The Presbyterian Church at Tenafly



For Every Heart a Home

October 25th, 2026
23rd Sunday of Pentecost at 10:30am

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie
Liturgist: Nancy Smith
Coffee Hour: Carolyn Rocco

We welcome the *Lightshine* Choir this morning

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

Call to Worship

*** Hymn 301** *Let Us Build a House*

Prayers of Approach and Confession Liturgist

All: God our Father, we confess to you and to our brothers and sisters in the body of Christ in this time and place, that we have lived lives which have sometimes been glorious and sometimes less so. Where we have lived closed to your heart of love you celebrate it. Where we have wandered far away from it, you grieve it. Help us to be honest about our lives in the quiet of this moment, sharing with you in trust.

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**

Collect for the Day Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Toy Story Teaches Us! Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Lightshine Choir *You've Got a Friend in Me* from *Toy Story*

Reading Leviticus 19:1-2,15-18 Liturgist

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy. You shall not render an unjust judgement; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbour: I am the Lord. You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord.

***Hymn 457 (Psalm 1)** *How Happy are the Saints of God*

Reading Matthew 22:34-46 Liturgist

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, '"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.' Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said to him, 'The son of David.' He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, "The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet'"? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?' No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Sermon Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

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**

Welcome of Kumiko Ishikura in membership

Offering during which we hear the choir sing, *I Give to You a New Commandment*, by Peter Nardone

I give to you a new commandment,
a new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another, love one another as I have loved you,
as I have loved you.

Ubicaritas est vera, Deus ibi est
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amore.
Exsultemus et in ipso iucundemur.

Time amus et a memus.
Deum vivum.
Amen

(Where there is charity and love, God is there
We are gathered as one in Christ's love
Let us rejoice, and be glad in that
Let us fear and love the living God)

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 during which we sing the chant *Ubi Caritas* found at Hymn 205 between sections of the prayers, (sung in Latin).

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

***Hymn** *As a Fire is Meant for Burning* (see page 10)

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

Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen (x2)

Postlude

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

Announcements

NEXT SUNDAY

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 9:30am in the Chapel with the band

10am Coffee Hour in the Church House

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at 10:30am in the Sanctuary with the choir

11:30am Coffee Hour in the Church House

(on Communion Sunday we invite donations of shelf stable food for the Center for Food Action.)

A Time to Remember at 4:30pm in the Chapel

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.

The Golden Hour this afternoon at 4:30pm in the Chapel. Christina and Jason Hart invite you to *The Golden Hour*, an art song recital exploring themes of romance, warmth and quiet beauty across four musical sets of poetry set to song in English, French, Spanish and German. Admission is free with donations in support of the arts outreach program welcomed.

Adventures in Faith. All are welcome this **Wednesday** at 12noon in the Church House. Bring your lunch, drinks and treats provided! This week our theme will be "how are we formed?"

Lightshine **Choir for kids** aged 6 upwards led by Christina Hart meets 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).

Clothing and blanket drive for Greater Faith Works. As you change over to your fall and winter wardrobe, please consider donating unused clothing or blankets to Greater Faith Works based in Paterson. They especially need men's clothing but appreciate women's and children's clothing too. New this year is our asking for clean blankets as well. It is especially helpful if you can mark your bags with female child, male child, women, or men clothing. Helpful if blankets are in separate bags. We are accepting donations now. Please bring your goods on Sunday and drop in the box in the Narthex. Deadline is by 12 noon on Thursday, November 12th. Thank you. Any questions, contact Mary Jane at mjeimer@aol.com or text 201-914-7545.
Mary Jane Eimer and Gillian Iappelli, Mission Committee Co-chairs

Art Exhibition by Tenafly Artist Ellen Nathan Singer *Woodcuts and Etchings* launched in the new Imagination Zone last Saturday! Further access will be Monday through Friday until November 30th from 9am-12pm and 1pm to 3pm.

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

Sanctuary Space. Future dates through the end of the year to add to your calendar: Thursdays, 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.

Lunch and Listen. You're invited to a soup and sandwich lunch following 10:30am worship on November 8th in the church house to meet and hear from Aaron Daly, Chief Executive of Bergen Family Center. He will talk about the work of the center and his vision for the future. He is an inspiring guy! Don't miss him. **Please sign up for catering and seating purposes.**

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. *Officers' Mess* Enjoy a talk on Sunday, November 22nd at 4pm with local author Sandra Nunez as she discusses her 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.

