#### THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**SEPTEMBER 3, 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 provide us 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	Prelude on DARWALL's 148 <sup>TH</sup>	P. Whitlock
*		vonderful works of God. ise to the God of all people. all the world. God is with us always.	Psalm 105

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand NATIONAL HYMN

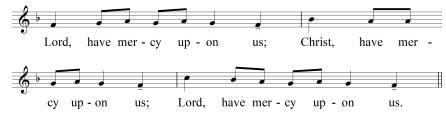
#### \* CALL TO CONFESSION

God appears to us in many ways. Still, we don't recognize the Divine. We are so often focused elsewhere. As people named God's beloved, let us bring our lack of focus before God in confession.

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

God of Mystery, we are constantly amazed by the depth and breadth of your love. And still we don't understand the radical nature of your grace. We play by our own rules of justice, even when it means excluding those we are called to love and defend. In our darkest moments, we doubt if we are worthy of your trust. God, help us remember that you give us all the tools we need; that through your love, we find strength to follow your call as true disciples of Jesus Christ. Surprise us again, O God. (Silent confession)

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON Hear the good news! God has promised to be with us throughout all generations. God never stops reaching out to us in big and small ways. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

\* **PASSING OF THE PEACE** (*RESPONSIVE*) As God has forgiven us so we are called to forgive one another and to be at peace with one another. The grace and peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.** Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

#### **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

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

#### TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

ANTHEM	My Song Forever Shall Record Janette Robinson, soprano	M. Praetorious
SCRIPTURE READING	EXODUS 3:1-15	ot, p. 50
SERMON	Awe and Wonder	Alisa Secrest

#### **Responding to God's Word**

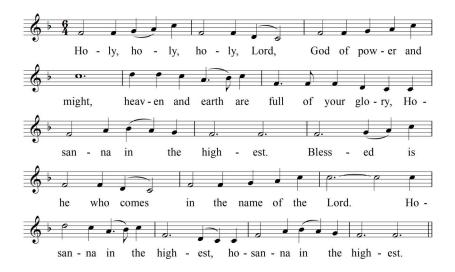
The proclamation of God's Word invites responses of faith.

## 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. You are our God, and we are creatures of your hand. You made us from the dust of the earth, breathed into us the breath of life, and set us in your world to love and serve you. When we rejected your love and ignored your wisdom, you did not reject us. You loved us still and called us to turn again to you in obedience and in love.

> Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place.



You are holy, O God of majesty, And blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Out of your great love for the world, you sent Jesus among us to set us free from the tyranny of evil. He lived as one of us, sharing our joys and sorrows. By his dying and rising, he releases us from bondage to sin and frees us from the dominion of death.



Gracious God,

pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and cup, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, Send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.



#### 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.

#### 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 our guest, 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.

Cantilène

#### **COMMUNION MUSIC**

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

#### **OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS**

OFFERTORY

G. Pierné

OLD HUNDREDTH

\* DOXOLOGY 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. 329 God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength WINCHESTER OLD
- \* **BENEDICTION**
- \* POSTLUDE

Prélude

G. Pierné

#### **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

The Reverend Alisa Secrest The Reverend Marie Mainard O'Connell Elizabeth Cahoon, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts Adam Savacool, Organist Clint Brockway, Interpreter Liturgists: (8:30) Leon Lants (11:00) Ansley Fleming Elders of the Day: (8:30) Ruth Shepherd (11:00) Mary Helen Henry Communion Servers: (8:30) Nancy Hamlin, Jean Kohler, Aileen Moore, Kathy and Jim Wilkins (11:00) Gwin and Cotten Cunningham, Johanna Lewis, Melissa Hendricks, Mary Helen Henry, Chris Herring, George Keck, David Eifling Ushers: (8:30) Mary Carole and Scott Polk, Diane and Bob Skinner (11:00) Zachary Ward and Allison Mundy-Ward, Lisa and Katie Mundy, Annie and Christian Grimes

> 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 secondpresh.org. To receive a copy of a sermon either by e-mail or regular mail, contact Karin Howze, karinhowze@secondpresh.org or (501) 227-0000. Printed copies are available in the Narthex and the church office.

**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.

**DEMENTIA CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP:** Gather for support, resources and sharing of experiences when you have a loved one experiencing dementia. This support group will meet **Thursday, September 7** at 1:00 p.m. in person and on Zoom. For information, contact the office or Sandra Rogers.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP:** Faith and Grief support group meets the third Tuesday of the month in Second Hall at noon. The next meeting is **Tuesday, September 19**. 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.

