

**Large Print Bulletins and Assistive Listening Devices are available.
Please ask an usher.**

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

JULY 18, 2021

8:30 AND 11:00 A.M.

The Congregation will speak aloud the bold print in responsive readings.

*** Please rise in body or spirit.**

GATHERING

*Worship begins with God. God takes the initiative and calls the Church into being.
In the name of Christ, we heed God's call and gather as the community of faith.*

WELCOME

PRELUDE *Prélude, Op. 18* C. Franck

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

I will bless the Lord at all times; *PSALM 34:1, 3*

God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.

O magnify the Lord with me,

and let us exalt God's name together.

*** HYMN NO. 307** *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA
(Stanzas 1-3)

**God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.**

**Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.**

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth,
confessing our sins before God and one another.

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not lived as your
faithful children. We have been angry with the world *EPHESIANS 4:26-32*
and nursed grudges against our adversaries.**

**We have hoarded the fruits of our labors
rather than share our bounty with the needy.
We have not built up our neighbors with words of kindness
but have indulged in evil gossip.**

**We have not forgiven the wrongs others have done,
even though we desire your forgiveness toward us in Jesus Christ.**

**Heal us, O God, and give us the grace to love
as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. Amen. *EPHESIANS 5:2*
(Silent Confession)**

- * **ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*RESPONSIVE*)
 Let us put away bitterness and wrath and anger *EPHESIANS 4:31-32*
 and wrangling and slander,
 together with all malice,
 and be kind to one another, tenderhearted,
 forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven us.
Thanks be to God.

- * **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *God of Grace and God of Glory*
 (Stanza 4)

**Save us from weak resignation
 to the evils we deplore.
 Let the gift of thy salvation
 be our glory evermore.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.**

- * **PASSING OF THE PEACE** (*RESPONSIVE*)
 Since Christ has opened his heart to us,
 let us open our hearts to one another,
 and God will be glorified.
 The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.
 Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gathered in God's name, we now open ourselves to God's life-giving Word.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

The children will remain with their families rather than come forward.

ANTHEM *How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place* J. Brahms

SCRIPTURE READING *1 KINGS 2:10-12; 3:5-12* OT, P. 304

SERMON *THE VITAL THING* Steve Hancock

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

The proclamation of God's Word invites responses of faith.

- * **HYMN NO. 65** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* CWM RHONDDA

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
 pilgrim through this barren land.
 I am weak, but thou art mighty.
 Hold me with thy powerful hand.
 Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
 feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain,
 whence the healing stream doth flow.
 Let the fire and cloudy pillar
 lead me all my journey through.
 Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
 bid my anxious fears subside.
 Death of death, and hell's destruction,
 land me safe on Canaan's side.
 Songs of praises, songs of praises
 I will ever give to thee; I will ever give to thee.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Please give online or place your offering in the offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary.

OFFERTORY *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace* S. Wesley

* **DOXOLOGY** LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**All praise to God, Eternal One, and praise to Christ,
Redeeming Son, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise to the Spirit, ever near,
Great Three in One, be with us here, Alleluia (5 times)**

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

SENDING

The God who calls us together in worship now sends us out in service.

* **INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

* **HYMN NO. 269** *Lead On, O King Eternal!* LANCASHIRE

**Lead on, O King eternal!
The day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest
your tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation
your grace has made us strong,
and now, O King eternal,
we lift our battle song.**

**Lead on, O King eternal,
till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords' loud clashing,
nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy
the heavenly kingdom comes.**

**Lead on, O King eternal:
we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning
where'er your face appears;
your cross is lifted o'er us;
we journey in its light.
The crown awaits the conquest;
lead on, O God of might!**

* **BENEDICTION**

* **CHORAL BENEDICTION** *Gloria Patri* C.V. Stanford

POSTLUDE *CWM RHONDDA* arr. P. Manz

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

The Reverend Steve Hancock

The Reverend Alisa Secrest

The Reverend Lindy Vogado

Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts

Adam Savacool, Organist

Clint Brockway, Interpreter

Elders of the Day: (8:30) Carol Young, (11:00) Sharon Downs

Ushers and Greeters (8:30): Bob and Diane Skinner,

Stephanie Wade, Jean Kohler, Ruth Shepherd, Tom Hicks, Don McDaniel

(11:00): Kathryn, Tim and Charley Hyde, Alex Honeycutt, Eric Meincke,

Jill Barham, Jeremy, Jennifer, Alex and Fisher Rigsby

For a full listing of prayer concerns, please call the
Care and Concern line at (501) 227-6117.