The Presby Readers enthusiastically support the Saturday, November 22nd at 4pm book discussion of Sandra Nunez's, *Officers' Mess*. Please check upcoming newsletters and bulletins for our January book selection and the meeting location.

Tenafly Interfaith Service for Thanksgiving is Tuesday November 24th at 7:30pm at Temple Sinai. There will be an interfaith choir rehearsing at 6:30pm. All are welcome to take part – let Jim Millar know.

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.

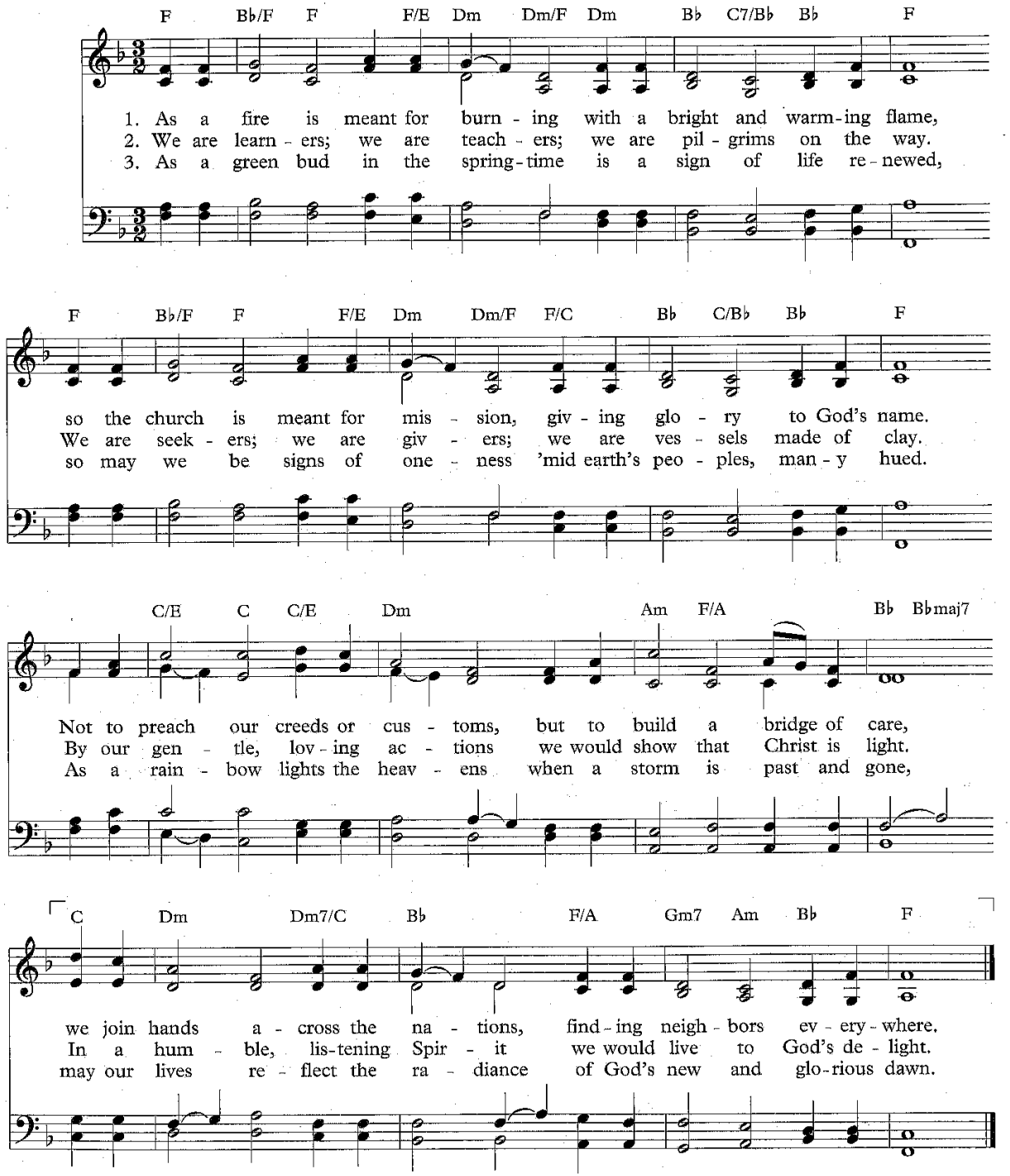
Come and Sing Advent with Will Farnham Saturday November 28th at 2:30pm. This is an open invitation to singers from church and the wider community to enjoy learning beautiful music which will be performed the same day in our candlelight service of Music and Readings for Advent at 6:30pm in the Chapel.

