

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

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
PALM/PASSION SUNDAY**

APRIL 2, 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 (8:30)

WELCOME

At our 8:30 service, worshippers will enter the sanctuary after receiving their palm branches and take their seats in the pew. Worship will begin with our traditional order of worship. At our 11:00 service, worshippers will gather outside the sanctuary doors to receive their palm branches and await the Welcome, Prelude, and Call to Worship which will all take place in the narthex. During the first hymn, worshippers gathered in the narthex will process into the sanctuary waving palms before taking their seats in the pew. Hosanna!

PRELUDE

Carillon (8:30)

G. Young

We are Marching in the Light of God (11:00) S. African Traditional
SPC Adult Choir with SPC Youth Ensemble

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!

Let us give thanks for this day that leads to the cross.

Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs!

Let us fill the air with welcome to the Lord.

Blessed are those who come in the name of the Lord! *Psalm 118:26a*

*** HYMN NO. 196** *All Glory, Laud and Honor* VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

Let us come to this day of palms and passion
with honesty,
confessing our sins before God.

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

Holy God,

**sure of your faithfulness even in your dying,
comforted by your compassion toward your people in every age,
we beg your mercy for our imperfect gratitude.**

**We have looked to you for paltry favors,
when you have given everything.**

**We have withheld from your people, our neighbors,
and from your creation, our Earth,
the care and tending they deserve.**

**We have rejected the cornerstone you sent
to build a false wall of protective righteousness.** *Psalm 118:22*

Forgive our failings.

**Heal what we have broken,
nurture what we have neglected,
and lead us to your vision,**

**so that we may know the peace of wholeness in you;
in Jesus' name. 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	<i>O Clap Your Hands</i> SPC Adult Choir	J. Rutter
SCRIPTURE READING	<i>JOHN 12:12-19</i>	NT, P. 106
SERMON	<i>WHAT JESUS SAID... ABOUT SERVANTHOOD</i>	Randy Hyde

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (RESPONSIVE)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise.
Amid shouts of Hosanna,
your Son Jesus entered Jerusalem
for the redemption of the world.

Betrayed by friends,
 he accepted the shame of the cross.
 By his suffering and death
 he defeated the power of death
 becoming for us the source of eternal life.
 How wonderful are your ways, almighty God.
 How marvelous is your name, O Holy One.
 You alone are God.

Therefore we praise you,
 joining our voices with the choirs of heaven
 and with all the faithful of every time and place,
 who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly. Reign-ing God of
 pw'r and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry,
 All cre-a-tion seeks your light! Bless-ed is the One who
 comes in Your name. Bless-ed be the Lord most High!

We trust Jesus to overcome every power that can hurt or divide us
 and believe that when he comes in glory
 we will celebrate victory with him.
 Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus Christ,
 we offer you our praise,
 as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is ris - en;
 Christ the Lord will come a - gain.

Holy God, pour your Spirit on us,
 that we may know Christ in the breaking of bread,
 and that in word and deed,
 we may be channels of your love, peace, and justice
 in the world.

A - men. A - men.
 A - - men. A - men.

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.

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.



MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 6:00 P.M.: This service will include a simple meal, communion, hymns, scripture, foot washing, and a homily. Since a meal is included in this service, the kitchen staff needs to know how much food to prepare. The registration deadline is TODAY! Register here with the QR code or visit our website at secondpreslr.org.

EASTER BREAKFAST, APRIL 9: Don't miss celebratory fellowship and a scrumptious breakfast menu offered by our own Brenda Majors on Easter morning, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Please register in the Narthex, on the church website or by using the QR code by Wednesday, April 5. The cost is \$9.00 per plate, up to \$36 per household.



NO SUNDAY SCHOOL APRIL 9: There is no Sunday School scheduled for Easter Sunday, April 9. Please join us for the celebratory Easter Breakfast in the Great Hall.

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 April 18 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.

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.



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

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.

CHEESES WITH JESUS Our next meeting is on April 12 at 7:00 p.m., meeting at #5 Berwyn Drive. For our study we will discuss Chapter 3 (“Slave of All”) from *The Difficult Words of Jesus*, by Amy-Jill Levine. Slavery is not accepted in our current place and time. How do we interpret this saying of Jesus? For our spring mission project, we will be buying snacks for Teacher Appreciation Week at Bale Elementary School. We are an LGBTQ+ friendly adult group for those in between “young adult” and retiree. We are always glad to meet new friends!

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.



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 Lenten book by acclaimed pastor and author Adam Hamilton. 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. For our last session today, April 2, our leader is Vernon Markham.

On Sunday, April 16, Dr. Robert Williamson, professor of Religious Studies at Hendrix College, will begin a four-part lecture series into the themes and narratives that comprise the Bible’s “take” on economics and justice.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Connections Class (Room 62) This laid back, conversational class discusses life, family, parenting, current events and everything in between. We are exploring the book *The Four Agreements* by Miguel Ruiz with our guest leader Laura Campbell through the month of April. 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; no pre-reading required!

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.

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.

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 April 3 and April 17 in Second Hall at 9:30 a.m. to study Tell It Slant by Eugene Peterson with guest lecturer Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry. Books are available online, and we'll be covering chapters 3-5.

Presbyterian Women's Monthly Gathering for fellowship and Bible study is the second Tuesday of each month, and our next is April 11th! Join us in the Narthex at 10:00 a.m. for light refreshments, and at 10:30 a.m. in Second Hall for the study on "Sabbath and Mission" led by Rev. Lindy Vogado.

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 901-517-0296 and Bapple48@gmail.com.

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 mariemo@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.

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.

NEWCOMER DISCOVERY SEMINAR-LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER! Sunday, April 23, 9:35 a.m.-10:50 a.m. in the Church Library. Several times each year, we offer an introductory course as a ministry to those who are new to our church - including visitors and new members. Topics covered will give an overview of what we believe, as well as opportunities we offer to grow in faith and mission. We invite you to come get to know *us*, as well as *others* new to our church family.

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.

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. 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).

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.

Important Date:

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.

APRIL WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

Ann Norwood
Bob Skinner

11:00 A.M.

Bradley Wright
Ashton Pickell



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, APRIL 2

Palm Sunday

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

MONDAY, APRIL 3

Pastoral Care 1:30
Personnel Committee 4:30
Stephen Ministry Training 6:30
Boy Scouts 7:00
Volleyball 7:00

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

Dementia Caregiver Support Group
1:00
*Maundy Thursday Service 6:00
*Young Adult Bible Study 7:00

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Good Friday Service 7:00

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

Easter Vigil 9:00

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

Easter Sunday

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
*Easter Breakfast 9:00
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