

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

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

SEPTEMBER 12, 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 *Elegy* G.T. Thalben-Ball

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

Come into the presence of the Most High God
with songs of praise and shouts of thanksgiving.
For our Savior frees us from slavery;
our Savior heals our diseases
our Savior is our peace.
You are a holy temple in the Lord Jesus Christ.
Come; let us worship God.

EPHESIANS 2:22

*** HYMN 394** *Sing to God As Sings the Ocean* TROEGER
(Stanzas 1 and 2)

**Sing to God as sings the ocean, sing as birds that greet the dawn,
Sing as windswept trees in motion, sing and let your song be drawn
From God's vast and whole creation, from your faith and doubt and fears,
From rebirth and re-creation, from life's wealth of joy and tears.**

**Sing the heart's deep sighing sorrow to the Lord who hears lament,
Who at midnight sees tomorrow when the dark at last is spent.
Sing to God who in our sadness brings the news of coming light,
Ample hope to waken gladness and sustain us through the night.**

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

Even our best intentions go awry
when we are not at one with God's purpose.
Our gracious God journeys with us
and provides for us
with unending mercy, patience, and kindness.
Let us confess our sins.

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

**Eternal God, your steadfast love endures forever.
We confess that we act as if we are in control,
as if you will bless whatever we do.
If we think of others at all,
it is with an eye
toward their usefulness to us.
If we consider your creation,
it is to ponder what benefits us.**

**We have failed to show your love
or to do justice in obedience to you.
Have mercy on us, God of grace.
Put the mind of Christ within us,
so that our lives take the form of a cross.
Use us to break down walls of hostility
within the church,
among the nations,
and around the world.
Equip us to do your will,
giving you glory, honor, and praise
together with the Son and the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever. Amen.**

PHILIPPIANS 2:5

EPHESIANS 2:14

(Silent Confession)

* **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS** *(RESPONSIVE)*

Our Lord Jesus gives us rest and peace.
Our Master's touch heals us,
and his shed blood is our salvation.
In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Sing to God As Sings the Ocean* TROEGER
(Stanza 3)

**Sing the great, glad joy of Jesus! Sing the gospel that Christ brings.
Sing the way Christ heals and feeds us, sing the song that Easter sings:
Christ is risen, Christ is living, Christ among us, Christ within.
Christ the spring of endless giving where new songs of faith begin.**

* **PASSING OF THE PEACE** *(RESPONSIVE)*

Jesus said: "Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give you.
Not as the world gives do I give to you.
Let not your hearts be troubled or afraid."
The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Environmental Stewardship

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

Set Me as a Seal
SPC Chamber Choir

R.Clausen

SCRIPTURE READING

2 SAMUEL 12: 15-25

OT, PP. 285-286

SERMON

*LIVING LIKE DAVID AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART:
CHOOSING TO LIVE*

Steve Hancock

**In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

* **BENEDICTION**

* **CHORAL BENEDICTION** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* J. Rutter

POSTLUDE *Allegro scherzando* C.M. Widor

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

The Reverend Steve Hancock

The Reverend Alisa Secrest

The Reverend Lindy Vogado

Jeannie Ford, Church Educator

Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts Ministry

Adam Savacool, Organist

Clint Brockway, Interpreter

Elders of the Day: (8:30) Carol Young (11:00) Joseph Yancey

Ushers and Greeters: (8:30) Ann Norwood, Bruce Aston, June and Eugene Jones
(11:00) Rich, Trey and William Evans, Janna, Meredith and Lucy Michael

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!

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.

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.

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.

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.

“**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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL START-UP: Sunday School resumes for all ages today! Some children will be graduating to a new class. All adult classes will begin new series or topics. At the Sunday School hour, 9:50 a.m., proceed to the appropriate classroom for a meet-and-greet introduction of teachers, classmates and topics. Signs will be posted telling you where children, youth and adult classes will meet. Weather and safety permitting, some might meet outdoors. If a group chooses to meet by Zoom, you will receive information on how to join them. Friends are welcome; this is a great time to take the next step in following Christ.

