

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

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 12, 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 to "49th Parallel"* R. Vaughan Williams

* CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)

God is our refuge and strength, **a very present help in times of trouble.**
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; **it shall not be moved.**
Be still **and know that I am God.** *Psalm 46 (selected verses)*

* HYMN NO. 25 *O Lord, Our God, How Excellent* WINCHESTER OLD

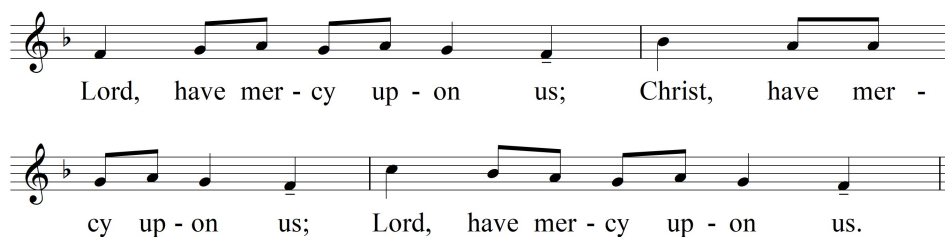
CALL TO CONFESSION (RESPONSIVE)

This is the day that the Lord has made, **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
This is also the day when we realize our need for the Lord.
Let us turn to God and confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Lord of all, we come to you in need.
We've heard your call upon our lives to follow you and your ways.
But we aren't quite sure what to do with all you've said.
We aren't sure if we can do it. We aren't sure we want to do all of it.
You've invited us to live a life that seems challenging.
It is full of hard choices and difficult decisions.
But we can't shake the feeling that you've called us for a reason.
You think so highly of us that you keep showing up in our lives.
And it makes us aware that your invitations matter.
You believe in us, Lord,
and believe we can do all you've called us to do.
But before we do your work, we must confess
that we need you,
and that our lives are incomplete without you.
So we come to you seeking mercy and grace as we 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*)

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

This means that God's grace is for all.

May we believe the good news of the gospels:

That we are forgiven by a loving and gracious God. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE (*RESPONSIVE*)

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

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

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

ANTHEM *As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought* F. Green
 SPC Small Ensemble
 Janette Robinson, soprano
 Satia Spencer, mezzo soprano

FIRST READING *PSALM 46* OT, P. 517-18

GOSPEL READING *MATTHEW 7:24-29* NT, P. 7

SERMON *Between a Rock and a Hard Place* Rev. Ben Kane

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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

* **HYMN NO. 716** *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* BEACH SPRING

PRESENTATION OF ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS

You are invited to come forward to place your Estimate of Giving Cards and your morning offerings in the baskets up front. As we bring them forward, please be in prayer for the life and ministry of Second Presbyterian Church.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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.

SENDING

The God who calls us together in worship now sends us out in service.

* INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

* **HYMN NO. 711** *Lord of All Good* TOULON

* CHORAL BENEDICTION *Threefold Amen* TRADITIONAL

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE *Vater unser im Himmelreich* F. Mendelssohn

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Benjamin E.E. Kane

Rev. Alisa Secrest

Rev. Lindy Vogado

Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts

Adam Savacool, Organist

Clint Brockway, Interpreter

Liturgists: (8:30) Mike Paulus (11:00) Bruce Rentz

Elders of the Day: (8:30) Leslie McCormack (11:00) Alicia Byrd

Greeters: (11:00) Laura and Steve Dunnagan

Ushers: (8:30) Dan, Chrissy, Clara, Anna and Ezra Voth

(11:00) Debbie Bass, Laura and Steve Dunnagan, Mary Helen Henry, Tom Hicks,
Linda and Steve Humphries, Galen Wenger

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.



JOINING CHRIST
ON THE MOUNTAIN

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024

TODAY IS DEDICATION SUNDAY!

You may have seen the question our Stewardship Team is asking in this Stewardship Season on the table in the narthex or heard it at one of our *Home Gatherings*. The question is this: **What**



will it take for Second Presbyterian to meet Christ on the mountain? We'd love to hear your answer as we believe it will take all of us to meet Christ on the mountain as a church. Today we will be dedicating our Estimate of Giving cards at all three worship services. You can present your card today, go to the church website or use the QR Code to make your 2024 Estimate of Giving.

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.**



THE FLAGS IN THE SANCTUARY are placed in honor of Veterans' Day, November 11.

SAVE THE DATE! HANGING OF THE GREENS: This year, it is an *evening* event! Join us Sunday evening, Nov. 26 at 4:00 p.m. for an hour of decorating, making, placing, hanging, and preparing our church for the first of Advent in December. Our redesigned evening tradition begins with volunteer stations throughout the building to set up Christmas Trees, make ornaments, fluff and place wreaths, build outdoor installations, and craft blessing bags and cards for the homeless and homebound.

4:00 p.m. Decorating inside and out

5:00 p.m. Potato and Chili Bar dinner, \$7.00 per person, \$28.00 max per household

5:45 p.m. Brief worship in Sanctuary to Light the Chrismon Tree



Make your reservations now for this enjoyable friends-and-family fellowship by calling the church office or registering online at this code! You don't want to miss the fun and fellowship of our annual tradition.