STATEMENT OF WELCOME AND INCLUSIVENESS

As one part of the church of Jesus Christ, we are inspired and guided by Christ's vision of God's realm—one that includes all who seek to love God and neighbor.

Second Presbyterian Church welcomes all people.

As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we invite those who respond in trust and obedience to God's grace in Jesus Christ to become part of the membership and ministry of the church.

We would be pleased to have you join us in our journey of faith, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic or family status, ethnic background, mental or physical abilities.

WE WELCOME VISITORS this morning to worship and hope that you will find our worship to be joyous, meaningful, and challenging. If this church or its pastors may be of service to you in anyway, please contact the church office, (501) 227-0000. To become more involved in the life of Second Presbyterian Church, contact Catherine Allsbury, catherineallsbury@secondpreslr.org.

CONTACT CARDS: We invite everyone in worship today to fill out the Contact Cards in the bulletin. The cards can be dropped in the offering plates as you exit the Sanctuary. We are collecting contact information on the off chance that someone here today develops a serious and contagious health problem in the near future. Your cooperation is very much appreciated!

HYMNS: During this time of pandemic safety protocols, we will be printing the text of hymns in the bulletin for your convenience. Congregation members are also welcome to use the hymnals that are in the pews as we engage in congregational singing while wearing our masks.

PRAYER CARDS: For your convenience, Prayer Cards are provided in the backs of the pews to collect your joys, concerns and notes. This is another way you can keep us informed with what's on your heart and mind. Please place your completed cards in the offering plate.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP PACKETS: Check out the Worship Station located in the back of the Sanctuary. At the station, you will find children's packets to help your kids enjoy and be involved in worship. Please take these resources home with you after the service.

SOUND AMPLIFICATION: Assistive listening devices are in a cabinet at the rear of the Sanctuary, along with instructions. The wireless receivers each connect to either headphones or a neck loop. Use the neck loop if your hearing aid has a telecoil switch or t-switch. The telecoil feature is standard in most models. Use headphones if you don't have a t-switch or if you don't use hearing aids. See an usher for assistance.

"A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN" is a special part of our worship service for children of preschool and elementary ages. Afterwards, children of kindergarten age and younger are welcome to remain with you, or may be taken to the nursery, which is staffed by competent nursery attendants and parent volunteers.

DID YOU MISS ONE OF THE SERMONS? If so, you can listen to recent sermons on the church website at secondpreslr.org. Click on "Worship and Music," then click on "Listen to Recent Sermons." To receive a copy of a sermon either by e-mail or regular mail, contact Karin Howze, karinhowze@secondpreslr.org or (501) 227-0000. Printed copies are available in the Narthex and the church office.

WHEELCHAIRS AND WALKERS AVAILABLE: Please speak with an usher, greeter or staff person if you or a loved one have need of a walker or wheelchair while at church. Wheelchairs are available near the Second Hall and Northwest entrances, and walkers are also available in nearby closets. We want to provide safe and accessible mobility devices should the occasion arise. Please contact Alisa Secrest for more information, alisasecrest@secondpreslr.org or (501) 227-0000.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH UPDATE: Middle School and High School Students! We have MAC (Mondays at Church) for middle school students on Monday evenings from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and WAC (Wednesdays at Church) for high school students on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-7:00 p.m. There is more information included in the bi-weekly E-Loop. If you would like a copy of the summer youth event schedule, please e-mail Kristin Orsi, kristinorsi@secondpreslr.org or Natalie Aikman, natalieaikman@secondpreslr.org.

