

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

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

**JANUARY 1, 2023**

**11:00 A.M.**

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

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

**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**                      *Come Down, O Love Divine*                      arr. D. Burton

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**                      Psalm 91:1-4a

O Sing to the Lord a new song;

**Sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

Sing to the Lord, bless God's name;

**Tell of God's salvation from day to day.**

Declare God's Glory among the nations,

**The Lord's marvelous works among all the peoples.**

For great is the Lord,

**And greatly to be praised.**

**\* OPENING HYMN**                      *New Year's Hymn*                      CAROLYN WINFREY GILLETTE

*(Tune: Hymn to Joy)*

**On this day of celebration, at this time when hopes are new,  
God, we gather as your people, called to put our trust in you.  
You have made the world we live in; you have worked through history.  
In your plan we find our purpose, in your love, our unity.**

**Long ago, you sent our Savior to this world in deep despair.  
In your Word made flesh you came, our life to know, our sins to bear.  
Christ has died and Christ is risen! At this new year we proclaim:  
Yesterday, today, forever-- Jesus Christ is still the same!**

**Through two thousand years of changes, through these passing centuries,  
You have called your church to witness to Christ's love that claims and  
frees.**

**Each new generation hears you, each must find a fresh new way  
To make known the life you offer, to the people in their day.**

**On this day, we pause and wonder what the future years will bring,  
Yet we know you clothe each flower and you make each sparrow sing.  
How much more will you protect us with your guiding, caring hand!  
By your Spirit, lead us boldly in the future you have planned.**

**\* CALL TO CONFESSION**

Prepare the Way of the Lord!

Let us make our confession to God.

\* **NEW YEAR'S PRAYER** (*RESPONSIVE*)  
Loving God, maker of heaven and earth  
We join together this morning to praise you.  
**We enter your gates with thanksgiving  
And into your courts with praise.**

You are eternal with no beginning or end.  
You made us, and you are working your purposes out  
in our world and our lives.  
**Know that the Lord is God.**

We praise you in this New Year.  
We praise you that whatever the future holds,  
we know that it is held in your hands.  
**The Lord is God. He made us and we are his.**

We look back at this past year.  
We see that you have been with us,  
provided for us and led us in your ways.  
**We are your people  
and the flock for which you provide.**

We praise you for Jesus Christ.  
We have celebrated at Christmas that you became one of us.  
You pitched your tent in our neighborhood;  
That you live amongst us  
and showed us your great love and mercy,  
that you gave your life for ours  
paying the price for all we have done wrong,  
and in being raised to life again  
have given us fresh beginnings and new life in you.  
**For the Lord is good.**

We look forward to this new year.  
Unable to see beyond the next bend or over the horizon,  
yet we prepared to follow you our times are in your hands.  
**The steadfast love of the lord endures forever  
His faithfulness to all generations.**

We confess our sins to you.  
We have done what we should not do  
and left undone what we should do.  
We have either thought too highly of ourselves  
and not cared enough for others, or  
we have thought too little of ourselves  
and allowed ourselves to be written off as worthless.  
**Forgive us, Lord.**

As we have confessed our sins,  
God is faithful and just  
and has forgiven us our sins  
and cleansed us from all unrighteousness.  
**We give thanks and bless your name.**

Thank you that you send your spirit upon us  
to lead us into all truth  
and to empower us to live and witness to you.  
May we be filled afresh this new year  
to follow you more closely  
and share your love with the world around us.

**We worship the Lord with gladness.**  
In whose name we pray. Amen.



and to shape us in Your image.  
But we did not have time for You.  
    preferring to spend our days chasing sin,  
    and our nights seeking death.  
You always made time for us  
speaking of Your hopes  
    through the prophets  
sharing Your dreams  
    through the angels.  
Then, one day You decided  
to do a new thing,  
becoming one of us  
as Jesus became human  
to bring hope and grace to us.

So we join the saints of heaven  
and our sisters and brothers on earth  
who sing your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of every time and space.  
All creation sings of Your majesty and glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who gives us the water of life.  
Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are You, Keeper of our days,  
and blessed is Jesus Christ,  
who is with us in every season of life.  
He comes, not to judge us,  
    but to forgive us.  
He comes, not to cast us out,  
    but to gather us into the new Jerusalem;  
He comes, not to watch us suffer,  
    but to die on the cross,  
    that we might live with You.

**Christ died, so sin would have no more power over us;  
Christ rose, destroying death's grip on us;  
when the new heaven and new earth come,  
    Christ will make all things, including us, new.**

In these sacred moments,  
send Your Spirit  
to sanctify the bread and the cup,  
and to open the hearts  
of those who approach the Table.  
As the Bread of life touches our lips,  
    may we be strengthened to serve  
    those whom the world has forgotten.

