

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

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

OCTOBER 8, 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

Lullaby

J. Morris

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

Through the gift of the Holy Spirit

God's love is poured into our hearts.

The law of the Lord revives the soul;

the word of God makes the simple wise.

*** HYMN NO. 175**

Seek Ye First

LAFFERTY

CALL TO CONFESSION (RESPONSIVE)

Are you thirsty for grace? Are you hungry for mercy?

God is calling; come to the waters.

Let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (RESPONSIVE)

Lord, you keep showing up in our lives in particular ways,

and we don't always notice.

Knowing that some of us need to be challenged,

Christ enters with authority.

Knowing that some of us need more affection,

he comes with open arms.

Knowing that some of us need to be cajoled,

he comes creatively.

Knowing that some of us need to be enticed,

he comes with a plan.

No matter how he arrives in our lives,

we are quickly aware of his presence.

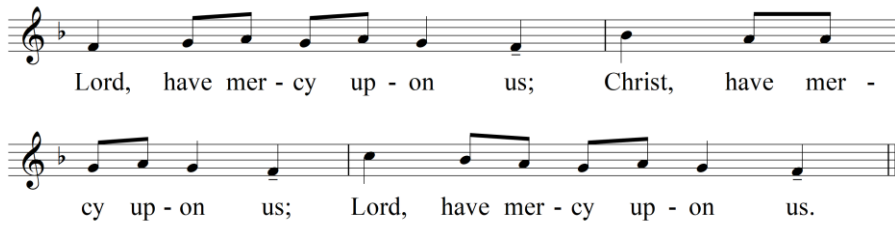
With grateful hearts and humble minds,

we turn to you and acknowledge your presence

and confess our sins.

(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 (RESPONSIVE)

There are no boundaries to the Triune God's love for each of us.
The Lord sees who we are and blesses us with undeserved grace.
 May we believe this is true as we hear these words: You are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE (RESPONSIVE)

Since God in Christ has forgiven us, let us also forgive 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		Lindy Vogado
MINUTE FOR MINISTRY		Stewardship
FIRST READING	JOEL 2:1-2, 12-17	OT, PP. 846-7
ANTHEM	<i>Thou Knowest Lord, the Secrets of Our Hearts</i> SPC Adult Choir	H Purcell
GOSPEL READING	MATTHEW 6:1-18	NT, P. 5
SERMON	<i>Giving Up is the Best Option</i>	Rev. Ben Kane

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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

* HYMN NO. 708 *We Give Thee but Thine Own* SCHUMANN

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.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Ride the Chariot* W.H. Smith
 Tenor Kevin Ezell, Soprano Satia Spencer

* DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

**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. 31** *Let Us with a Gladsome Mind* MONKLAND
- * **BENEDICTION**
- * **CHORAL BENEDICTION** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* J. Rutter
- * **POSTLUDE** *Fantasy on B-A-C-H* F. Liszt

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Benjamin E.E. Kane

Rev. Alisa Secrest

Rev. Lindy Vogado

Elizabeth Cahoon, Youth & Young Adult Director

Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts

Adam Savacool, Organist

Clint Brockway, Interpreter

Liturgists: (8:30) Eli Gomez (11:00) Melissa Hendricks

Elders of the Day: (8:30) Ruth Shepherd (11:00) Alicia Byrd

Greeter: (8:30) Monica Christenson (11:00) Vivian Henderson

Ushers: (8:30) Matt Christenson, Elizabeth Moseley, June and Eugene Jones

(11:00) Freddie Jolley, J. Dyke, Melissa Hendricks, Johanna Lewis, Gary Mertins,
Shanna Smiley, Barbara Vaught and Justin Villines

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. 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.

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.**



INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR REV. DR. BENJAMIN E.E. KANE TODAY! A special afternoon of worship, celebration, joy and music is being planned for the Installation Service for our new pastor, Rev. Dr. Benjamin E.E. Kane. The service will be held today at **3:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary with Ben's dad, Rev. Jeff Kane, preaching. The Adult choir will offer G.F. Handel's *Hallelujah, Amen* and Hubert Parry's famous coronation anthem, *I Was Glad*. There will be a reception in Second Hall following the service.



**JOINING CHRIST
ON THE MOUNTAIN**

**SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024**

The Stewardship Team of Laura and Ken Cook, Rob Owens, Becky and Jackson Farrow, Elaine Eubank, Alfred Williams, and Ann Burnside invite you to embark on a journey with us as we explore what it means to join Christ on the mountain. We invite you to

join us in this exciting campaign and to learn more about the theme and how we put your gifts to use at Second Presbyterian, and to meet Rev. Ben and Lydia Wingo Kane at one of the *Home Gatherings* that you can sign up for using the QR code or by calling the church office.



TOUR OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Are you a visitor or new member who would like to know your way around our church campus? Are you a long-time member interested in how our building is currently being used throughout the week? If so, we'd love for you to join us for a tour of the church! Associate Pastor Lindy Vogado will be giving a tour of the church Sunday, **October 15, at 9:50 a.m.** (during the Sunday School hour). We will meet at the Welcome Center to begin the tour and will finish in plenty of time to attend 11:00 worship. For more information or to arrange a tour at another time, contact Lindy Vogado (lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org). We hope to see you there!

