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

**August 21, 2022**

**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.*

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

*Carillon*

H. Murrill

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

We are called to love the Lord our God

**We are called to love with all our heart and soul**

We are called to love the Lord our God

**We are called to love with all our mind and strength**

God has called us to teach this to our children

**To talk about them at home or during the day**

**So that we may all learn how to live as the children of God**

Come, let us learn of God's love and learn how to love God in this time of worship!

**\* HYMN NO. 403**      *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*      UNSER HERRSCHER

**\* CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

**God, we call ourselves disciples of Jesus Christ, yet we confess that we are poor students. We are more eager to learn the ways of the world than to learn his ways. We can treat faith as if it were an extracurricular activity. Forgive us. May your spirit fill our hearts with a desire to know you, to love you, and to live in your ways. We pray this in the name of our Rabbi, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen. (Silent confession)**

**\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\* 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.

**PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

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

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)**

## **BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (11:00)**

*This morning we celebrate all the opportunities we have to learn and grow throughout our lives. For those who will be beginning a new school year as a student, faculty, or staff person, we encourage you to come forward when invited to receive a special blessing this morning, reminding you that the prayers of all of us go with you.*

## **A LITANY FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR (RESPONSIVE)**

Loving God, we come before you with prayers on our hearts. We offer you our very lives that we may live according to your will.

We pray for all children—for their playfulness, for their curiosity, and for their joyfulness. We pray, as they go beyond the boundaries of home, that they will find strong and true friendships. We pray especially for those called to lead and to care for them. Grant, O God, that our children and the adults who learn with them might grow in your love.

*In My Life, Verse 1*

**In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In my life, Lord, be glorified today.**

We pray for all youth, for the ways they test boundaries and question authority. We pray that they will continue to develop and use the gifts you have given them. We pray for those called to teach, to lead, to coach, and to mentor them. Grant them your wisdom and generous spirit as they seek to grow faithfully in our complex world.

*In My Life, Verse 2*

**In our schools, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In our schools, Lord, be glorified today.**

We pray for all college students, for the questions they are facing about their future. We pray for those called to lead and care for them—for professors, counselors, administrators, and advisors. Nurture them in communities of fellowship and protect them from isolation and loneliness. Grant your courage to these young adults as they engage in critical learning and discovery for stewardship in our world.

*In My Life, Verse 3*

**In your world, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In your world, Lord, be glorified today.**

We pray for all those who teach and lead, O God. Inspire them with creativity and commitment. Give them energy to bring forth the best from their students. Help us to appreciate their efforts and to treat them with respect. Provide opportunities, O God, for their refreshment and renewal.

*In My Life, Verse 4*

**In our homes, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In our homes, Lord, be glorified today.**

We pray for all adults as they endeavor to live faithful lives in their homes and in their workplaces. We pray for all who are parents, stepparents, guardians, caregivers, grandparents, and friends of children, youth, and young adults. Give them hearts and minds filled with patience, understanding, and wisdom.

*In My Life, Verse 5*

**In your church, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.**

**In your church, Lord, be glorified today.**

We pray this morning for all of us who learn. Keep us from being discouraged when facing the trials of the day. Keep us safe and healthy. Instill in us a desire to grow in wisdom and understanding. Open our hearts to the new and good things that you are doing in our world. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

**ANTHEM**

*Cantate Domino*  
SPC Chamber Choir

L. H. Hassler

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
Sing and give praise to his name, for he has done marvelous deeds.  
Sing and exult and praise in songs with the harp and the voice:  
for he has done marvelous deeds.