As the Cup of salvation quenches our thirst for You,  
    may we be enabled to bring relief  
    to those who wander  
    the desert wastes of our society.

And when all time ends,  
and all people are gathered  
around Your Table in Heaven,  
we will rejoice in Your presence,  
and sing your praises forever;  
one God, Father, Son, and  
Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

**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.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

*We have two means by which to receive communion. As you come forward you may receive communion by intinction or you may receive a prepackaged individual serving of a gluten-free wafer with grape juice. You are invited to come forward, then return to your seat. We ask those with prepackaged servings to dispose of your kit as you exit the sanctuary. If you are a visitor, we welcome you and invite you to follow the example of the members of the congregation as to when to come forward and how to return. To request assistance opening your communion kits, or to receive a kit at your seat, please raise your hand and a server will come to you.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**SENDING**

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

\* **INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

\* **HYMN**                    *Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot*                    Burns/DeBevoise

**Should Auld Acquaintance Be Forgot, And Never Brought to Mind  
The Fellowship of Christian Faith, Is Sustained By Love Divine  
For Auld Lang Syne My Friend, For Auld Lang Syne,  
The Fellowship of Christian Faith, Is Sustained by Love Divine.**

**For Christ is Lord of Earth and Space, And Christ is Lord of Time  
From Everlasting Thou Art God, Since Days of Auld Lang Syne,  
For Auld Lang Syne My Friend, Since Days of Auld Lang Syne  
From Everlasting Thou Art God, Since Days of Auld Lang Syne.**

\* **BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**                    *Postlude on AZMON*                    R. Williamson

**TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

The Reverend Jody Welker

The Reverend Marie Mainard O'Connell

Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts

Jón Stevenson, Director of SPC Small Ensemble

Adam Savacool, Organist

Clint Brockway, Interpreter

Liturgist: Sandra Rogers

Elder of the Day: Cotten Cunningham

Communion Servers: Nancy Hamlin, Ruth Shepherd, Diane Skinner, Jean Kohler,

Leah and Phillip Shell, Sharon Downs, Peggy Sullivan, Anne Brantley

Ushers: Carol Young, Christina Littlejohn, Judy Johnson, Kathy Johnson,

Johanna Lewis, Jo Paulus

*New Year's Hymn: Published in **Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship** by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Copyright © 1999 All rights reserved.*

**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**

*The Light of Christ will remain present in lights and nativity scenes in the sanctuary and around our building through our celebration of Epiphany on January 8. Join the magi in seeking out the Light of the World in the face of Christ here and elsewhere!*

Please notify the church office of hospitalizations, joys and concerns. 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, 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.



**2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE:** Those wishing to use weekly-dated envelopes may pick them up from one of the tables inside the Sanctuary doors.

**A WEATHER REMINDER:** Weekday church events are canceled and the church office is closed if the Little Rock Public Schools are canceled or dismissed due to weather.

**PRAY FOR OUR GLOBAL MISSION PARTNERS:** For several years, our congregation has supported the ministry of PC(USA) mission co-worker Dori Hjalmarson 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)).

**UPDATE FROM YOUR PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Your PNC is continuing its work. We are continuously evaluating applications/applicants and determining who we want to consider further. Please continue reaching out to your connections with other Presbyterian pastors or folks in the pastor community. Let them know we're looking, and let us know if you've got contacts we can reach out to. Again, if you visit a church in your travels and the pastor knocks your socks off, we'd love to have those recommendations. Continue to pray for us as we continue this search. **PNC Members:** Beth Sigler, Moderator, Greg Adams, Christina Littlejohn, Jim Marsh, Kathryn McMillan, Jennifer Rigsby, and Jón Stevenson.



We are currently receiving commitments to the 2023 annual stewardship campaign. We are off to a great start and have received estimates of giving and gifts totaling \$1,777,360. We encourage those who have not yet made a commitment to do so as a sign of your love for what God is doing in the life of Second Presbyterian Church. Every commitment makes a difference. We want to be able to maintain a vital and active ministry and compensate our staff fairly. Please prayerfully consider your support for your church.

If you have not made your commitment, there are four ways you can turn in your Estimate of Giving card:

- Place it in the offering plate on Sunday.
- Mail it to the church.
- Drop it off at the church office during the week.
- Complete it online through our church's website at [secondpreslr.org](http://secondpreslr.org) or with the QR code.



Estimate of Giving cards are on the tables in the back of the Sanctuary and in the church office.

