The Presbyterian Church at Tenafly



For Every Heart a Home

October 11th, 2026
21st Sunday of Pentecost at 10:30am

Joint PCAT Worship for Creation Sunday

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie
Liturgist: Roger Maxfield
Coffee Hour Host: Pete and Debbie Abitante
Ushers: Noelle and Howard Bryson

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. We welcome children to stay in church for part of the service today. Please join us for coffee hour in the Church House after the service.

Prelude

Welcome, Sharing the Peace and Announcements Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Call to Worship

*** Hymn 26** *Earth and All Stars*

Prayers of Approach and Confession

Kyrie Eleison

Martin sings:	Kyrie Eleison
Congregation & Choir:	Kyrie Eleison
Martin sings:	Christe Eleison
Congregation & Choir:	Christe Eleison
Martin sings:	Kyrie Eleison
Congregation & Choir:	Kyrie Eleison

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

Time Together

***Song** (Psalm 8) *How Majestic is Your Name*

When I look at Your heavens
The moon and stars You set in motion, oh God
I sing all glory and honor
What is man that You are mindful
The Son of Man that You would care for Him?
We sing all glory and honor

Refrain: Oh Lord, our Lord
Oh, how awesome are Your ways
How majestic is Your name in all the earth
Oh Lord, our Lord
May we see Your kingdom come
Father, may Your will be done in all the earth

In all the earth You gave dominion to Your children
And You crowned them, oh God
With glory and honor, so we'll sing of Your name
Live our lives for Your greatness, oh God
And Your glory and honor, oh Lord.

Refrain

The Earth is full of the glory of God
Come make much of the name above all names
Creation cries out and every knee bows
Jesus, we crown You, oh Lord, our Lord

The Earth is full of the glory of God
Come make much of the name above all names
Creation cries out and every knee bows
Jesus, we crown You, oh Lord, our Lord
The earth is full of the glory of God
Come make much of the name above all names.
Creation cries out and every knee bows
Jesus we crown you
Oh lord our Lord, O lord our Lord, O lord our lord

Refrain 3x's

Reading Isaiah 25:1-9 Liturgist

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Choir Anthem *For the Beauty of the Earth* by John Rutter

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth 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. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild. For each

perfect gift of thine to us all so freely given, graces human and divine, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

Reading Matthew 22:1-14 Liturgist

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet." Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. 'But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, "Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?" And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

***Hymn** (Psalm 23) *The Lord's My Shepherd* (see page 9)

Sermon Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Sharing our Gifts during which we hear Will Farnham sing *What a Wonderful World* by Louis Armstrong

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 Jack Rexroth

***Hymn** (Psalm 65/67) *May the Peoples Praise You*

***Blessing and Sung Celtic Amen** Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen (x2)

Postlude

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

PCAT Announcements

NEXT SUNDAY
9:30am worship in the Chapel with the band
10:30am worship in the Sanctuary with the choir

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.

Pet blessing in the Sanctuary this afternoon at 4:30pm. Bring along your pets (and stuffed pets)!

Adventures in Faith. No session this week but we return on October 21st at 12noon in the church house.

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. (No rehearsal on Saturday Oct. 31st and Nov. 7th).

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

Fall Open House. Next Saturday, October 17th from 2pm – 4pm. Bring family, friends and neighbors to enjoy tours, crafts, games, music, pumpkin decorating, along with cider and donuts and other treats in our café, and the launch of an **Art Exhibition** by Tenafly Artist Ellen Nathan Singer *Woodcuts and Etchings.* Come enjoy our launch reception in the new Imagination Zone! October 17th from 2-4pm. Further access will be Monday through Friday until November 30th from 9am-12pm and 1pm to 3pm.

The Presby Readers have opted for lighter fare. Well maybe not too light but the book is supposed to have lots of humor. We will discussing *Mad Mabel: A Novel* by Sally Hepworth. The meeting will be Sunday, October 18th at 4pm, Carolyn and Al Rocco will be hosting. We hope you can join us. Bring a question or two and suggestions for future books.

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.

The Golden Hour song recital. Sunday, October 25th at 4:30pm in the Chapel. Come listen to Christina and Jason Hart in an art song recital as they explore themes of romance, warmth and quiet beauty across four musical sets of poetry set to song in English, French, Spanish and German. You can read all about it in the Northern Valley Press article which you can find by following this link
https://issuu.com/thepressgroup/docs/northern_valley_october._2026?fr=sOWZhNzgzNTU2MDc

A Time to Remember. Sunday, November 1st at 4:30pm in the Chapel. A gentle hour of remembering and giving thanks with music, words and creativity.

Scooby Doo Mystery Night. Saturday, November 14th from 4pm – 6:30pm. Kids 4 years through 6th grade can join Miss Sherrie to watch a short Scooby Doo movie and solve a mystery. Scooby snacks of pizza and popcorn! Children 4 years through 2nd grade to be accompanied by an adult please. Sign up today by calling or emailing the church office.

Poets Café. Sunday November 15th 4pm in the Church House. We welcome local star poet and teacher Gary Whitehead, published in The New Yorker and with five volumes of published poetry behind him. He'll be bringing his protégé Genevieve Sarnak and current students from Tenafly High School. Come be amazed!