SECOND HALL SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS FALL: *Be The Church: Will You Promise?*

This five-week course will begin *today* and will meet in Second Hall and on Zoom at 9:50 a.m. each Sunday. Pastors will lead the class in an exploration of God calls us to do and to be as individual members of the community that is the church. Join us in person or on-line as we examine our call to love God and neighbor as faithful Presbyterians. September 12 and 19: Steve Hancock, September 26: Lindy Vogado, October 3: Stewart Smith, October 10: Alisa Secrest and Panel of Church Members. Contact Jeannie Ford (jeannieford@secondpreslr.org) or visit the church website (www.secondpreslr.org) for more information.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Our first gathering will be Tuesday, September 14, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom. Our study for this year is *What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew’s Genealogy of Jesus*, by Merryl Blair. Our first lesson will be led by the Reverend Carol Clark, our Presbytery Connector. She invites participants to bring a picture of their grandmother (or another significant woman in their lives) to share as part of this first gathering. Books will be available in the Narthex today. They can also be delivered to you at your request. You can pay for your book online at secondpreslr.org or drop off a check at the church office. If you have questions, please contact Jeannie Ford.

FAITH AND GRIEF: Because grief is so prevalent this season, we want to make sure you have several ways to find the support you need. In addition to the care of a Stephen Minister or pastor, consider the support groups, workshops and online resources from our care partner Faith and Grief Ministries. Register at www.faihandgrief.org. Speakers for the Fall Faith and Grief noon lunch gatherings include September 21: Mark Hagemeyer, October 19: Anne Crow and November 16: Jeanne Ford.

1ST AND 3RD MONDAY MORNING WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY will begin on Monday, September 20 at 9:30 a.m. in Second Hall and on Zoom. Our fall study will be *Testimony: Vocabulary of Faith*, written by several amazing female Presbyterian pastors. If you would like to join this group or would like more information please contact Jeannie Ford (jeannieford@secondpreslr.org).

SERMON SERIES

Living Like David After God's Own Heart
Steve Hancock

August 1

Being Chosen

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

September 12

Choosing to Live

2 Samuel 12: 15-25

August 8

Taking on Tyrants

1 Samuel 17: 37-42

September 19

Trusting in the Night

2 Samuel 15: 13-16a, 23-36, 30

August 22

Repaying Evil with Good

1 Samuel 24: 8-19

September 26

Grieving the Fallen

2 Samuel 18: 24-19:4

August 29

Dancing for Joy

2 Samuel 6: 12-23

October 3

Giving Real Gifts

2 Samuel 24: 18-25

September 5

Knowing Our Guilt

2 Samuel 12: 1-14

October 10

Leaving Unfinished Dreams

1 Chronicles 22: 5-16

SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Your generosity is a meaningful expression of your faith in God and your commitment to Christ's work in the world. Contributions can be made to the 2021 Annual Budget, Second Vision Capital Campaign, Memorial Gifts and the Birthday Fund. You may support the ministries of our church by placing your offering in the offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary, through online giving at secondpreslr.org/giving or mailing a check to the church office, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72227.

CHEESES WITH JESUS is an adult group. We are all about food and fellowship, study and service. Cheeses with Jesus had a good summer, gathering at favorite places to eat around the city. We have been blessed with several new faces joining in. Our next meeting will Wednesday, September 22, at 7:00 p.m. We will be gathering at 5 Berwyn Drive in Little Rock, 72227. For our study, we will look at two chapters from *The Flawed Family of God* by Carolyn B. Helsel and Song-Mi Suzie Park. For more information, contact Catherine Allsbury (catherineallsbury@secondpreslr.org).

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: Calling all dogs, cats, turtles, and hamsters! On Sunday, Oct. 3 at 3:00 p.m., our church will be joining with Grace Presbyterian Church for our annual Blessing of the Animals service. We invite you to bring your family pet (all species welcome!) to this casual service as we celebrate God's good creation and the role that animals play in our lives. The service will take place outdoors in the courtyard of Grace Presbyterian (9301 N. Rodney Parham Road), and if you are able, we invite you to bring a bag of dog or cat food for the Humane Society of Pulaski County. We do ask that all pets remain either leashed or in a cage/aquarium throughout the service and that all humans be masked. If you have any questions, please contact Lindy Vogado (lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org).

HURRICANE IDA DISASTER RELIEF: In response to the recent destruction caused by Hurricane Ida, our church's Outreach Ministry has awarded a grant to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) to support our denomination's disaster relief efforts in Southern Louisiana and the Gulf Coast. If you would like to make a gift to PDA's Hurricane Ida disaster relief efforts, you may give online through the PDA website (<https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hurricane-ida>) or by writing a check to the church with Hurricane Ida memo line. For more information, please contact Lindy Vogado (lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org).