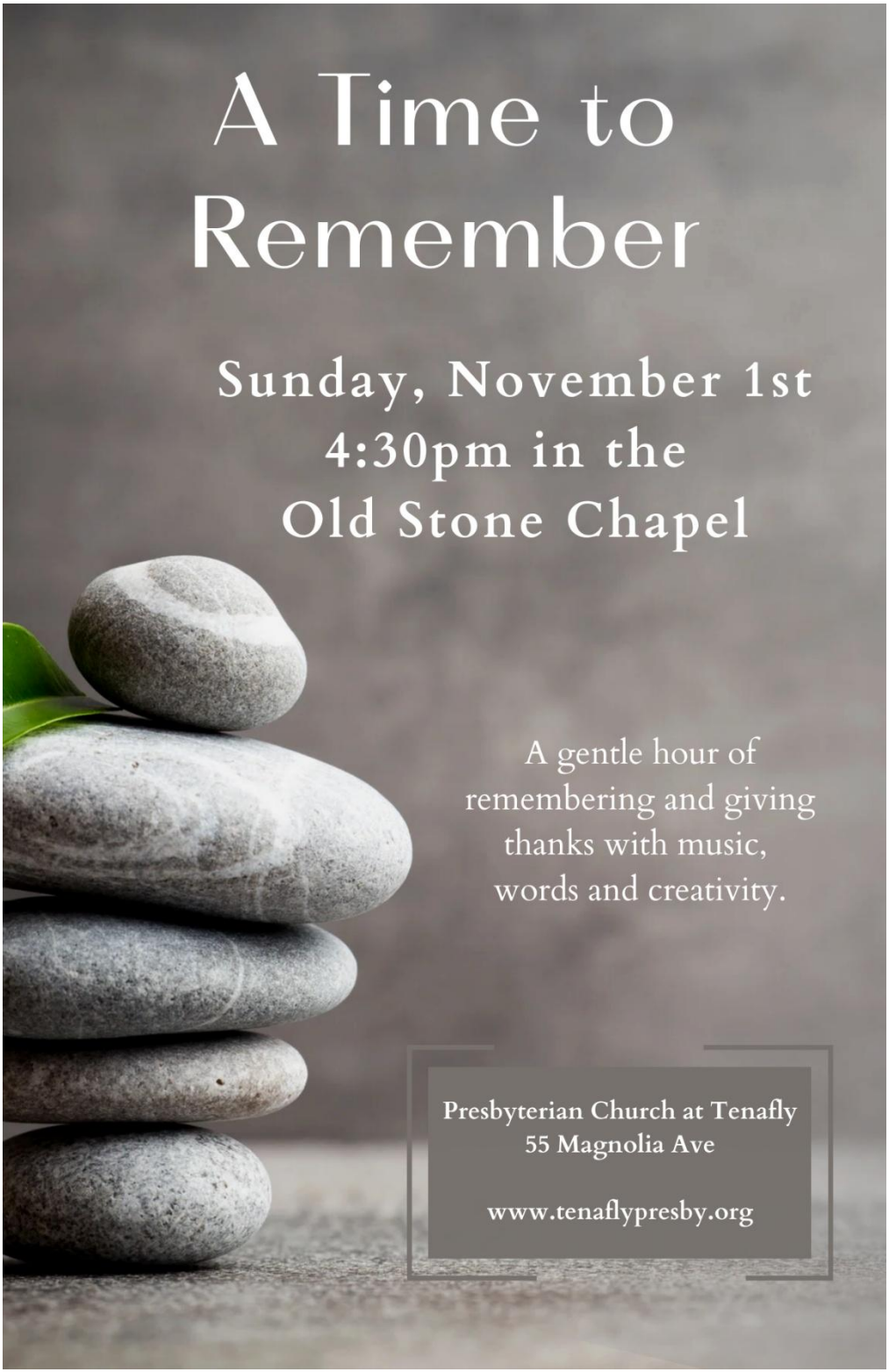
Amahl and the Night Visitors: Saturday, December 5th at 7pm. A short magical and heartwarming Christmas opera by Menotti starring Christina Hart as the mother and Teddy Hart as the son. Directed by Jim Millar

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

2237 As a Fire Is Meant for Burning




A Time to Remember
Sunday, November 1st
4:30pm in the
Old Stone Chapel
A gentle hour of remembering and giving thanks with music, words and creativity.
Presbyterian Church at Tenafly
55 Magnolia Ave
www.tenaflypresby.org

Doodle Away . . .

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY
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