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Please ask an usher.**

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**

FEBRUARY 26, 2023

8:30 AND 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

Please take the red friendship pad, sign your name, pass it down the pew and note the names of those worshipping with you. We encourage visitors to share your contact information so that we may welcome you more fully.

PRELUDE

Voluntary on Herzliebster Jesu

D. Lasky

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

God calls us to be builders as well.

God calls us to build our lives:

to restore broken places and continue to grow.

God calls us to build our faith:

to study the Word and ponder its interpretation.

God calls us to build our community:

to build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.

God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture:

to preach the good news of God's love and liberation for all people.

*** HYMN NO. 463**

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

God of our Restoration, whenever we come home to you, we realize how far we have strayed and how much we have forgotten of your law and your love. We have not loved you with our whole hearts or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, heal us, and restore us to our relationship with you; through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

During Lent, we pour water into the font of baptism to remind us that we are pardoned, cleansed, and renewed. These waters assure us of God's forgiveness, and remind us that, in Christ, barriers such as race, status, and gender are overcome, and we are called to seek reconciliation with others.

Hear the good news!

As people born of the water and the Spirit,

we have died to the old life, and a new life has begun.

God's grace is poured out on us day by day.

Behold the water and remember your baptism.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

The Reverend Doctor Teri Ott
The Reverend Doctor Randy Hyde
The Reverend Lindy Vogado
The Reverend Alisa Secrest
The Reverend Marie Mainard O'Connell
Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts
Adam Savacool, Organist
Clint Brockway, Interpreter
Liturgists: (8:30) Ann Owen (11:00) Eli Gomez
Elders of the Day: (8:30) Kim Dunnagan (11:00) Marge Anna Luttrell
Greeter: (11:00) Fred VanHook
Ushers: (8:30) Dan, Chrissy, Clara and Ezra Voth
(11:00) Marsha Taylor, Justin Villines, Marge Anna Luttrell, Diane Karlson,
Linda VanHook, Kathy Johnson, Cynthia Hester, Diane Holt, Peggy Marshall

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*Our 11:00 a.m. worship is video recorded and shared live online.
Please be aware that your image may be recorded and stored.*

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.

OFFERINGS TO 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 2023 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 or mailing a check to the church office, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72227.



DID YOU MISS ONE OF THE SERMONS? If so, you can watch past worship services on the church website at secondpreslr.org. 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.

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.

OUT OF THE OFFICE: Alisa Secrest will be away for continuing education from February 28 through March 6. Please report joys and concerns to the office or a pastor.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH (SPY) UPDATE

YOUTH GROUP IS BACK! We look forward to welcoming all 6th-12th graders to Sunday Night Youth Group with SPY! We meet in the Youth Building on Sundays from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Come and enjoy dinner, games, fellowship, and discipleship!

THIS MORNING IN WORSHIP we welcome the Rev. Dr. Teri McDowell Ott as guest preacher. Dr. Ott is the editor/publisher of *Presbyterian Outlook*, an independent news magazine focusing on PC(USA) news and resources. For decades, *Presbyterian Outlook* has been a leading forum in denominational conversations, and we are excited for Dr. Ott to be joining us this morning. Before she became editor/publisher of *Presbyterian Outlook* in June 2021, Dr. Ott served as the Dean of Chapel at Monmouth College and on the staff of churches in South Carolina and North Carolina. She is the author of *Necessary Risks: Challenges Privileged People Need to Face*. She will also be serving as the Farmer Lecture Series speaker at the University of the Ozarks next week. Welcome, Dr. Teri Ott!

THE (NOT ON MOTHER'S DAY) CHILDREN'S SPRING MUSICAL: Our Children's Choir will begin working on a musical we started in 2020 with online Zoom choir rehearsals and hoping the world would re-open "soon." It's awesome to dust this score off and invite a new group of kids to come and enjoy the process of making fun musical story telling happen. We have a great time and would love to include even more kids. All Kindergarten through Fifth Graders are invited to join us. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings during our WACKY program. (5:00-7:30 p.m.) For more information, please contact Mary Ibis at maryibis@secondpreslr.org.

AFGHAN WELCOME UPDATE: We need some tax help! Our U.S. tax system isn't easy to navigate when one is a native English speaker familiar with the process so it is especially complicated when language and cultural barriers are present. We are looking for one or two volunteers who might help our second family organize their records and information in order to work with a professional tax preparer. A background in finance or accounting would be ideal but others may also be able to provide helpful support. If you might be able to help with this short term need, please contact Lindy Vogado at 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.

CHEESES WITH JESUS will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting is March 8, 7:00 p.m. at #5 Berwyn Drive. We will begin our study of The Difficult Words of Jesus, by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, with chapter 1: *Sell What You Own*. Dr. Levine challenges us to take a look at sayings that make us squirm (e.g., "sell all that you have and give to the poor"), when we would rather move on to kinder, gentler words of Jesus. We are an LBGTQ+ friendly adult group for those in between "young adult" and retiree. We are always glad to meet new friends! For more information contact Catherine Allsbury (catherineallsbury@secondpreslr.org).