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRIES: A search committee is in place to begin to look for a Director of Youth Ministries and they are hard at work. The team includes: Sam Byrd, Alex Honeycutt, Tim Hyde, Cade Johnson, Marge Anna Luttrell, Amelia Ross, and Rev. Jen Evans. As the team continues to prayerfully consider how God is calling Second Presbyterian Youth (SPY), please share any thoughts you may have regarding the needs of this position that would be helpful with the search team. Please share those insights by sending them to Marge Anna Luttrell at maluttrell@yahoo.com or Jen Evans at jenevans@secondpreslr.org.

SPY KICKOFF is today! Join us from 5:30-8:00 p.m. for our SPY Fall Kickoff in the Youth Building parking lot. All 6th-12th graders are invited to participate in energizers, outdoor games, and eating good food! If you are interested in helping grill food (provided by us) at Kickoff, please contact Kristin Orsi kristinorsi@secondpreslr.org.

COTHAM LECTURE SERIES: Tonight and tomorrow night at 6:30 pm (Sept. 12-13), Westover Hills Presbyterian Church will be hosting the virtual Cotham Lectures with Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. Dr. Levine (“AJ”) is University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies and Mary Jane Werthan Professor of Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt. Her books include *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus* and *Short Stories by Jesus*; five children’s books (with Sandy Sasso); *The Gospel of Luke* (with Ben Witherington III, the first biblical commentary by a Jew and an Evangelical); and *The Jewish Annotated New Testament* (co-edited with Marc Brettler). She describes herself as an unorthodox member of an Orthodox synagogue and a Yankee Jewish feminist who teaches New Testament in a Christian divinity school in the Buckle of the Bible Belt. Each lecture will be offered in zoom webinar format. The Cotham Lecture Trust was established at Westover Hills in 1967 in memory of E. Ralph Cotham V. To register for each lecture, visit the Cotham Lectures page at <https://www.westoverhills.org/ministries/cotham-lectures/>.

ALL CHURCH PICNIC: Our annual all church picnic is Sunday, September 26, immediately following Sunday worship. Don’t miss this opportunity to socially distance and enjoy friends and family in Ferncliff’s beautiful setting. A cafeteria-style lunch will be provided with your comfort food favorites. Just bring you and your family! We’ll make use of indoor and outdoor spaces for fellowship, dining and recreation. Enjoy lawn games, a fishing tournament, rocking chairs, canoeing, volleyball, the Shady Chute, tours of the grounds and more. Registration is \$7.00 per person with a \$20 maximum per household. Register online, in the office or Sunday mornings in the Narthex.

CREATION CARE AT THE CHURCH PICNIC: Did you know you can reduce your carbon footprint by eliminating waste? Please consider bringing your own re-usable plate, cup, and utensils to the All Church Picnic at Ferncliff on September 26. This will lessen the need for single-use plastic and paper goods!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY FUND: During your birthday month, celebrate your birthday by giving a dollar celebrating each year of your life to our church’s endowment fund. Whether you are 1 or 101 years of age, the gift gives back for all the blessings in your years. Our endowment fund provides support for all our church’s missions and ministries. An envelope is provided in the bulletin and at the Birthday Fund table in the Narthex. Happy birthday!

PARENTS BOOK CLUB: Wednesday, September 29, October 13 & 27 at 6:00 p.m. Parents Book Club will be starting back up this fall over three Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. We will meet in the Prayer Garden, and in the Youth Building if it rains. We will be reading *Where Goodness Still Grows: Reclaiming Virtue in an Age of Hypocrisy* by Amy Peterson. Contact Dania Edwards with questions (daniaedwards@secondpreslr.org).

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

MOMS BACKYARD MEETUP: Friday, September 24 at 7:00 p.m. Moms can join us for some Fun, Fellowship, & Takeout (provided)! Socially distanced, please bring a mask. Contact Dania Edwards for new address (daniaedwards@secondpreslr.org).

SECOND FAMILIES SUPPER CLUB: Would you like to connect with other Second Pres Families in a smaller group setting for a meal and some prayerful family discussion? In our new monthly Supper Club, interested families will be paired up one on one and can pick their own date to share a meal at one of their homes, inside or out based on their comfort level. Monthly discussion topics will be provided. Please email Dania Edwards for registration questionnaire at daniaedwards@secondpreslr.org.