**BEN KANE WELCOME RECEPTION:** On Sunday, September 10, after the 11:00 service, there will be a reception in The Great Hall to welcome Ben to Second! We are collecting welcome cards and notes for Ben and his family in the church office. Thanks for your gracious gestures of welcome.

**CALLING ALL NAMETAGS!** The Kane Family has lots of new names to learn! Let's make it easier and track down those nametags and wear them when possible. If it's misplaced, visit the Welcome Center to arrange a replacement or contact Tracy in the church office. Cost for a replacement is \$5.00. Thanks!

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:** We are looking forward to the coming year and the *Sacred Encounters with Friends* here at Second Presbyterian Church. Pledges and payment for study books can be made with the QR code and on the church website. We anticipate the coming year to be filled with *Sacred Encounters*. Our regular gatherings are on the



second Tuesday of each month. We now have three meeting times: Our regular gathering will be held on **Tuesday, September 12**, at 10:30 a.m. in Second Hall followed with lunch (cost \$10). Huldah Circle will meet Wednesday, September 27, 11:00 a.m. at Presbyterian Village, and our new Anna Circle will meet September 17, 4:30 p.m. in the home of Beth Sigler. We hope you can join us!

A NEW PW CIRCLE HAS FORMED! Are morning meetings a challenge? Consider joining the women of Anna Circle, meeting third Sundays at 4:30 p.m. Contact Lindsey Taylor at 501-412-7508 (missy.t@comcast.net) for more information about our first session September 17.

**ENNEAGRAM 101:** Join us for *Enneagram 101: Learn Your Number*. We will meet in Second Hall on Thursdays, September 7 through October 26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The course follows the teaching of Enneagram master teacher, Suzanne Stabile. Catherine Lowry will facilitate the sessions. Please call the church office 501-227-0000 to register. The cost is \$20 and participant manuals will be available at the first session.

**UNIFORM DRIVE FOR BALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL:** To help get the new school year off to a great start, we are collecting uniforms and hygiene supplies for students at Bale Elementary School! Students range from kindergarten to fifth grade. Uniform pieces most needed are navy and khaki pants, shorts, and skirts in youth sizes from 5t-14 or youth sizes XS to XXL as well as short-sleeve and long-sleeve polo shirts in white, navy, and light blue. Hygiene supplies such as bar soap, toothbrush/toothpaste, deodorant, and pads/tampons are also needed. You may drop your donations off at the designated Bale supplies table in the narthex on Sundays or in the church office by Lindy's door during the week. For more information, contact Lindy Vogado (lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org).

**LOVE THY NEIGHBOR INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE:** Please join The Interfaith Center of Arkansas and Arkansas House of Prayer for the annual interfaith prayer service, Love Thy Neighbor: Tending the Sacred Flame, a celebration of peace through music, prayer, and wisdom. The event will be held on Thursday, **September 7** at St. Mark's Episcopal Church at 6:00 p.m. It will be an in-person event, with an option to livestream at www.youtube.com/user/theinterfaithcenter. 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 their website at www.theinterfaithcenter.org.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND VOLUNTEERS!** Children and Families Ministry is busy preparing for the fall and excited about our plans for Sunday School. We have chosen curriculum, are planning for volunteer training, and getting ready for our kickoff event on August 20. Now we just need YOU! There are many volunteers needed of all



ages to have a thriving and successful Children's Sunday School Program at Second Presbyterian Church. Use the QR code to check out the different volunteer and teacher positions. If you have questions, please contact Leslie McCormack at leslier.mcc@gmail.com.

**FAMILIES OF THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS:** We invite you to join us for your child's milestone event at Second Presbyterian! We love to see our children grow in their faith starting at a young age! Children 3-4 years old are presented with their very own bible that you all can start to incorporate into their home routine. Join us for donuts and a bible story with Pastor Lindy Vogado and take your bibles home! See you soon on **September 24** from 10:00-10:50 a.m. If you have any questions, text or call Leslie at 870.391.6790.

**TUESDAY MEN'S GROUP MINISTRY:** Each Tuesday at 7:00 a.m., men gather in Second Hall and on Zoom for encouragement, support, and Bible study. Free donuts and coffee! Men of all ages are invited to visit or join. Contact Vic Fleming (judgevic@gmail.com) or Vernon Markham (vmarkh3@gmail.com) for further details.

