

The Presbyterian Church at Tenafly



Coptic Orthodox Epiphany (Timkat) in Ethiopia

For Every Heart a Home

**January 18th, 2026
Second Sunday of Epiphany at 10:30am**

Intergenerational Worship

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Ushers: Roger Maxfield and Pete Abitante

Coffee Hour: Mary Jane Eimer

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 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

Martin: Come to the river of life
All: And drink its clear water
Martin: Come to the river of life
All: And bathe in its cleansing power
Martin: Come to the river of life
All: And be renewed

***Song** *The River is Here*

Down the mountain the river flows
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes
Through the valleys and over the fields
The river is rushing and the river is here

The river of God sets our feet a dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter
And we rejoice for the river is here

The river of God is teeming with life
All who touch it can be revived

And those who linger on this river's shore
will come back thirsting for more of the Lord

The river of God sets our feet a dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter
And we rejoice for the river is here

Up to the mountain we love to go to find the presence of the Lord
Along the banks of the river we run we dance with laughter
Giving praise to the Son

The river of God sets our feet a dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter
And we rejoice for the river is here

Down the mountain the river flows
And it brings refreshing wherever it goes
Through the valleys and over the fields
The river is rushing and the river is here

The river of God sets our feet a dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter
And we rejoice for the river is here

Gathering Prayers

Jack Rexroth and Hanil Yoon

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**

Reading

Matthew 3:13-17

Jack Rexroth

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

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.

Activity/Talk

Sink or Float??

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

***Song**

Our God is a Great Big God

Refrain 2x's

*Our God is a great big God
our God is a great big God
our God is a great big God
and He holds us in His hands*

Verse:

He's higher than a skyscraper
He's deeper than a submarine
He's wider than the universe
and beyond my wildest dreams
He's known me and He's loved me
since before the world began
how wonderful to be a part of God's amazing plan! **Refrain**

Verse:

He's higher than a skyscraper
He's deeper than a submarine
He's wider than the universe
and beyond my wildest dreams
He's known me and He's loved me
since before the world began
how wonderful to be a part of God's amazing plan! **Refrain**

Reflection

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

Offering during which we hear Ann, Carroll, Cathy and the band sing *As I Went Down in the River to Pray*

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



Prayer of Dedication

Jack Rexroth

Sending and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Martin: Do you trust in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

All: I do.

Martin: Do you trust in Jesus Christ?

All: I do

Martin: Will you continue to be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love?

All: I will, with God's help.

Martin: Will you continue to devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers?

All: I will, with God's help.

Martin: Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us; and by your Spirit you are at work in our lives, empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling. We thank you for leading us to this time and place when we reaffirm your covenant with us and our response. Continue to guide us by your Spirit, so that, together with all of your people in every time and place we may have courage, and grow together in faith, and hope, and love, as faithful disciples wherever we are.

All: In Baptism we were buried with Christ. In baptism also we were raised to life with him, through faith in the power of God, who raised Christ from the dead. Anyone who is in Christ is a new Creation. The old life has gone, a new life begins.

***Hymn** *Lord, for the Years* (see page 9)

***Benediction and Sung Celtic Amen**
Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen (x2)

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

***Song** *Auld Lang Syne*

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
and never brought to mind?
Should old acquaintance be forgot,
and auld lang syne?

*For auld lang syne my dear,
for auld lang syne.
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
for the sake of auld lang syne.*

And here's a hand my trusty friend,
and here's a hand o' mine!
We'll tak a right good wally waucht,
for auld lang syne.

*For auld lang syne my dear,
for auld lang syne.
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
for the sake of auld lang syne.*

Postlude

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

Trio, by Edwin Morgan

Coming up Buchanan Street, quickly,
on a sharp winter evening
a young man and two girls,
under the Christmas lights –
The young man carries a new guitar in his arms,
the girl on the inside carries a very young baby,
and the girl on the outside carries a chihuahua.
And the three of them are laughing,
their breath rises in a cloud of happiness,
and as they pass the boy says,
'Wait till he sees this but!'
The chihuahua has a tiny Royal Stewart
tartan coat like a teapot-holder,
the baby in its white shawl is all bright eyes and
mouth like favours in a fresh sweet cake,
the guitar swells out under its milky plastic cover,
tied at the neck with silver tinsel tape and a brisk
sprig of mistletoe.