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 28:16-20

NT, PP. 6-7

SERMON

*Open House for Disciples*

Jody Welker

\* HYMN

*We Thank You, God for Teachers*

ELLACOMBE

(Sung to the tune "I Sing the Mighty Power of God, Hymn No. 32)

**We thank you, God, for teachers who help us learn your way,  
who show by their example how we can serve and pray,  
who find great joy in worship, who listen with concern;  
for in their loving witness, they help us want to learn.**

**We thank you, God, for children and older people, too,  
who value times of learning and want to grow in you,  
who seek your precious kingdom and wisdom from above;  
for wise ones of all ages still seek to learn your love.**

**We thank you, God, for families of every kind and size,  
who keep the vows they spoke when their children were baptized,  
who pray and read the bible, who love and serve the poor;  
they teach, by what they value, the way of Christ our Lord.**

**We thank you, God, for churches that welcome one and all,  
that nurture every person in answer to Christ's call.  
So fill us with your spirit, and give us life anew,  
that we may help each other live faithfully in you.**

#### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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

#### 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

*(For those who desire to give online, see the QR code in the announcements)*

OFFERTORY

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  
SPC Chamber Choir

R. Clausen

\* DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

#### SENDING

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

\* INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

\* HYMN NO. 298

*Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

ABBOT'S LEIGH

\* BENEDICTION

\* CHORAL BENEDICTION

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

J. Rutter

POSTLUDE

*Toccata*

C. M. Widor

### TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

The Reverend Jody Welker

The Reverend Alisa Secrest

The Reverend Lindy Vogado

The Reverend Marie Mainard O'Connell

Grant Wright, Interim Director of Families and Young Adults

Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts

Adam Savacool, Organist

Clint Brockway, Interpreter

Elder of the Day: (8:30) Carol Young (11:00) Somerset Sea

Ushers: (8:30) Jean Kohler, Don and Libby McDaniel, Chris McDaniel,

Kirby and Ann Norwood (11:00) Chris Herring, Julie and Mike Honeycutt,

Alicia, Sam and Emily Byrd, Lee Majors

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.

**DID YOU MISS ONE OF THE SERMONS?** If so, you can watch past worship services on the church website at [secondpreslr.org](http://secondpreslr.org). To receive a copy of a sermon either by e-mail or regular mail, contact Karin Howze, [karinhowze@secondpreslr.org](mailto:karinhowze@secondpreslr.org) or (501) 227-0000. Printed copies are available in the Narthex and the church office.

#### 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 2022 Annual Budget, 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, with the QR code, through online giving at [secondpreslr.org/giving](http://secondpreslr.org/giving) or mailing a check to the church office, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72227.



**PRAY FOR OUR GLOBAL MISSION PARTNERS:** For several years, our congregation has supported the ministry of PC(USA) mission co-worker Dori Hjalmarsen in Honduras. Dori accompanies, coordinates and coaches lay and pastoral leaders of the Presbyterian Church of Honduras as they develop educational opportunities for their members and communities. For more information about getting involved in our Presbytery's International Partnership with the Presbyterian Church in Honduras, contact Lindy Vogado ([lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org](mailto:lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org)).

**JOIN US FOR OUR FALL KICKOFF OPEN HOUSE!** TODAY is a special day for our congregation! We are back to having three worship services, we are kicking off the new programmatic year, and we are blessing backpacks at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. We are hosting a Fall KickOff and Time and Talent Fair during the Sunday School hour (beginning at 9:30 a.m.) for everyone to learn more about the great things happening at our church! Please join us!

**SPY PARENT KICKOFF:** Parents of middle and high schoolers are invited to a SPY Parent Kickoff in the Youth Building today at 5:30 p.m. Learn more about Fall youth programming, get an update on the Youth Director search, and find out how you can participate in your youth's experience. Also don't miss our booths at the Ministry Fair this morning in the Great Hall.

**MISSION STUDY CONVERSATIONS:** Thank you to all who participated in our “Let’s Talk” conversations. Your input is so valuable. If you were unable to participate in one of the conversations and would like to have an opportunity to do so, please let Catherine Lowry or Jody Welker know. You can email Jody at [jodywelker@secondpreslr.org](mailto:jodywelker@secondpreslr.org).