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Faith and Grief support group meets every third Tuesday in Second Hall at noon. Our next meeting will be March 21 at noon. This is a monthly community gathering of support and comfort. Join at any time. There is no cost, but we appreciate a good will offering of \$8 to cover the cost of lunch. Please register through faithandgrief.org or through the church office, so we can have plenty of lunches available.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
600 PLEASANT VALLEY DRIVE
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72227
CARE & CONCERN LINE: (501) 227-6117
WWW.SECONDPRESLR.ORG
OFFICE: (501) 227-0000
FAX: (501) 227-6513

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: Young Adults (18-35ish) are invited to join us at our regular fellowship events. We meet on Sundays in the back of the sanctuary after the 11:00 a.m. worship service for lunch and discussion. We have Trivia Night on the first and third Thursday of the month and Bible Study on the second and fourth Thursday of the month. (7:00 p.m.) Contact Elizabeth Cahoon (elizabethcahoon@secondpreslr.org) to inquire about these events or to get on our mailing list to find out about special events.

SECOND HALL SHORT SERIES

Second Hall and Zoom

February 26-April 9

Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts and Outlaws

Join us for a new Lenten book and video series by acclaimed pastor and author Adam Hamilton which explores the life of Jesus as told by the Gospel of Luke. Throughout Jesus' ministry we find stories of his relationships with ordinary, flawed, and unexpected people. He met, dined, and traveled with people who were not perfect; some were outsiders, even outlaws. From those he healed to the criminals at his crucifixion, Jesus brought the good news of God's kingdom to those who needed to hear it. We will see Jesus' concern for those who were considered unimportant, and hear a hopeful word for our lives today. The first week is led by Rev. Marie. Books are now available in the church office for \$10.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Connections Class (Room 62) This laid back, conversational class discusses life, family, parenting, current events and everything in between as we discover our stories together. We are "reconstructing" faith informed by the book The Heart of Christianity by Marcus Borg. No pre-reading needed; quotes provided!

Seeking More Light (Room 67 and Zoom) is an open and affirming class that strives to learn from all kinds of people, currently discussing Diana Butler Bass' book Grounded: Finding God in the World-A Spiritual Revolution, available in the office for \$10.

Adult Bible Study (starts early at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom only, Meeting ID 395 818 9248, password: second) with Graham Catlett continues The Present Word curriculum for discussion of Biblical Texts. Perfect for those at home or out of town!

Spiritual Nourishment (Zoom and Heritage Room) with Nancy Hicks continues to study The Book of Forgiving by Desmond Tutu in their intimate and caring exploration of personal faith.

Lenten Daily Text Devotional from now until Easter Sunday. Explore the Gospel of Luke as inspired by Adam Hamilton's book Luke: Jesus and the Outcasts, Outsiders and Outlaws. Each morning receive a brief scripture and reflection on the life of Christ that led him to the cross and resurrection. Use the QR Code or text "devotional" to Pastor Marie at 214-686-6347.



For Zoom links and more information please contact Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell at mariemo@secondpreslr.org.

MIDWEEK ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

to enliven your faith during the week.

Tuesday Men's Group Ministry: each Tuesday at 7:00 a.m., men gather in Second Hall and Zoom for encouragement, support, and bible study. Free donuts and coffee! Discussions center on the sermon text used by the Transitional Pastor, Randy Hyde.

First and Third Monday Morning Bible Study meets Monday, March 6 at 9:30 a.m. in Second Hall to discuss Eugene Peterson's classic spiritual guide [A Long Obedience in the Same Direction: Discipleship in an Instant Society](#) with special guest lecturer Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry (yes, Catherine Lowry's son, pastor of Westover Hills Presbyterian Church).

Presbyterian Women Tuesdays: Join us March 14 for our monthly Gathering at 10:30 a.m. in Second Hall, focused on our Bible Study [Celebrating Sabbath: Sabbath and Self Care](#). Join us Third Tuesdays for PW Service day, March 21, 9:00 a.m. to noon at Ferncliff's Disaster Assistance Center for quality checking and creating disaster kits.

Bless This Lent intergenerational adult group is meeting Wednesdays starting March 1 in members' homes from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Devotionals are available in the Narthex, and books online or by request to Pastor Marie; this delightful small group shares a light meal and conversation inspired by the new book [The Lives We Actually Have: 100 Blessings for Imperfect Days](#) by Kate Bowler. RSVP to Betsy Eldridge at (same info as before). Childcare available 5:00-7:30 p.m. at the church.

Second Readers has returned with a passion for books that surprise, inspire, and help us grow! Join us on Third Wednesdays; March 15 at 3:00 p.m. in the Library for our next book [Born a Crime](#) by Trevor Noah, this month led by Carol Young, who found this book funny, insightful, and tragic regarding the impact of racism in South Africa and beyond.

