

# The Presbyterian Church at Tenafly



*Jesus baptized by John the Baptist – in our Chapel stained glass*

## ***For Every Heart a Home***

**December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 9:30am  
Second Sunday of Advent  
Sacrament of The Lord's Supper**

**Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie**  
**Musicians: Will Farnham, Nik Rael, Pete McDonald, Fred Mawson**  
**Yuna Kim, Clare Yoon, Anna Lee** (instrumental scholars)  
**Ushers: Lisa Schmid and Jeanne Lambert**  
**Communion Server: Jeanne Lambert**  
**Coffee Hour Host: Melissa Rexroth**

*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. 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.*



*All are welcome at the Lord's table. You are welcome to take a piece of the sourdough loaf when it is passed around, or a piece of gluten free bread from the tray. The common cup contains alcoholic wine or grape juice is available in the tray.*

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome, Sharing the Peace and Announcements**

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

**\*Gathering Song (Psalm 134)** *Come, All You Servants of the Lord* (see page 7)

## **Reading**

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does

not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

**\*Song**                      *These are the Days of Elijah*

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the Word of the Lord;  
And these are the days of Your servant, Moses, righteousness being restored;  
And though these are days of great trials, of famine and darkness and sword;  
Still we are the voice in the desert crying, "Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

***Refrain: Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call; Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee, and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.***

And these are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh;  
And these are the days of Your servant, David, rebuilding a temple of praise;  
And these are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in the world;  
And we are the labourers in Your vineyard, declaring the Word of the Lord.

***Refrain: Behold He comes, riding on the clouds, shining like the sun at the trumpet call; Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee, and out of Zion's hill salvation comes.*** [refrain repeated....]

**Reflection**

Rev. Dr. Martin Ritchie

### **Invitation to Communion**

**\*Song**                      *We Are Coming, Lord, to the Table* (see page 8-9)

**Sharing the Bread and Wine**

## Post-Communion Prayer

Father of all, we give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*Song** (Psalm 103)                      *Praise God My Soul* (see page 10)

## Benediction and Celtic Amen

*Amen, Amen, Alleluia, Amen (x2)*

## Postlude

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

*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



## Announcements

### NEXT SUNDAY

**Christmas Pageant at 10:30am in the Sanctuary**

**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.

**The Presby Readers will meet this afternoon** at 4pm at Viki Shima's home. We picked a "short" book this go round. Join us to discuss Peter Bringley's, *All the Beauty in the World: The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me*. Come with a few discussion points and book suggestions for the new year!

**This Monday**, December 8<sup>th</sup> **PCAT Men's Dinner** at 7pm at Café Europe in Tenafly. Let Pastor Martin or Jim Crook know if you are planning to come. All PCAT men and friends are welcome!

**Tenafly Community Choir** – meets this week on **TUESDAY Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm in the Sanctuary. Any queries contact Jim Millar at [dirmusic@tenaflypresby.org](mailto:dirmusic@tenaflypresby.org)

**Adventures in Faith** meets this Wednesday Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon in the church house when we continue our Advent study, *The First Christmas*. Everyone is welcome. Bring your lunch if you like, drinks and treats provided.

**From Irene Scartozzi: Table-to-Table - Volunteer Opportunity. What You'll Do:** Wrap gifts for shoppers (training and all supplies provided). **Where:** The Shops at Riverside, Hackensack. If interested, contact [sconley-webb@tabletotable.org](mailto:sconley-webb@tabletotable.org) We're currently looking for volunteers to cover the following shifts: **Dates:** December 5–6, 10–13, 17–20, and 22–23 **Shift Times:** 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**The Soup Squad.** We are asking all soup makers to share a container of their home-made soup. Please arrange with Nancy in the office to drop off donations and help with labeling, the type of soup and the ingredients are needed. Many thanks for sharing your culinary skills!

**Next weekend! The start of our Christmas Festival! Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup>** from 2-5pm: Open house with creche festival in the Chapel a specially decorated Sanctuary and festive café in the Church House; **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>:** Pageant at 10.30am and Community Choir concert at 7pm.

**Christmas Concert.** Tenafly Community Choir and Orchestra, directed by Jim Millar, will have a fabulous program of festive favorites, sacred and secular, with Christmas Carols for all to join in! Come along and bring a friend on **Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Sanctuary.**

**We need volunteers to be hosts at this important weekend.** Would you be a welcoming presence in the Sanctuary, Chapel or Church House for some time on Saturday December 13<sup>th</sup> from 2-5pm when we have our open house? Also, we need volunteers to be front of house greeters at the community choir concert on Sunday evening. Contact Nancy in the office if you can help.

**Angel Tree Gifts. The unwrapped gifts need to be dropped by NEXT Sunday December 14th.** Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

**Greater Faith Works of Paterson, NJ Christmas Appeal.** This Christmas please help us to support the needs of the Greater Faith community. We will be collecting the following items through December 14<sup>th</sup>. 1. Personal hygiene items. 2. Blankets. 3. Hand warmers. 4. Monetary donations in lieu of the above [cash or checks made out to PCAT with *Greater Faith Works* in the memo line]. Thank you for your generosity.