**SECOND HALL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS:** Beginning August 28 and continuing through September, Randy Hyde will lead the Second Hall adult Sunday school class in a study of Joseph, the son of Jacob. Based on his recently published book, *Dream Catcher: Reflections on the Joseph Saga*, Randy will guide the class through discussions of issues that are as old as the ancient Hebrew scriptures and as current as today’s news. Copies of the book are available in the church office for \$15. If you prefer, they can be purchased through Amazon as well.

**ANNUAL INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE:** Please join The Interfaith Center of Arkansas and Arkansas House of Prayer for the annual interfaith prayer service, Love Thy Neighbor: Sowing Seeds of Promise, a celebration of peace through music, prayer, and wisdom. The event will be held on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church at 6 PM. It will be an in-person event. Love Thy Neighbor began as an interfaith prayer service to help bring people, who are dedicated to peace in our community and around the world, together. The event is FREE and open to all age groups. Stay up to date by visiting our website at [www.theinterfaithcenter.org](http://www.theinterfaithcenter.org).

**AFGHAN WELCOME PROJECT UPDATES:** *Conversation Partners Needed:* One of the things we have been working on since our families’ arrival is helping them access the English language resources that they need. Fortunately, we have several ESL professionals and volunteers in our congregation who have been sharing their expertise with us as we work to equip our families to be successful in their new community. Our church members have identified local resources and given numerous hours of their own time working with our families. One specific need we have is more casual English-speaking conversation partners for the mothers in both families. For cultural reasons, these volunteers need to be women. If you would like to learn more about this opportunity, please contact Lindy Vogado ([lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org](mailto:lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org)) in the church office.

**“WELCOME HOME” SERMON SERIES: AUGUST 21-SEPTEMBER 25**

By Jody Welker

**August 21**

*Open House for Disciples* (Matthew 28:16-30)

**August 28**

*Calling All the Children Home* (Psalm 100)

**September 4 (Labor Day Weekend)**

*Take This Job and Love it!* (Genesis 2:4b-15)

**September 11**

*When A Stranger Comes to Our House* (Romans 12:9-13; Deuteronomy 10:12-19)

**September 25**

*The Splendor of the House of God* (Haggai 1:15b – 2:9)

**YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:** Young Adults (18-35ish) are invited to join us at our regular fellowship events. We can be found every Sunday after the 11:00 a.m. worship service for lunch and discussion. We also meet offsite every other Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. for trivia and fellowship. To inquire about these events or get on our mailing list to find out about special events, contact [grantwright@secondpreslr.org](mailto:grantwright@secondpreslr.org).

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[WWW.SECONDPRESLR.ORG](http://WWW.SECONDPRESLR.ORG)

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES:** Join these Adult Sunday School classes in person or on Zoom on August 28, starting at 9:50 a.m.! Seeking More Light (Room 67) is reading Barbara Brown Taylor's new book *Always a Guest*. Copies will soon be available in the church office and an excellent audiobook or Kindle/Nook version is available online at Amazon.com. Adult Bible Study (Library) continues to use *The Present Word* curriculum for an in depth discussion of biblical texts. Spiritual Nourishment (Heritage Room) continues their study of *Being Belonging Doing: Balancing Your Three Greatest Needs* in their intimate and caring exploration of personal faith. For curriculum, Zoom links, or more information please contact Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell at [mariemo@secondpreslr.org](mailto:mariemo@secondpreslr.org)

**BECOME A READING TUTOR AT BALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:** After a couple of years of pandemic hiatus, our congregation will once again be volunteering as reading tutors at our school partner Bale Elementary School! Tutors meet with their assigned student(s) once a week from October-March, and training is provided about how to help each child progress in their reading skills and comprehension. The goal for each child is to read at grade level in elementary school so they will continue to have academic success throughout their educational careers. To begin the process of becoming a tutor, visit the website, [www.arkidsread.org](http://www.arkidsread.org), and select Bale Elementary School as your preferred site. If you'd like more information about our church's involvement at Bale Elementary or help navigating the online sign-ups, contact Lindy Vogado ([lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org](mailto:lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org)) in the church office.

