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Please ask an usher.**

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

MARCH 19, 2023

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

Please leave a record of your attendance. At 11:00, take the red friendship pad, sign your name, and pass it down the pew and back, noting the names of those worshipping with you. At 8:30, complete the yellow card and place it in the offering plate. We encourage our guests to share your information that we might be aware of your presence with us.

PRELUDE

This Is My Father's World

arr. D. Wood

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

God does not see as mortals see.

1 Sam. 16:7

We look on the outward appearance;

God looks on the heart.

Jesus, Light of the World,

John 9:5

give us eyes to see as you see!

Once we lived in darkness, but now –

Eph. 5:8-9

as children of light, we are called

to what is good and right and true.

Jesus, Light of the World,

give us eyes to see as you see!

*** HYMN NO. 610**

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

As children of God's light

Eph. 5:8-9

we are called to do what is pleasing to the Lord:

to participate in what is good and right and true,

and expose what is unfruitful and evil.

Knowing that we turn from the light,

we bring our confession to God

so that what is hidden in us becomes visible,

and the shadows of our hearts may be illumined by grace.

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

Gracious God,

we are people who still love darkness rather than light.

John 3:19

We keep shameful deeds secret,

Eph. 5:12

but flaunt our occasional acts of virtue.

We see ourselves as blameless,

but pass judgment on others.

We do not stand firmly enough with those who

are vulnerable,

John 9:21-22

but step back, protecting ourselves.

Forgive us, we pray.

Bring us into your light that we may

see ourselves rightly.

Bring us into your light that we may
know ourselves loved.

Bring us into your light that we may
live more fruitful lives.

Eph. 5:9-14b

Keep raising us, we pray, from the deadness of sin,
and shine upon us with your grace.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,
the light of the world. Amen.

(Silent Confession)

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer -
cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

* 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.

* 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

ANTHEM *Be Thou My Vision* arr. Parker
SPC Chamber Choir

SCRIPTURE READING *JOHN 9:1-41* NT, PP. 102-103

SERMON *WHAT JESUS SAID...ABOUT SIGHT* Randy Hyde

* HYMN NO. 649 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* AMAZING GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*UNISON*)

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.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MARCH 26: The Session has called a congregational meeting following each of the services next Sunday, March 26, 2023, for the purpose of approving the terms of call for Rev. Lindy Vogado and Rev. Alisa Secrest, and for the election of Elders and Deacons for the Class of 2026.

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.

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.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN IN SERVICE: We encourage Presbyterian Women to attend the Together-in-Service, Tuesday, March 21, 9:30 a.m. at Ferncliff. Those desiring to carpool may meet at the church parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

UPDATE FROM THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The Pastor search is ongoing! We are continuously evaluating applications/applicants, and we have begun some initial interviews. We believe we have some very good candidates, and hopefully one of them is the one God is calling to be our Head of Staff. Remember, we are working on God's timeline and trying to hear His voice in the process. Please continue to pray for us as we continue this search. PNC Members: Beth Sigler-Moderator, Greg Adams, Christina Littlejohn, Jim Marsh, Kathryn McMillian, Jennifer Rigsby, and Jón Stevenson.

THE 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.

CHEESES WITH JESUS will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Our next meeting is March 22, 7:00 p.m. at 5224 Hawthorne Road. We will continue our study of The Difficult Words of Jesus, by Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. 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 LGBTQ+ 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).

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE TOUR: On April 14, 2023 from 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., tour with us three mid-century modern churches just north of the river. Enjoy fellowship, lunch and an architectural tour hosted by our very own Ralph Wilcox and the Heritage Committee. There's no charge except for your lunch costs. Please register on the church website, with the QR code or through the office by April 7.



EASTER BREAKFAST APRIL 9: Don't miss terrific fellowship and a scrumptious breakfast menu offered by our own Brenda Majors on Easter morning, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Register in the Narthex, on the church website or using the QR code next to this announcement. \$9.00 per plate, up to \$28 per household.



LIFEQUEST SPRING TERM REGISTRATION IS OPEN! Registrations may be made in the LifeQuest Office at Second Presbyterian Church, over the phone at 501-225-6073, or online at lifequestofarkansas.org. The Spring Term begins April 3 with 45 classes taught by 90+ volunteers! We're excited to have so many LifeQuest members and new enrollees attend classes in-person and online. Special note: Rev. Steve Hancock will be teaching an online class titled *Learning Prayer* on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. It will run for eight weeks.