### 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 <a href="mailto:reilleysherrie@gmail.com">reilleysherrie@gmail.com</a>
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 <a href="mailto:mjeimer@aol.com">mjeimer@aol.com</a>
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

# 134A Come, All You Servants of the Lord

*Instrumental Introduction, Interlude and Ending*

*Last time*  
E<sup>b</sup>

E<sup>b</sup>2 A<sup>b</sup>6(add9) E<sup>b</sup>2 A<sup>b</sup>ma<sup>9</sup> E<sup>b</sup>2 A<sup>b</sup>6(add9) Fm7 E<sup>b</sup>2/G B<sup>b</sup>sus B<sup>b</sup>

E<sup>b</sup> Gm7 A<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>2/D Cm7 E<sup>b</sup>2 A<sup>b</sup>2

1 Come, all you ser - vants of the Lord, who work and pray by  
2 The Lord now bless from heaven a - bove and shine on you with

Fm7 E<sup>b</sup>/G B<sup>b</sup>sus B<sup>b</sup> Cm7 E<sup>b</sup>/B<sup>b</sup> F/A F<sup>7</sup>/A<sup>b</sup>

night, by day. Come, bless the Lord with - in this place;  
ra - diant face; the Lord who heaven and earth has made

E<sup>b</sup>/G A<sup>b</sup>ma<sup>7</sup> Fm B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> D<sup>b</sup>6 E<sup>b</sup>

with lift - ed hands your hom - age pay.  
il - lu - mine you with peace and grace.

# We are coming, Lord, to the table

Words & Music: Sierra Leone traditional  
Transcription & Arrangement: Greg Scheer

Prayerfully ♩ = 100

We are co - ming, Lord, to the ta - ble.

4b

We are co - ming, Lord, to the ta - ble.

8b

1. With the gift of bread, we are com-ing, Lord.  
2. To re - ceive the bread, we are com-ing, Lord.

13b

Oh, sing it o - ver:

With the gift of wine, we are co-ming, Lord.  
To re - ceive the wine, we are co-ming, Lord.

1. We of - fer you the gift of  
2. We're co - ming to re - ceive the

19

Oh, we are com - ing, Lord.

Musical notation for measures 19-22, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

bread.  
bread.

We of - fer you the gift of  
We're co - ming to re - ceive the

23

Oh, we are com - ing, Lord.

Musical notation for measures 23-26, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

wine.  
wine.

Oh, sing it o - ver.

27

Oh, we are com - ing, Lord.

Musical notation for measures 27-30, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

31

Oh, we are com - ing Lord.

Musical notation for measures 31-34, including treble and bass staves with lyrics.

# Praise God my soul!

Vikki Cook

Majestically      D      G/D      D



1. Praise God, my soul! with all my heart let me ex - alt his ho - ly  
 2. The Lord is mer - ci - ful and kind, to an - ger, slow, and full of  
 3. But ev - er - last - ing is God's love for those who fear him, and their

4      F#m      D/F#      G      D/F#      A      Bm      Gb      Em7      G/A



name. For - get not all his be - ne - fits; his praise, my soul, in song pro -  
 grace. He will not constant - ly re prove, or in his an - ger hide his  
 seed, for those who keep his cov en - ant, and care - ful - ly his pre cepts

8      D      F#m      G      D/F#      D      A      D/F#      F#m7      G      D/F#      G      A



claim. He sa - tis - fies your deep de - sires from his un - end - ing stores of  
 face. Just as a fa - ther loves his child, so God loves those who fear his  
 heed. O praise the Lord, you heav'n - ly hosts, his ser - vants who per - form his

12      Bm      Bm/A      G      D/F#      A      Bm(add2)      Bm      Bm/A



good, so that, just like the ea - gle's strength, your youth - ful  
 name. For he re - mem - bers we are dust, and well he  
 word. Praise God, his works through - out the world, And you, my

15      Gb      Em7      G/A      Bm      Bm/A      G(add2)      Em7      G/A      D



vi - gor is re - newed. Your youth - ful vi - gor is re - newed.  
 knows our fee - ble frame. And well he knows our fee - ble frame.  
 soul, O praise the Lord! And you my soul, O praise the Lord!

*Doodle away . . .*

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY**

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Jim Millar, Director of Music Email: [Dirmusic@tenaflypresby.org](mailto:Dirmusic@tenaflypresby.org)

Will Farnham, Associate Director of Music Email: [farnham.william@gmail.com](mailto:farnham.william@gmail.com)

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Look for us on Facebook, Instagram, and X





# CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

**FREE  
ENTRY**

**Saturday, December 13th**  
**Open House 2-5pm**

Festive treats in the Church House  
Cafe, creche festival in the old Chapel  
and our stunningly decorated  
Sanctuary with Christmas caroling  
at 4pm.

**Sunday, December 14th**

**10:30am Childrens Pageant**

The annual all-age telling of the Christmas story!

**7pm Community Choir and Orchestra**

festive favorites, sacred and secular,  
with carols for all to join in.

**Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Lessons and Carols 10:30am in the Sanctuary.**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH**

**Christmas Eve**

5pm Family carol service!

9pm Festive Prelude Music

9:30pm Candlelight Service

**THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT TENAFLY**  
**55 MAGNOLIA AVENUE**

**[WWW.TENAFLYPRESBY.ORG](http://WWW.TENAFLYPRESBY.ORG)**