**INTERGENERATIONAL DRINKS AND DISCIPLESHIP GROUP:** All are welcome to attend the intergenerational fun that is the "Drinks and Discipleship" group. We gather in homes on the first Wednesday of every month to laugh, cry, sip, snack, and spend time in Christ's fellowship together. All ages are welcome, and we love to make new friends. We will meet at the home of Joseph and Amara Yancey, 13806 Abinger Ct, on Wednesday, Sept. 6, at 5:30 p.m. To be added to the email list, contact Amara at amarayancey@gmail.com.

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

**CHEESES WITH JESUS:** We are an adult group for those in between "young adult" and retiree. We welcome newcomers to the church, as well as those who have been long time members. We start our meetings with a time of fellowship and food followed by study. We normally gather off campus at a private home. Contact Diane Karlson at (970) 412-3144 for more details.

## ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES FOR THE FALL

Join us at 9:50 a.m. on Sundays in classrooms throughout the building!

*Second Hall Short Series* opens with a book-with-video discussion <u>The Walk</u> by Adam Hamilton, focusing on five essential spiritual practices, led by staff and members. Books available for \$10. Zoom room also available.

*Connections Class* in room 62 is continuing <u>The Heart of Christianity</u> by Marcus Borg – no pre-reading needed to discover a life of faith by reconceptualizing familiar beliefs.

The *Seeking More Light* class is in room 67 is starting the book <u>No Cure for Being</u> <u>Human</u> by Kate Bowler, who asks "how do you move forward with a life you didn't choose?" Order books online or contact the front office. Zoom room also available.

The *Bible Study Class* in the Library remains focused on studying <u>The Fall Uniform</u> <u>Series</u> on "God's Law is Love" and moves through key passages of Luke, John, Romans, Galatians, Acts and First Corinthians to explore how Love Completes, Faith Triumphs and Christ Frees. Curriculum available digitally or printed free of charge. Zoom room also available.

*Spiritual Nourishment* meets in the Heritage room to discuss Anne Lamott's new book, <u>Dusk Night Dawn</u> where she confronts the hard question "How can we recapture the confidence we once had in the future as we stumble through dark times that seem increasingly bleak?" Zoom room also available.

*First and Third Monday Bible Study Group* meets at 9:30 a.m. in Second Hall starting Monday Sept. 18 for our new study *Eat This Book* by Eugene Peterson, co-led by Rev. Marie and guest lecturer Rev. Robert Lowry. Delve deep into the practice of spiritual reading and lectio-divina. Books available in office for \$15 or order online. Zoom by request.

Questions, comments or new ideas for class topics? Contact Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell at <u>mariemo@secondpreslr.org</u> or 214-686-6347.



**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.

#### SEPTEMBER WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

#### 8:30 A.M.

#### 11:00 А.М.

(9/10) Dan Voth (9/17) Scott Polk (9/24) Chris McDaniel (9/10) Zach Ward (9/17) Emma Ryall (9/24) Amber Griffin

## CALENDAR

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3** Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 Labor Day Holiday Church Office Closed Boy Scouts 7:00

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5** Men's Group Bible Study 7:00

Pastoral Care Ministry 5:00 Adult Education Ministry 5:30 Property Ministry 5:30 Worship Ministry 7:00 Outreach Ministry 7:00 Youth Ministry 7:00

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6** Staff Meeting 9:00 Adult Choir 6:30 **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7** \*Dementia Caregivers Support Group 1:00

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8** Confirmation Fall Retreat Our House Cook Team 3:00

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9** Confirmation Fall Retreat

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Confirmation Fall Retreat Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00 \*Ben Kane Welcome Reception 12:00 Children's Ministry 5:00

\* Denotes announcement in bulletin

## VISION STATEMENT



## **CHURCH OFFICERS**

SESSION Moderator: Ben Kane Clerk: Philip Shell Assistant Clerk: George Keck Treasurer: Kenneth Rich

CLASS OF 2024 Marge Anna Luttrell Barry McVinney Somerset Sea Joseph Yancey Carol Young

> YOUTH ELDER Lena Nelson

CLASS OF 2025 Alicia Byrd Cotten Cunningham Kate Franks George Keck Vernon Markham

Mary Helen Henry Leslie McCormack Ruth Shepherd Alan Solomon Justin Villines

CLASS OF 2026

DIACONATE Moderator: Chris Boggs Vice Moderator: Marsha Taylor Secretary: Jamie Gomez

# CLASS OF 2024

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

YOUTH DEACON Joseph Lloyd

#### Lauren Gann Jamie Gomez

**CLASS OF 2025** 

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

#### CLASS OF 2026

Matt Christenson Cindy Downs David Eifling Judy Johnson Amy Lloyd Ann Owen Emma Ryall Matthew Smith L.B. Vaught Zachary Ward