

The Presbyterian Church at Tenaflly



For Every Heart a Home

**September 27th, 2026
19th Sunday of Pentecost at 10:30am**

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie
Liturgist: Nancy Smith

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. Please join us for coffee hour in the Church House after the service. 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

*** Hymn**

Your Words are Wonderful

Your words are wonderful
Unfolding like the dawn
A well-spring and a rock we rest upon
We trust your promises
That keep our hope alive
They steady us through life's decline

*Where else can we go?
Where else can we go?
You have the words of life
You have the words of life*

Come write your holy truth
Upon our longing hearts
And strengthen us to shine against the dark
Lord, grant us from the lies the enemy will speak
No guilt remains for those you have redeemed.

*Where else can we go?
Where else can we go?
You have the words of life
You have the words of life*

Bridge:

Give us ears to hear and eyes to see
Help us in our doubt and disbelief
Give us ears to hear and eyes to see
Help us in our doubt and disbelief

Prayers 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

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**

Choir Anthem *Light of a Clear Blue Morning*, by Dolly Parton, arr. Craig Hella Johnson

It's been a long dark night, and I've been waiting for the morning. It's been a long hard fight, but I see a brand new a-dawning. I've been looking for the sunshine, 'cause I ain't seen it in so long. Ev'rything's gonna work out fine. Ev'rything's gonna be alright, it's gonnna be okay. I can see the light of a clear blue morning. I can see the light of a brand new day. I can see the light of a clear blue morning. Ev'rything's gonna be alright, it's gonnna be okay.

Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4 and 25-32

Liturgist

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Hymn (Psalm 25)Lord, Teach Me all Your Ways* (see page 8)**Reading**

Matthew 21:23-32

Liturgist

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the

answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?’ And they argued with one another, ‘If we say, “From heaven”, he will say to us, “Why then did you not believe him?” But if we say, “Of human origin”, we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.’ So they answered Jesus, ‘We do not know.’ And he said to them, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ‘What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, “Son, go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not”; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, “I go, sir”; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

***Hymn 87**

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Sharing our Gifts

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**

***Dedication Prayer**

Liturgist

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

*** Hymn 65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

***Blessing in the round with Sung Celtic Amen
Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen (x2)**

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Postlude

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

Announcements

NEXT SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday

11:30am in the Sanctuary

Joint Communion Service with Grace and Love Church

Everyone is welcome for lunch in Jim Henry Hall following worship.

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.

Adventures in Faith. Our fall sessions continue to meet on Wednesdays at 12noon in the Church House. Everyone is welcome for a series of stimulating presentations and discussions exploring faith and life.

Lightshine Choir for kids aged 6 upwards led by Christina Hart will meet Saturdays from 10-11.30am in the Church House. All kids are welcome, regardless of faith background.

World Communion Sunday is Sunday October 4th. As in previous years we will be sharing a joint communion service with Grace and Love Church in the Sanctuary at 11:30am followed by shared fellowship and food in Jim Henry Hall. **PCUSA World Communion Offering** supports ministries working for racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking. Please bring your offerings with checks payable to PCAT marking WCO in the memo line.

Creation Sunday October 11th we will have a joint PCAT service at 10:30am in the Sanctuary and bring along your pets for the pet blessing at 4:30pm in the Sanctuary also.

Men's Dinner. Save the date for Thursday October 15 at 7pm. Details to follow. Contact Jim Crook at (201) 543-727 or Pastor Martin pastorpcat@gmail.com to sign up.

Fall Open House. Saturday, October 17th from 2pm – 4pm. Bring family, friends and neighbours to enjoy tours, crafts, games, music, pumpkin decorating, along with cider and donuts in our café!

Art Exhibition by Tenaflly Artist Ellen Nathan Singer *Woodcuts and Etchings*. Come enjoy our launch reception in the new Imagination Zone! October 17th from 2-4pm. Access will be Monday through Friday until November 30th from 9am-12pm and 1pm to 3pm.

Sanctuary Space. Future dates through the end of the year to add to your calendar: Thursdays, October 22nd, November 19th and December 10th from 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.

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@tenafllypresby.org
Choir	Sundays 9am	Jim Millar Dirmusic@tenafllypresby.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
Lightshine Children's Choir	Saturdays 10am-11:30am	Christina Hart office@tenafllypresby.org
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

Lord, teach me all your ways

GARELOCHSIDE

Kenneth George Finlay

Unison

1. Lord, teach me all your ways, re - veal your paths to me; and
2. Re - mem - ber, Lord, your love, your care from ag - es past; and
3. For - get my youth - ful faults, for - give my sin - ful ways; with -
4. God, who is just and good, shows all who sin his way; he
5. All path - ways of the Lord are kind - ly, true and sure to

6

lead me in your sa - ving truth, show me what I should be.
in that love re - mem - ber me, in kind - ness hold me fast.
in the kind - ness of your love re - mem - ber me al - ways.
leads the hum - ble in right paths, their teach - er day by day.
those who keep his cov - en - ant and in his ways en - dure.

A stylized illustration of a tree with a dark brown trunk and branches. The leaves are represented by small, heart-shaped icons in shades of yellow, orange, and red, scattered around the tree. The background is a light beige color with a subtle pattern of thin, white, radiating lines.

Presbyterian Church at Tenaflly presents

A Fall Open House

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH
2PM - 4PM**

**Bring the whole family, friends, and neighbors
to enjoy tours, crafts, games, music, pumpkin carving,
cider, donuts and other treats in our cafe!**

**Presbyterian Church at Tenaflly
55 Magnolia Avenue**

www.tenafllypresby.org





Art Exhibition



Woodcuts and Etchings
by Tenaflly Artist
Ellen Nathan Singer

Saturday October 17th -
Friday November 30th

Launch reception

Saturday October 17th 2-4pm

Thereafter, access Monday - Friday until November 30th
9am - 12pm and 1pm - 3pm



The Presbyterian Church at Tenaflly
55 Magnolia Ave

www.tenafllypresby.org



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: Sept. 10th, Oct. 22nd,
Nov. 19th, Dec. 10th**

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

tenafllypresby.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



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