Orphean sprig! Melting baby!
Warm chihuahua!
The vale of tears is powerless before you.
Whether Christ is born, or is not born, you
put paid to fate, it abdicates under the
Christmas lights. Monsters of the year go
blank, are scattered back, can't bear this
march of three.
– And the three have passed, vanished in
the crowd (yet not vanished, for in their
arms they wind the life of men and beasts,
and music, laughter ringing them round like
a guard) at the end of this winter's day.

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

Lord, for the Years

Timothy Dudley-Smith

Michael Baughen



1. Lord, for the years your love has kept and guid - ed,
2. Lord, for that word, the Word of life which fires_ us,
3. Lord, for our land, in this our gen - er - a - tion,
4. Lord, for our world; when we dis - own and doubt him,
5. Lord, for our - selves; in liv - ing power re - make us,



urged and in - spired us, cheered us on_ our way,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls_ a - blaze,
spi - rits op - pressed by pleas - ure, wealth and care;
love - less in strength, and com - fort - less_ in pain;
self on the cross and Christ up - on_ the throne;



sought us and saved us, par - doned and pro - vi - ded,
teach - es and trains, re - bukes us and in - spires us,
for young and old, for com - mon-wealth and na - tion,
hun - gry and help - less, lost in - deed with - out him,
past put be - hind us, for the fu - ture take us,



Lord of the years, we bring our thanks to - day.
Lord of the word, re - ceive your peo - ple's praise.
Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ a - lone.

Announcements

NEXT SUNDAY

9:30am in the Chapel with band (30 minutes)

10am Coffee Hour in the Church House

10:30am in the Sanctuary with choir (one hour)

11:30am Coffee Hour in the Church House

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.

THIS AFTERNOON - Johnny Coppolino is playing for Emory Eagles against NYU basketball at 2pm in the city, if you would like to take this last chance to see him in action locally.

The church office will be closed this Monday in observance of Martin Luther King Jr day.

Adventures in Faith meets on Wednesday January 21st at 12noon in the Church House. This week we'll be thinking about the topic of "Scripting Communion".

Scottish Night Saturday January 24th at 5pm in the Church House. An evening of food, poems, stories, and music to celebrate Scotland's national poet, Robert Burns. Sign up in the Narthex.

The Presby Readers will be gathering Sunday, January 25th at 4pm at Carolyn and Al Rocco's home to discuss *Berry Pickers: A Novel* by Amanda Peters. All are welcome.

Next Men's Dinner will be on Tuesday, February 3rd at 7pm at Europe Café in Tenafly. Let Jim Crook or Pastor Martin know if you can make it!

Tenafly High School Philharmonic Orchestra will be visiting again to perform a concert on Friday, February 6th at 7pm. Repertoire to be confirmed. Stay tuned and save the date!

Souper Bowl of Caring. Our church school will be cooking up a storm in the kitchen so that you can enjoy tasty home-made soup after the 10:30am service on Sunday, February 8th. Donations for the Center for Food Action will be gratefully received.

Sanctuary Space will next take place on Thursday, February 12th 7–9pm in the main Sanctuary. Jenny Jackson will lead us in an introduction to meditation from 7-8pm. The rest of the time will be for free reflection by candlelight. Let Nancy in the office know if you would like to come to the meditation introduction to help us to plan.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, February 15th after the 10:30am service. Save the date!

Pledges. We are in the final stages of planning our budget for 2026. If you intend to pledge in support of our church life this year, please let us know as soon as possible because we plan our staffing and programs according to resources available.

Doodle away . . .

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY

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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



January 24th

Presbyterian Church at Tenaflly

5:00pm

Scottish Night

in celebration of Robert Burns

*a family-friendly night of
poetry, music, food buffet,
stories and dancing.*



RSVP to:
(201) 567-0111
or
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