trouble the water. See that host all dressed in white, God's gonna trouble the water. The leader looks like the Israelite. God's gonna trouble the water. See that band all dressed in red, God's gonna trouble the water. Looks like the band that Moses led. God's gonna trouble the water. If you don't believe I've been redeemed, God's gonna trouble the water. Just follow me down to Jordan's stream. God's gonna trouble the water.

Second Reading

Luke 24: 44-53

Liturgist

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.' Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Sermon

Sharing our Gifts during which we hear the choir sing, *Come and Find the Quiet Center*, by Shirley Erena Murray

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the space where we are freed: clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace; God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base, making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding hope for faith begun. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our lives and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for hearts to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

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 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*Benediction and Celtic Sung Amen

Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen (x2)

Postlude

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

Announcements

NEXT SUNDAY The Day of Pentecost
Joint Worship at 10:30am in the Sanctuary
Please wear something red if you can!

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.

Pentecost Offering. The Session has decided to launch a Pentecost special appeal in support of youth ministry at PCAT. The appeal supports Vacation Bible Camp costs, scholarships for camp attendance, scholarships for youth counsellors at our own Vacation Bible Camp, youth outreach events and youth ministry in general. We celebrate Pentecost this year on Sunday, May 24th and we hope, if you are able, you will make a donation to help with this important work! Please make checks payable to PCAT with "Pentecost" in the memo line. Thank you for your generous support!

TODAY - Jason Hart in concert at 4:30pm in the Sanctuary. Our resident pianist will delight once again with a stunning program of piano music from baroque France, the magic of Mozart, the delight of Chopin and a bit of Latin verve to spice things up even further. Don't miss it!!

Adventures in Faith meets this Wednesday at 12noon in the church house. Bring your lunch; drinks and treats provided. Our theme is "Reaching for Rainbows the sign of the rainbow in scripture and tradition."

Sanctuary Space is next up **THIS THURSDAY May 21st** and June 11th, 7-9pm. Introduction to meditation from 7-7:30pm with Jenny Jackson Miller then free time by candlelight with music and quiet until 9pm. Experience the gentle power of sharing in this together.

PCAT Men's Dinner – Save the Date for the next men's dinner Tuesday June 9th at 7pm. Venue TBC. All are welcome - contact Jim Crook or Pastor Martin to sign up.

PCAT Spring Cleaning – THIS Saturday May 23rd from 10am – 12pm. We need helpers to undertake a range of clean-up tasks both inside and outside. Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.

PresbyReaders. Our next read is *Theo of Golden: A Novel* by Allen Levi. We will meet Sunday, May 31st at 4:00 p.m. at Carolyn and Al Rocco's home.

Tenafly Pride Saturday June 6th 12-5pm. PCAT will take part with a tent in Oresko Park. We would love to have volunteers to be a friendly and affirming presence that afternoon! Contact Pastor Martin for more information.

Tenafly 5k Sunday June 7th Gillian Iappelli is looking for volunteers to help on the water table from 8:30am on the day of the race.

Celebrating Our Graduates. Do you have someone in your family graduating? We would like to celebrate with you by including them on our grad list. Please send us an email with their name and school by June 5th. Feel free to include a couple sentences about their future plans!

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

Jason Hart in Concert

May 17th at 4:30pm

Star local pianist, Jason Hart, returns with another stunning program of piano music from baroque France, the magic of Mozart, the delight of Chopin and a bit of Latin verve to spice things up even further. Don't miss it!!



**The Presbyterian Church at Tenafly
55 Magnolia Ave**

www.tenaflypresby.org



FREE ENTRY

SANCTUARY SPACE

Let the pressures of life melt away as you connect with essence in the calm and beautiful candlelit main Sanctuary of the Presbyterian Church at Tenaflly. Open to all faiths and none.

Thursdays, May 21st and June 11th
Free to come and go from 7-9pm

7-7.30pm Meditation with Jenny Jackson Miller
7.30-9pm free time for calm reflection by candlelight with music

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55 Magnolia Ave

tenaflypresby.org

Doodle away . . .

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY

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

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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