TOUGH TOPICS: Family & Children's Ministries are working on our Parents' and Children's libraries, and are pooling together some books and resources on tough topics for those times when kids and parents need some extra support and explanation. If you find yourself in need of ways to talk to your kids on heaven, grief and loss, death and dying, sex and sexuality, race, cancer, and everything in between, stay tuned for where to find it! Contact Dania Edwards with questions.

FAMILY YOGA: Saturday, October 30, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Families with Young Children Ministry invites parents and their children to come and join us for Holy Yoga on the helicopter pad (area right outside of the Church playground). If it rains we will be in the Great Hall. Please bring a yoga mat or towel, mask and water bottle. Beginners welcome! Contact Dania Edwards with questions.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School resumes today! Both in-person and virtual Sunday School classes start at 9:50 a.m. Preschool classes are held in the hallway behind the sanctuary, while Elementary (1st-3rd Grade) and SPY Kids (4th-5th Grade) are held in Bible Village, on the first floor of the west wing. Online Classes are for all ages. Contact Grant Wright (grantwright@secondpreslr.org) for more information.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL START-UP PARTIES: Sunday School resumes today! Preschoolers and their families are invited to a popsicle party in the church playground immediately after 11:00 a.m. worship. Preschoolers who do not have children's Bibles will be presented with them at a special ceremony at the party. 1st-5th graders are invited to a pool party at The Holders' house at 2:00 p.m. For more information and to RSVP, contact Dania Edwards at daniaedwards@secondpreslr.org or Grant Wright at grantwright@secondpreslr.org.

MUSIC WITH MS. MARY: Children's Music begins Wednesday, September 15, at 6:00 p.m. for children in Kindergarten through 5th grade. We will be exploring many COVID safer ways to praise God, including but not limited to bells, Orff, dance, drama, and art.

YOUTH RINGERS begins *today* at 4:30 p.m. for all 6th through 12th graders who want to ring. Contact Mary Ibis for more information.

ADULT HANDBELL RINGERS: We are excited to have you back! Rehearsals resume today, September 12, and Monday, September 13. *Evening Ringers* will rehearse on Sundays from 6:00-7:00 pm. *Day Ringers* will rehearse on Mondays from 11:00 to noon. For more information, please contact Mary Ibis, maryibis@secondpreslr.org

BOOK DRIVE: Zack Gridley, a Boy Scout from Troop 55, is asking for gently used books or new books (ages baby through teen) for a reading merit badge requirement. All books will be going to UAMS or Arkansas Children's Hospital. A collection box will be placed in the Narthex of the church through Sunday, September 26, 2021.



**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.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

Ann Norwood
kaknorwood@att.net

9:00 A.M.

Lisa Skultety
lisa.skultety@gmail.com

11:00 A.M.

Janna Michael
mrandmrs michael@att.net

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

*Sunday School Start-Up
Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
Preschool Popsicle Party 12:00
1st-5th Grade Pool Party 2:00
*Youth Ringers 4:30
SPY Kickoff Parking Lot Party 5:30
*Evening Ringers 6:00

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Children's Ministry 11:00
*Day Ringers 11:00
Sermon Roundtable 12:00
Pastoral Care 1:30
Stephen Ministry 6:00

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

MGM Men's Bible Study 7:00
*PW Gathering 10:00 (Zoom)
Environmental Stewardship 5:30

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Staff Meeting 9:00
Second Readers 3:00
*Children's Music 6:00
Choir Rehearsal 7:00

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Alzheimer's Caregivers Group 1:00
Moms Whine Night 7:00

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Ferncliff College and Young Adults Retreat

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

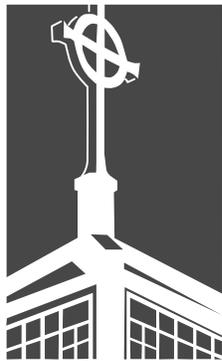
Ferncliff College and Young Adults Retreat

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
*Youth Ringers 4:30
*Evening Ringers 6:00
Middle School SPY 5:30
High School SPY 6:30

* Denotes announcement in bulletin

VISION STATEMENT



INVITED
BY CHRIST
IMPACTING
THE WORLD
INCLUSIVE
OF ALL