**CHEESES WITH JESUS** will have two meetings in January: Jan. 14, 2023 7:00 p.m. at 5224 Hawthorne Drive, 72207 and Jan. 28, 2023 7:00 p.m. at #5 Berwyn Drive, 72227. We are an adult group in between 'young adult' and retiree. We pride ourselves on being inclusive: pairs and spares; with and without children; married, single, divorced; LGBTQ+. We are always delighted to meet new friends! Questions? Contact Catherine Allsbury ([catherineallsbury@secondpreslr.org](mailto:catherineallsbury@secondpreslr.org)).

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS:** God has led us to a new Director of Youth and Young Adults! Elizabeth Cahoon will be arriving in Little Rock with her husband Joel today! They have moved here from Annapolis, MD. Please join us in thanking God for bringing us together.

**WEDNESDAYS AT CHURCH FOR YOUTH AND KIDS (WACKY)** resumes January 11. This program is open to all Kindergarten through Twelfth Graders and runs from 5:00-7:30 p.m. With choir, bells, dinner and youth/children's activities, there's something for everyone! Come get WACKY with us. Friends and visitors are always welcome. See you soon! Interested in volunteering, or for more information, please contact Mary Ibis, [maryibis@secondpreslr.org](mailto:maryibis@secondpreslr.org) or (501) 412-1416.

**ADULT AND CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** will not meet today. Sunday school classes resume on January 8.

**SECOND HALL SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS:** Join us for our final session, "The Redemption of Scrooge" by Matt Rawle, on January 8 in Second Hall. Each class contains a short video and discussion on the imperative question—how, and why, can Scrooge be redeemed from his pride, greed, and envy? Led by Vernon Markham. Books are available for \$10 in the church office.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES:** Join these Adult Sunday School classes starting at 9:50 a.m.! Connections Cafe (Room 62) younger adults (20s to 40ish) gather to read excerpts of Brian McClaren's *Do I Stay Christian?* and craft a space of openness and acceptance for everyone's differing faith journey as emotions and questions arise during each person's effort to deconstruct and reconstruct a meaningful faith. No advance reading required, but books available! Adult Bible Study (Zoom and Library) with Graham Catlett continues *The Present Word* curriculum for discussion of biblical texts. Spiritual Nourishment (Zoom & Heritage Room) with Nancy Hicks continues to study *Being Belonging Doing: Balancing Your Three Greatest Needs* in their intimate and caring exploration of personal faith. For Zoom links and more information please contact Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell at [mariemo@secondpreslr.org](mailto:mariemo@secondpreslr.org).

**NEW SECOND HALL SHORT SERIES:** Start the new year off right with our first series on “The Meaning of Transitional Ministry.” If you asked the question, “when will we get a new pastor?” then this series is for you! Rev. Jody Welker will join us on his last Sunday, January 15, to reflect on his experience in a year of Interim Head Pastor. Then, newly retired professional interim Rev. Howard Reed will join us for two Sundays January 22 and 29 to discuss the theological underpinning of transitional ministry and the congregational response and responsibility in a season of change. Get answers to questions you may not realize you had, and discuss our path forward together.

**SECOND READERS RETURNS!** Join us Feb. 15 at 3:00 p.m. in person in Second Hall (Zoom by request only). Our group Second Readers is regathering with a new purpose: once we met to re-read familiar books from high school and secondary education; now we meet to read books that may provoke and encourage us to deeper thought about our current world. Leaders will still rise from among us to share a book that they found personally impactful, and we encourage readers – men and women, younger and older – to join us for an hour every third Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. (preferably in-person) to dialog about books, reading, and the impact it makes on our lives. Our first book will be led by Nancy Coleman, *Silent Spring Revolution* by David Brinkley. “Rachel Carson’s book *Silent Spring*, published in 1962, depicted how detrimental DDT was to living creatures. The exposé launched an ecological revolution. In intimate detail, Brinkley extrapolates on such epic events as the Donora (Pennsylvania) smog incident, JFK’s Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, Great Lakes preservation, the Santa Barbara oil spill, and the first Earth Day.” Discuss how one book changed science, politics, and activism forever, and its effects continue to reverberate today. Please contact Nancy Coleman ([nancycoleman01@comcast.net](mailto:nancycoleman01@comcast.net)) for more information.

**STEWPOINT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN THE NEW YEAR:** Stewpot is a daily meal ministry on the campus of First Presbyterian Church downtown, and our congregation provides significant financial and volunteer resources to make the ministry possible. During the pandemic, Stewpot to distributing sack lunches in a carry-out fashion, and this change was so well-received that the leadership has continued to serve in this way. One need are volunteers to help put together the sack lunches from 9:00-11:00 a.m. once a month. They are looking for new volunteers to serve once a month on the following times: 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays or 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> Thursdays. Another need Stewpot has is someone to deliver clothing from our church to the Stewpot clothes closet at First Pres. This job can be done anytime during work hours, typically every 4-6 weeks, and is typically small enough to fit into the back of an SUV or sedan style-trunk. If you are interested in serving in either of these capacities, please contact Lindy Vogado in the church office at [lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org](mailto:lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org).