Book Event. Enjoy a talk on Sunday, November 22nd at 4pm with author Sandra Nunez as she discusses her book *Officers' Mess*; a memoir blending personal family history with a pivotal moment in Sri Lankan politics — the 1962 attempted coup d'état — offering a rare perspective on post-colonial conflict and its impact on individuals and communities.

Tenafly Interfaith Service for Thanksgiving is Tuesday November 24th at 7:30pm at Temple Sinai
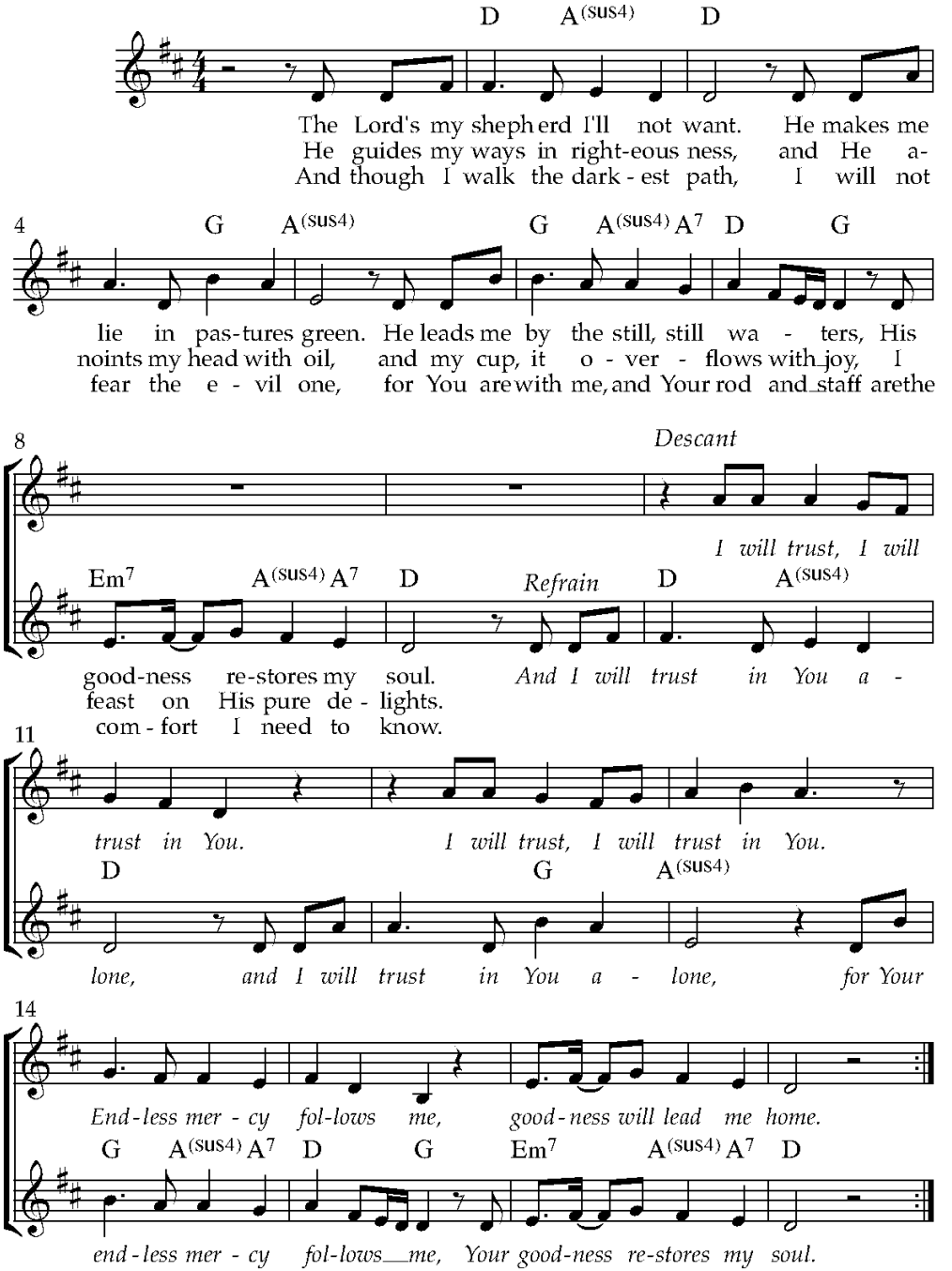
Greening of the Church for Advent. Saturday November 28th at 9:30am. Come lend a hand to help decorate our sanctuary and chapel for Christmas.

Come and Sing Advent with Will Farnham Saturday November 28th at 2:30pm. This is an open invitation to singers from church and the wider community to enjoy learning beautiful music which will be performed the same day in our candlelight service of Music and Readings for Advent at 6:30pm in the Chapel.

The Lord's My Shepherd

(Psalm 23)

Stuart Townsend



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
Lightshine Children's Choir	Saturdays 10am-11:30am	Christina Hart office@tenaflypresby.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


Presbyterian Church at Tenafly presents
A Fall
Open House
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH
2PM - 4PM
Bring the whole family, friends, and neighbors to enjoy tours, crafts, games, music, pumpkin decorating, cider, donuts and other treats in our cafe!
Presbyterian Church at Tenafly
55 Magnolia Avenue
www.tenaflypresby.org

Doodle Away .

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

PCAT Facebook

PCAT Instagram