Young Adult Bible Study meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Building. We're for folks 18-20s interested in deeper biblical understanding, currently reading [Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World](#) (book provided!). We're using this inspiring study to see how we can find holy space in our hectic lives, a time for rest and healing together. Contact Elizabeth Cahoon at elizabethcahoon@secondpreslr.org for more information.

Presbytery Partner Midweek Manna Bible Study meets Wednesdays from 12:05-12:55 p.m. in the underground chapel of Westover Hills Presbyterian Church and by Zoom. Attendees are invited to bring lunch and join in the conversation, currently on the book of Romans, led by Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry.

For more information, Zoom address, and questions please contact Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell at 214-686-6347 and mariemo@secondpreslr.org.

FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATE

Join us for **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** at 9:50 a.m. every Sunday. Preschoolers meet in the nursery area behind the Sanctuary, and Elementary-aged children meet in Bible Village, on the far side of the church from the main entry. Contact Grant Wildwright for more information at grantwildwright@secondpreslr.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND SHEPHERDS NEEDED! If you are interested in teaching children or youth Sunday School, the spring semester is a great time to start. Whether you're an experienced teacher ready to plan lessons from our curriculum, or you would rather hang out with the kids in a supporting role on a Sunday or two, we'd love to have you in Bible Village and Preschool Sunday School. To learn more, contact Grant Wildwright at grantwildwright@secondpreslr.org.

2023 SUNDAY FAMILY DINNERS: Families with children are invited to dinners at the home of the McCormack family. The next dinners will be held March 12, March 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).

MARCH 10-11: OUR WHOLE LIVES WORKSHOP (5th-8th grade) 7:00-9:00 p.m. Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Saturday, Youth Building.



**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.

MARCH WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

Bob Skinner

11:00 A.M.

Chris Herring

Galen Wenger



**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, FEBRUARY 26

Confirmation Retreat
Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
*Young Adults Lunch 12:15
Basketball Practice 4:00
*MS and HS SPY 6:00
Praeclara Ringers 6:00

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Day Ringers 12:00
Pastoral Care 1:30
Stephen Ministry Supervision 6:00
Boy Scouts 7:00
Volleyball 7:00

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00
PW Coordinating Team 1:00
Basketball Practice 6:30

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

Staff Meeting 9:00
*WACKY 5:00
*Small Group Lenten Study 5:30
Adult Choir 6:00
Belonging Ministry 7:00

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

Dementia Caregivers Support Group
1:00
Basketball Practice 6:30
*Young Adult Trivia 7:00

FRIDAY, MARCH 3

Basketball Practice 6:30

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
*Young Adults Lunch 12:15
Friends at Home Communion 1:30
Basketball Practice 4:00
*MS and HS SPY 6:00
Praeclara Ringers 6:00

* Denotes announcement in bulletin

<p style="text-align: center;">SUGGESTIONS ARE WELCOME FOR ELDERS AND DEACONS</p>
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Please help the Nominating Committee with your ideas of members of Second Presbyterian to serve as elders and deacons for the Class of 2026. The Nominating Committee is a representative one, made up of members who have been selected to serve on this Nominating Committee from the following Church groups: the Session (two), the Diaconate (two), Presbyterian Women, Adult Sunday School, Youth Ministry, the Choir, and two members-at-large. This Committee will nominate a slate of officers to be voted upon at a Congregational Meeting in March.

Every officer will bring different talents and knowledge to the position, but it is hoped that everyone nominated will have an understanding of and commitment to Presbyterian government, a spirit of cooperation, a maturity of judgment, and a willingness to commit the time and effort necessary to fulfill the varied responsibilities of the elders and deacons of the Class of 2026. Above all, all will bring evidences of grace and compassion that are rooted in the Christian ethic in everyday life, and a deep love and commitment to God and this particular church.

After giving prayerful consideration, please fill out this form and turn it into the Church office or place it in the offering plate. All suggestions will be given careful consideration.

YOUR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joseph Yancey, Kate Franks, Marsha Taylor, Freddie Jolley, Charles Allen, Anne Brantley, Don Hollingsworth, Maggie Kirchner, Lindy Vogado

**RECOMMEDATION FOR
ELDERS AND DEACONS
CLASS OF 2026**

I suggest the name of _____
to serve as an elder.

I suggest the name of _____
to serve as a deacon.

(The committee needs further information to help decide, among the names suggested, which to nominate this year. To help them, please check those areas in which you feel this person is strongly qualified, and make any comment on these or other areas that would be helpful to the Committee.)

Church Involvement:

- Regular attendance at public worship
- Active participation in other church activities
- Offices held (Please list under comments.)
- Services rendered (Please list under comments.)
- Willingness to commit to Presbyterian heritage and form of gov't

Christian Living in Daily Life:

- within the family
- in the work place
- in the community

Personal Characteristics and Skills:

- Strong faith
- Grace and compassion
- Willingness to devote the time and effort
- Cooperativeness
- Patience
- Willingness to learn
- Openness to new ideas
- Maturity of judgment
- Ability to follow through on tasks

Why, in your opinion, would this person be a good officer? _____

In what activities, in or outside the church, have you worked with this person and what was your experience?

Signature _____