#### **FAMILY AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY UPDATE**

**CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL:** We are on Christmas break and will return on January 8. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:** Young Adults (18-35ish) are invited to join us at our regular fellowship events. We meet on Sundays in the Narthex after the 11:00 a.m. worship service for lunch and discussion. We also meet offsite every other Thursday 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 [grantwildwright@secondpreslr.org](mailto:grantwildwright@secondpreslr.org).

**2023 SUNDAY FAMILY DINNERS:** Families with children are invited to dinners every other week (alternating with Sunday Evening SPY) at the home of the McCormack family. The next dinners will be held January 8, January 22, February 12, March 12 and 26, and April 23. Main dish provided, bring a side dish or dessert to share. The McCormacks’ address is 2 Northwest Ct. Little Rock, AR 72212. Contact Grant Wildwright with questions [grantwildwright@secondpreslr.org](mailto:grantwildwright@secondpreslr.org).



**CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF  
STEPHEN MINISTRY AT  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN!**  
*commissioned May, 1992*



If you or someone you know is hurting and you would like more information about receiving Stephen Ministry care  
-OR-

If you are interested in learning more about our upcoming Stephen Ministry training class, please contact any of our Stephen Leaders.

Kay Combs 501-517-5007  
Cathy Crass 501-951-5890  
Steve Dunnagan 501-590-9768  
Laurie Stueart 501-658-7966  
Jana Villemez 501-517-1474  
JoAnn McQuade, Grief Care  
Rev. Alisa Secrest 501-227-0000

**STEPHEN MINISTRY  
GIVING COMFORT, LIFTING SPIRITS**

**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.

**JANUARY WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS**

**8:30 A.M.**

**11:00 A.M.**

Johanna Lewis

Jo Paulus



**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, JANUARY 1**

*New Year's Day*

Worship 11:00

Basketball 12:00

**MONDAY, JANUARY 2**

Boy Scouts 7:00

Volleyball 7:00

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 3**

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00

Planned Giving 11:30

Ministry Meetings 5:00

Basketball Practice 6:30

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4**

Staff Meeting 9:00

Adult Choir 6:00

Belonging Ministry 7:00

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 5**

Basketball Practice 6:30

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 6**

Stephen Ministry Retreat 6:00

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 7**

Stephen Ministry Retreat 9:00

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 8**

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00

Newcomer Seminar 9:45

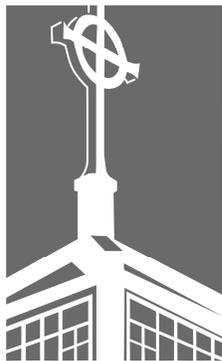
\*Family Dinner 4:00

MS and HS SPY 5:00

Basketball Practice 6:30

\* Denotes announcement in bulletin

# VISION STATEMENT



INVITED  
BY CHRIST  
IMPACTING  
THE WORLD  
INCLUSIVE  
OF ALL

## CHURCH OFFICERS

### SESSION

Moderator: Jody Welker  
Clerk: Philip Shell  
Assistant Clerk: George Keck  
Treasurer: Kenneth Rich

### CLASS OF 2023

Bracy Cross  
Kim Dunnagan  
Susan Marsh  
Garry Mertins  
John Ransom

### CLASS OF 2024

Marge Anna Luttrell  
Barry McVinney  
Somerset Sea  
Joseph Yancey  
Carol Young

### CLASS OF 2025

Alicia Byrd  
Cotten Cunningham  
Kate Franks  
George Keck  
Vernon Markham

### YOUTH ELDER

Eli Gomez

### DIACONATE

Moderator: Chris Boggs  
Vice Moderator: Marsha Taylor  
Secretary: Jennifer Rigsby

### CLASS OF 2023

George Babb  
Abby Considine  
Anne Grimes  
Natasha Graf  
Chris Herring  
Alex Honeycutt  
Amy Lallier  
Brother Nipper  
Jennifer Rigsby  
Bob Skinner  
Linda Van Hook

### CLASS OF 2024

Chris Boggs  
Amber Griffin  
Christin Hankins  
Diane Holt  
Kathryn Hyde  
Katie King  
Ann Norwood  
Shannon Rookey  
Marsha Taylor

### CLASS OF 2025

Lauren Gann  
Jamie Gomez  
Freddie Jolley  
Diane Karlson  
Johanna Lewis  
Jo Paulus  
Ashton Pickell  
Scott Polk  
Margo Shoffner  
Becky Talmadge  
Dan Voth  
Galen Wenger  
Bradley Wright

### YOUTH DEACON

Eli Eifling