ALL CHURCH PICNIC! It's that time again! Mark your calendar for the Annual All-Church Picnic on **Sunday, October 15** at Ferncliff beginning at 12:15 p.m. We'll make use of indoor and outdoor spaces for fellowship, dining and recreation. Enjoy cafeteria-style lunch, lawn games, a fishing tournament, rocking chairs, canoeing, volleyball, the Shady Chute, tours of the grounds and more. Dessert at the Yurts will be at 2:00 p.m., when we dedicate the new Ferncliff Yurt Village in June Williams' memory. Please sign up with the QR code, on the website, in the office or on Sunday mornings, so we can prepare plenty of food. The cost is \$10 per person, up to \$40 per household.



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, November 2** 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, October 17**. 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.

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. To be added to the email list, contact Amara at amarayancey@gmail.com.

IS IT YOUR BIRTHDAY MONTH? REMEMBER THE BIRTHDAY FUND! If you have an October birthday, you may give a gift as well as receive a gift. You are invited to give a dollar celebrating each year of your age to our church's endowment fund. You may also give in honor or in memory of the birthday of a loved one. Our endowment fund supports all of the ministries of our church, such as outreach missions, youth scholarships, pastoral care, music, Christian education and more. Celebrate your birthday at the Birthday Fund table today in the narthex. Birthday Fund envelopes are located at the table, at the Welcome Center and in the church office.

AWESOME ALLIES ASSEMBLE TRAINING OCTOBER 14 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in Second Hall. Local LGBTQ+ people need awesome allies, so reach your full Ally potential with this short training sponsored by Queer Collective, a new worshipping community in Little Rock. Learn updated terminology and etiquette, discuss challenges faced by the community and how you can help; discover ally resources and ask the questions you need to know but were afraid to ask: about pronouns, names, gender vs. sexuality, and ideas around "transition." We'll also help you connect with events and people who could use a volunteer like you! Space is limited to 20 people, so contact Marie Mainard O'Connell at mariemo@secondpreslr.org to save your seat.

SECOND PRES AT PRIDE FEST: Our congregation will be sharing the good news about our inclusive and welcoming congregation by once again participating in the Central Arkansas Pridefest parade on Saturday, **October 21**. The parade is at noon, and we will gather as a Second Pres delegation about an hour before the parade starts. Pridefest is always an inspiring and joy-filled event and an important way to share God's love with our community. If you would like to participate with our Second Pres group, contact Lindy Vogado (lindyvogado@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.

FIRST AND THIRD MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Why don't you *Eat This Book?* Join the First and Third Monday Bible Study Class for our next sessions with Eugene Peterson's classic study of how to read, ingest and digest Scripture. Join classmates on **October 16** for chapters 2 and 3; practice sample forms of *Lectio Divina* reading and develop new habits for your spiritual growth! Books still available in the office for \$15. Contact Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell at mariemo@secondpreslr.org or 214-686-6347.

COME JOIN THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS! All children, kindergarteners through fifth graders, are invited to join us beginning **Wednesday, October 18**, as we prepare for our children's led service. This year our children will lead the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, December 17. Our musical, "A Shepherd's Story," retells the Christmas narrative through the excitement of some of its very first witnesses. Our little shepherds will sing, ring, and tell the story, once again. For more information, please contact Mary Ibis, maryibis@secondpreslr.org.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN SAVE THE DATES October certainly looks "fallish", but it is also looks a little different for PW as we are **growing!** Our traditional Tuesday circles will meet in their member's homes October 10, 11:00 a.m. for Bible Study, Lesson Two: *The Exorcism in Gerasa and a Potluck luncheon*. Phoebe Circle will meet in the home of Janie Hopkins (501) 648-3011 and Martha Circle will meet in the Community Room at Sandra Rogers (501) 412-2718. Our newest Anna Circle will meet Sunday, October 15, 4:30 p.m. in the home of Lindsey Taylor (501) 412-7508. And our other new circle, Huldah, is meeting Wednesday, October 25, 11:00 a.m. for Bible Study at Presbyterian Village. (Contact Jeanne Lloyd (501) 231-6719 for further information regarding PW circle at the Village.)

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

PRAECLARA RINGERS FALL FAVORITES HANDBELL CONCERT: Sunday, **November 5**, 3:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. Please join us for an afternoon of some of the best handbell music ever written. There will be a simple reception following the concert. Childcare will be available. For more information, please contact Mary Ibis, maryibis@secondpreslr.org.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES FOR THE FALL: SUNDAY MORNINGS, 9:50 A.M.