MAC SURVIVOR RELAY RACE: Calling all middle schoolers! We're having a MAC Survivor Themed Relay Day. Join Natalie for an exciting, fun-filled relay race challenge at the Youth Building on July 19 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Contact Natalie Aikman, natalieaikman@secondpreslr.org, if you have any questions.

YOUTH AND ADULTS TRAVEL TO MONTREAT: We have 23 high school youth and adults headed to Montreat Youth Conference for the week of July 18-25. The staff accompanying the group are Jen Evans and Kristin Orsi. The Second Presbyterian group is traveling by plane this year as it was more economical! Please pray for them as they explore what it means to be "Called to Connect" along with other youth. The group will be taking safety precautions throughout the trip and are looking forward to the safe, formative experience in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina. If you would like to support the Youth Fund to help make it easier financially for families, please contact Jen Evans, Aileen Moore, or send a check with Youth Fund written in the memo.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: All 1st-5th graders are invited to this year's VBS, taking place August 1-5, 5:30-8:00 p.m. Youth and adults are welcome as volunteers. For more information or to register, contact Grant Wright, grantwright@secondpreslr.org.

ADULT SUMMER BIBLE STUDY SERIES: Sponsored by the Adult Education Ministry, this special opportunity for Bible Study will take place in conjunction with our children's evening VBS program. The meetings will be August 2-5, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Adults are invited to gather in the Great Hall for Bible Study with four pastors from around our community. Each pastor has been asked to present their "favorite" Bible story, character, or passage of Scripture. Presenters will include Steve Hancock, Second Presbyterian Church; Randy Hyde, Retired Baptist Minister; Elizabeth Henry-McKeever, Saint Michael's Episcopal Church; Maxine Allen, Saint Paul United Methodist Church, Maumelle. Each presentation will be a stand-alone topic, so you are invited to attend one, two, three, or all four evenings, as your schedule allows. Watch for more information about topics, schedule, and registration.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: The Prayer Shawl Committee will be meeting in person on August 2, 3:00 p.m. to clean out our stash of yarn. We will meet on the first Monday of each month in the Library at 4:00 p.m. If you are interested in joining our group, we are always welcoming new additions. We work independently on baby blankets for newborns, prayer shawls for members in need and scarves for the Mercy Church members. Contact Leah Shell with any questions.

SAVE THE DATES: All ages are invited to meet up for the Arkansas Travelers baseball game and picnic on August 28. Check the website for more information and for the link to order tickets. Also, mark your calendar for the annual All-Church Picnic at Ferncliff on September 26 immediately following Sunday worship

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**600 PLEASANT VALLEY DRIVE
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72227**

**OFFICE: (501) 227-0000
FAX: (501) 227-6513**

CARE & CONCERN LINE: (501) 227-6117

WWW.SECONDPRESLR.ORG

JOIN THE PLASTIC FREE CHALLENGE! God's call to care for creation can sometimes seem overwhelming, but together we can rise to the challenge! The new Environmental Stewardship Ministry invites you to join in the Plastic Free Ecochallenge, a global challenge for the month of July to reduce and refuse single-use plastics. The Ecochallenge runs from July 1-31 (you can join anytime during the month), and is a fun and easy way to take action and make a difference! You can register on ecochallenge.org. Our ministry invites you to create intention and take action on creating plastic-free habits with us. If you have any questions about the challenge or other sustainability issues, please contact Carol Young or Ann Owen.

CHEESES WITH JESUS is an adult group. We are all about food and fellowship, study and service. Our next meeting will be July 28 at 7:00 p.m. at Villas at Northwood Creek, 8910 Northwood Creek, NLR. For more information, contact Catherine Allsbury, catherineallsbury@secondpreslr.org.

DADS NIGHT OUT: Come test your knowledge of trivia and get to know some of the other dads from church! On Thursday, July 22, dads will get together for Trivia Night at Mellow Mushroom, 16103 Chenal Parkway, LR. Meet at the restaurant at 6:45 p.m. Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m. This FWYC Ministry group meets every other Thursday.