INTRODUCTION TO SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: TOURS AND TRADITIONS: Join Catherine Allsbury TODAY at 9:45 a.m. for a walking tour of the church campus. This session will show the ways in which the vision for ministry of Second Presbyterian Church is carried out through our buildings, grounds, sanctuary and classrooms. Join us to learn about the church family of Second Presbyterian Church, and to meet some new friends. There will also be time for coffee and refreshments! Please meet at the front of the sanctuary. For more information, contact Catherine at catherineallsbury@secondpreslr.org.

SECOND HALL SHORT SERIES

Second Hall and Zoom

Sunday mornings at 9:50 a.m. through April 2

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. From those he healed to the criminals at his crucifixion, Jesus brought the good news of God's kingdom to those who were considered unimportant. On March 19, our leader is Vernon Markham, and on March 26, Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell will be the leader.

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 taking a few weeks to explore the book The Four Agreements by Miguel Ruiz with our guest leader Laura Campbell. Based on Toltec wisdom, The Four Agreements offer a code of conduct to transform our lives with a new experience of freedom, true happiness and love.

Seeking More Light (Room 67 and Zoom) is a diverse and affirming group aiming to stretch our theology and practices of welcome, now studying White Too Long by Robert Jones, a provocative examination of the unholy relationship between American Christianity and white supremacy. Books are available in the church 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! Printed or digital curriculum available at no cost.

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.

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

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 20 at 9:30 a.m. in Second Hall. Our next book with guest lecturer Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry will be Eugene Peterson's Tell It Slant: A Conversation on the Language of Jesus in His Stories and Prayers. Books are available in the office for \$15.

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.

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.

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 dinner will be held today, March 12, and then again on March 26 and April 2. 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).

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: Young Adults 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

For more information please contact Elizabeth Cahoon
elizabethcahoon@secondpreslr.org

Sunday School meets every week from 9:50-10:50 a.m. in the Youth Building. There are separate classes for our high and middle schoolers.

SPY Youth Group meets every week from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Youth Building for free dinner, devotional time, and games. New friends are always welcome!

Check out our new weekly **newsletter** via email. If you are not receiving this in your inbox, please contact Sharon Howard, sharonhoward@secondpreslr.org.

Confirmands will be visiting Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, Little Rock today, March 12, as part of their faith discipleship and exploration. This winter they have previously visited St. Mark's Baptist Church, Madina Institute, and Temple B'nai Israel.

Important Dates:

March 19 | Breakfast Party @ Sunday School

March 19 | No SPY Youth Group

March 26 | Breakfast Party @ Sunday School

March 26 | SPY Youth Group will be meeting at Urban Air Adventure Park, please bring \$20 and sign liability waiver (found in newsletter)

April 30 | Movie Night in Youth Building, showing *Aquaman (2018)*

Middle School Mission Camp registration is open! A local mission camp for middle schoolers from July 31-August 4. For more information please scan this QR Code.



High School Mission Camp registration is open! A local mission camp for high schoolers from August 7-11. For more information please scan this QR Code.



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



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

– Romans 8:28a

**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

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, MARCH 19

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
*Young Adults Lunch 12:15

MONDAY, MARCH 20

*First and Third Monday Morning
Bible Study 9:30
Pastoral Care 1:30
Boy Scouts 7:00
Volleyball 7:00

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00
*PW Together in Service 9:00
*Faith and Grief 12:00
Session Meeting 7:00

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

Staff Meeting 9:00
*Small Group Lenten Study 5:30
Adult Choir 6:00
*Cheese With Jesus 7:00

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

*Young Adult Bible Study 7:00

FRIDAY, MARCH 24

SATURDAY, MARCH 25

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
*Young Adults Lunch 12:15
*Family Dinner 4:00
*MS and HS SPY 6:00
Praelara Ringers 6:00

* Denotes announcement in bulletin

EASTER LILY ORDER FORM



Easter is a time to remember the special people in our lives—those who have gone from us, and those who are still enriching our lives! Place an Easter lily in the sanctuary in their memory or in their honor. A list of those being honored and remembered and their donors will be printed as a special insert in the Easter bulletin. The cost per plant is \$15. Checks may be made out to

the church and marked “Lily Fund.” Fill out the form below and return it to the church, order online at secondpreslr.org or use the QR code. (A 3% processing fee applies to online orders.) The deadline for ordering lilies is Friday, March 31.

I/We would like to purchase _____ lily/lilies.

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____



PLEASE PRINT

In memory of

In honor of

Name(s) of donor(s)