**THE PROPERTY MINISTRY** will be meeting at the church at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, August 27, to do some clean up in and around the building, mainly focusing on flower beds. We will be doing this on the last Saturday of every month. Volunteers are welcome!

**CHEESES WITH JESUS:** The 2022 *Tour of Margaritas* is coming to a close. We have just one stop left in August before returning to our normal schedule of fellowship and study: August 26 (6:30 p.m.) at Casa Villines (8301 Evergreen Drive 72227). Prizes will be awarded for those who have been on tour! On August 26 we will include a mission project with our feasting and fellowship: gathering of snacks for staff at *Bale Elementary School*. Thanks to our Outreach Ministry, our church has been in a partnership with Bale Elementary for several years. The snack for teachers and staff (about 55 persons) help promote a positive atmosphere of joy and welcome for students. Please bring your favorite snack stuff (fun or healthy) to fill the baskets. New faces at the table always welcome! We are a pairs and spares group of adults, between 'young adult' and retiree. We normally meet on the second and fourth Wednesday evening of each month. Contact [catherineallsbury@secondpreslr.org](mailto:catherineallsbury@secondpreslr.org) for more details.

**FWYC (FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN) SUNDAY DINNERS:** Sunday Dinner is "still cooking." The McCormacks have offered to host families with babies through elementary school aged children at "Sunday Dinner" 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. One week/month will be at the church in the **Great Hall/Playground**. Attend when you can/want to, or even every week! Main dish provided, bring a side dish or dessert to share. The McCormacks' address is 2 Northwest Ct. Little Rock, AR 72212. Contact *Grant Wright* with questions [grantwright@secondpreslr.org](mailto:grantwright@secondpreslr.org). 21 (SKIP), 28 (McCormacks)

**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.

#### AUGUST WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

**8:30 A.M.**

Natasha Graf

**10:00 A.M.**

Chris Herring  
Alex Honeycutt



**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.

#### CALENDAR

##### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 21**

Worship 8:30, 9:00 and 11:00  
\*KickOff Open House 9:30  
\*Young Adults Lunch 12:15  
\*FWYC Dinner 4:00  
\*SPY Parent KickOff 5:30

##### **MONDAY, AUGUST 22**

Pastoral Care 1:30  
Volleyball 7:00

##### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 23**

MGM Men's Bible Study 7:00

##### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24**

Staff Meeting 9:00  
Adult Choir 6:00

##### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 25**

\*Young Adults Group 7:00

##### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 26**

\*Cheeses With Jesus 6:30

##### **SATURDAY, AUGUST 27**

\*Property Work Day 8:30

##### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 28**

Worship 8:30, 9:00 and 11:00  
\*Young Adults Lunch 11:15  
\*FWYC Dinner 4:00  
Youth KickOff Event 5:00

\* Denotes announcement in bulletin

### Basic Texts and Stories to Learn as a Disciple of Jesus

"The life of the church today is impoverished by a loss of Christian memory... It is difficult to see how the church can pass on the faith from generation to generation without becoming familiar or committing to memory some of the basic texts and stories." (John Leith)

Here are some suggestions from for basic texts and stories to be learned by Christians as part of their core curriculum.  
(from John Leith and Jody Welker)

The 10 Commandments

Psalm 23

Micah 6:6-8

The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13 or Luke 11:2-4)

The Great Commandment (Matthew 22: 36-40 or Luke 10:25-28)

Matthew 6:25-34 (Do not worry about your life...today's trouble, sufficient for the day)

Luke 15

John 3:16

John 14:1-7 (Do not let your hearts be troubled)

Romans 8:28-39

1 Corinthians 13

Luke 15 (especially the story of the prodigal son)

And Micah 6:6-8 (What does the Lord require of you?)

Creeeds: The Apostles and Nicene Creed