NEW LUNCH BUNCH(ES) FORMING: Belonging and Fellowship are teaming up to launch a new program—groups formed around sharing lunch. We are planning to organize groups of 5 to 8 adults who would like to meet for lunch every week, or maybe every month. Fellowship & Belonging will match you with other adults interested in forming a group. Eat where?

- Pick a favorite restaurant
- Brown Bag lunch in a park or the Prayer Garden
- Rotate lunch in homes
- Meet with a Zoom group from the comfort of home

Sign up online at secondpreslr.org, or contact Alisa Secrest, alisasecrest@secondpreslr.org.

LIVESTREAM TECHNICIANS NEEDED: Do you have an aptitude for computers? Then do we have an opportunity for you. As part of the Second Vision Capital Campaign, we started putting together the equipment to livestream our Sunday morning service. We are in need of a handful of folks willing to take on a Sunday morning every month to help operate the livestream. For more information or to volunteer, contact Sam Byrd.

SUMMER BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES: The Adult Education Ministry is once again offering a series of opportunities for folks who love to read (and talk about what they read) to gather for literary discussions over the summer. The final meeting will be held in person, in Second Hall.

August 15, 3:00 p.m.: *Godric* by Frederick Buechner

Discussion Leader: Vernon Markham

Join us on a fantastical journey in the ancient world of Anglo-Saxon England as we experience the coming of age of the medieval Roman Catholic saint, Godric of Finchale. Set in the twelfth century, *Godric* is a semi-fictionalized tale published in 1980 by American author and theologian Frederick Buechner, for which he was a finalist for the 1981 Pulitzer Prize. This novel reengages in several substantial themes such as sin, the search for identity, faith, and the supernatural, with an investigation of death and aging at the forefront. No doubt you will find yourself somewhere in *Godric's* observations and gain insight into Buechner's own life journey.

For more information, contact Jeannie Ford, jeannieford@secondpreslr.org.



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

*And we know that in all things God works for the
good of those who love him.*

— Romans 8:28a

Second Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry congregation. We provide confidential Christian caregiving to hurting people. To find out more about Stephen Ministry or to receive a Stephen Minister's care, call Associate Pastor Alisa Secrest at (501) 227-0000. Pastor Alisa will work with you to decide if Stephen Ministry will be a good fit for you and your unique situation.

USHER/GREETER VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS APPRECIATED: Those who serve as ushers and greeters for our worship service are providing a ministry of hospitality for members and visitors to our church. Along with providing an important leadership role for worship, those who serve as ushers and greeters are also afforded a wonderful opportunity to meet and work alongside other members of the congregation. You may contact the following deacons who serve as usher captains to volunteer as ushers or greeters.

JULY WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

Bob Skinner
rdskinner65@comcast.net

9:00 A.M.

Brother Nipper
snipper@retzerorg.com

11:00 A.M.

Alex Honeycutt
alex_honeycutt@sbcglobal.net

Kathryn Hyde
kathrynahyde@gmail.com

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JULY 18

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Spiritual Nourishment 9:30 (Zoom)
The Bible Study Class 9:30 (Zoom)

MONDAY, JULY 19

Pastoral Care 1:30
*MAC Survivor Relay Race 5:00

TUESDAY, JULY 20

MGM Men's Bible Study 7:00 (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21

Staff Meeting 9:00
9 O'clock Music Rehearsal 6:00
Adult Choir 6:00

THURSDAY, JULY 22

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group 1:00
Praeclara Ringers 6:00
*Dads Night Out 7:00

FRIDAY, JULY 23

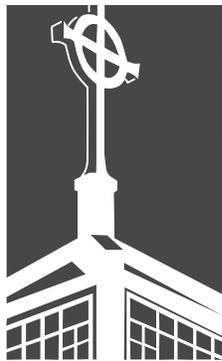
SATURDAY, JULY 24

SUNDAY, JULY 25

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Spiritual Nourishment 9:30 (Zoom)
The Bible Study Class 9:30 (Zoom)

* Denotes announcement in bulletin

VISION STATEMENT



INVITED
BY CHRIST
IMPACTING
THE WORLD
INCLUSIVE
OF ALL