Second Hall Short Series this month is ***The Soundtrack of Faith: Music Impacting Ministry***. Music speaks to the soul unlike any other artistic expression, combining the heights of spiritual truth and the depth of human emotion, inspiring and articulating what we ourselves cannot say. Join us in exploring the soundtrack of our leaders as we hear excerpts of the music that sustains their spirit, both sacred and secular. What better way to get to know someone than to hear what's on their playlist and find out why? **TODAY** experience the widely divergent musical preferences of Bevan Keating, Director of Music, and Rev. Lindy Vogado, acolyte of Dolly Parton

Oct. 15: Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell, interim pastor for Adult Education and New Worshipping Community organizer with Queer Collective

Oct. 22: Rev. Alisa Secrest, Associate Pastor for Congregational Nurture

Oct. 29: Rev. Dr. Ben Kane, Pastor

Connections Class in room 62 is continuing The Heart of Christianity 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 No Cure for Being Human 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 The Fall Uniform Series 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 class is updating! Starting October 8 this small group will be reading Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers by Anne Lamott. Join them *early* at 9:30a.m. in the Heritage Room or online Sundays. Newcomers always welcome as we slowly digest these wise, funny words from one of our favorite modern writers.

YOUTH UPDATE! Our Youth Ministry is back in full swing as we welcome students back from summer vacation! If you are interested in Sunday School or Youth Group, we have a place for you. We are also adding a monthly service project for our students to engage with all of God's creation. Make sure to **Save the Dates for our Middle School (November 17-19) and High School (November 3-5) Fall Retreats coming this November!**

GET PUMPED FOR THE 40TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL at Second Presbyterian Church. Over the years this carnival has grown and changed but always kept the same bones...Mark your calendars for the last Saturday and Sunday of October. On **Saturday (10/28), from 12-3 p.m.** we will be painting decorations in preparation for this awesome event. On **Sunday (10/29), from 1-5 p.m.**, we will transform the parking lot into the spookiest carnival you've ever seen. **Youth will be asked to commit one hour facilitating a game and given one hour to play!**

Candy Donations: Starting on October 8th, the church office will be accepting candy donations to help supply the carnival. Please be generous and thoughtful as you donate such delicious treats! We ask that you keep all donations **NUT FREE**.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY: Join Miss Mary in Bible Village for songs, crafts, and stories.



**CELEBRATING 31 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, 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**

YOUNG ADULTS! If you identify as a Young Adult, we welcome you to the Young Adult Ministry! We have many opportunities for you to gather in fellowship and spiritual growth at Second Presbyterian Church. If you are interested in growing your leadership skills, we encourage you to consider volunteering as a Youth Advisor. If you are interested in our monthly gatherings please see the information below. **First and Third Thursdays** – Bible Study | 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Youth Building (September's Theme: Animals in the Bible) **Second and Fourth Thursdays** – Trivia Night | 7:00-9:00 p.m. at American Pie Pizza (9709 Maumelle Blvd, North Little Rock, AR 72113) **Sunday Lunch** (every week) | 12:00-2:00 p.m. Gather in the narthex to discuss location.

YOUNG ADULTS FALL RETREAT: | November 10-12 in Hot Springs, AR. If you need of a weekend away and time to reset your clock, please join us for our Fall Retreat in Hot Springs, AR. We have rented a beautiful lake house with accessible hiking and boating. Please register with this QR and submit the \$100 fee. If you are in need of financial assistance, please contact Elizabeth Cahoon.



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.

OCTOBER WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

Matt Christenson

11:00 A.M.

(10/8) Freddie Jolley
(10/15) Emma Ryall
(10/22) Amber Griffin
(10/29) Jo Paulus

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

Children and Families Campout
Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
Praeclara Ringers 4:00
*Ben Kane Installation Service 3:00
*Installation Service Reception 4:00
*Middle School SPY 5:30
Children's Ministry 5:30
SPY Dinner 6:30
*High School SPY 7:00

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

Day Ringers 11:30
Card Making 1:00
Pastoral Care 1:30
Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:00
Stephen Ministry 6:00
Volleyball 7:00
Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00
Environmental Stewardship 5:30
Adult Education Ministry 5:30
Fellowship Ministry 6:00
Home Gathering 6:00

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Staff Meeting 9:00
*W.A.C.K.Y. 5:00
Adult Choir 6:30

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

Home Gathering 6:00
*Enneagram 6:30
*Young Adult Bible Study 7:00

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Our House Cook Team 3:00

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

SPY Cardboard Village 6:00
*Ally Training 3:00

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
*All Church Picnic 12:15
Praeclara Ringers 2:30
*Middle School SPY 5:30
SPY Dinner 6:30
*High School SPY 7:00

* Denotes announcement in bulletin

VISION STATEMENT



INVITED
BY CHRIST
IMPACTING
THE WORLD
INCLUSIVE
OF ALL

CHURCH OFFICERS

SESSION

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Benjamin E. E. 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

CLASS OF 2025

Alicia Byrd
Cotten Cunningham
Kate Franks
George Keck
Vernon Markham

CLASS OF 2026

Mary Helen Henry
Leslie McCormack
Ruth Shepherd
Alan Solomon
Justin Villines

YOUTH ELDER

Lena Nelson

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

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

CLASS OF 2026

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

YOUTH DEACON

Joseph Lloyd