IS IT YOUR BIRTHDAY MONTH? REMEMBER THE BIRTHDAY FUND! If you have a November 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.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Faith and Grief support group meets the third Tuesday of the month in Second Hall at noon. This is a monthly community gathering of support and comfort. Join at any time. Faith and Grief support group will not meet at its regularly scheduled time in November, due to Thanksgiving week. We will be praying for you and look forward to our next gathering on **December 19**.

CARE FOR CAREGIVERS: Our Dementia Caregiver Support Group gathers for support, resources and sharing of experiences. Please join us Thursday, **December 7** at 1:00 p.m. in person or on Zoom. For more information, contact the church office or Sandra Rogers.

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.

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS are invited to register for our fun weekend away **November 17-19** in Hot Springs for our **Fall Retreat!** We will be staying in a beautiful lake house offering plenty of time to fish, relax, and enjoy God's creation.



YOUNG ADULTS - JOIN US FOR OUR WEEKLY GATHERINGS!

First and Third Thursdays – Bible Study | 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Youth Building

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.

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

HAVE YOU EVER GOTTEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP WHILE ON VACATION OR PERHAPS YOU WERE SICK SO STAYED HOME? How would you like to support that ministry of our church? "But I'm not a computer geek!" That's ok! Our livestreaming process is actually pretty easy. All you have to do is click the start button, follow along with the order of worship on a lineup, and then click stop at the end. And more experienced folks are always a few pews away if something does go awry. If you'd like to learn more, please reach out to our coordinator Sam Byrd - sbyrd@thebyrdnest.net or 501-837-5624 or stop by the table in the back corner of the sanctuary some morning. We'd love to have you watch us.

HELP PROVIDE THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR FAMILIES AT BALE ELEMENTARY: Our school partner, Bale Elementary, provides meals during the Thanksgiving season for their student families in need, and we've been invited to join them in making a "Box for a Bobcat." The boxes will provide food for a family of 6-8 people, and there is a specific grocery list that makes up the contents of each box. If you or a church group that you're a part of would like to join our efforts, please contact Lindy Vogado (lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org), and she will provide you with the instructions and grocery list. The boxes are due at Bale Elementary by November 14 so please contact Lindy soon if you'd like to participate.

AFGHAN WELCOME UPDATE: Wonderful news! Both of our families have now been granted asylum! Achieving this status has been a huge goal for both our volunteer teams, and we are grateful for our members' hard work in handling paperwork and also the expertise of pro-bono lawyers who are helping us negotiate the immigration process. Both families continue to be busy with employment and school, and we are grateful for all the ways they are becoming involved in the Little Rock community. As some of our original volunteers have concluded their responsibilities, we welcome new volunteers to help with after-school activities, occasional transportation needs, and other miscellaneous tasks. Please contact Lindy Vogado (lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org) if you would like more information about how to get involved.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS: The Presbyterian Women November Gathering will take place on **Tuesday, November 14**, 10:30 a.m. in Second Hall. All women are invited to join us for music, prayer and our Bible Study, *A Bleeding Woman Encounters Jesus*. Rev. Dr. Ben Kane will lead the lesson. Please RSVP to Karin in the church office with your reservations for lunch; \$10 each. *Together in Service* will NOT meet this month. Women can also connect with PW in these small groups: The Anna afternoon circle usually meets third Sundays at 4:00 p.m. in a member's home; find out more with leader Lindsey Taylor (missy.t@comcast.net or 501-412-7508) Huldah morning circle meets at Presbyterian Village at 11:00 a.m. on the last Wednesday; learn more from leader Jeannie Lloyd (501-231-6719).

PW THANK OFFERING: During the month of November, Presbyterian Women will be receiving their annual Thank Offering. This offering is one of Presbyterian Women's two offerings. Received in the fall each year, it gives women a tangible way to express their gratitude for the special blessings in their lives. Thank Offering grants range from \$5,000 to \$50,000. At least 40 percent of the offering funds health ministries. You may give to this offering online (www.secondpreslr.org) or by mailing/bringing a check to the church. The check is payable to Second Presbyterian Church designated to PW Thank Offering.

CHEESES WITH JESUS: We are a dynamic community, bridging the gap between 'young adulthood' and retirement with grace and zeal. Our doors swing wide to welcome newcomers seeking spiritual enlightenment and treasured long-time members alike. We start our meetings with a time of fellowship and libations/food followed by study. Within the intimate sanctuary of a private residence, we transcend the ordinary, embarking on a journey of profound connection and spiritual growth. We meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Our next meeting is **November 29** at Jill Brannon's home (4800 Gooch Drive, LR). We will finish up our study of The Walk. On **December 13**, we will meet at the home of Philip and Leah Shell (5 Berwyn Drive, LR). We'll be decorating Christmas cookies! Wednesday, **December 27**, will meet at Catherine Allsbury's home, 32 Kanis Creek Place. Contact Catherine Allsbury or Justin Villines if you want to join us: villinesjustin@gmail.com. ALL are welcome!

FIRST AND THIRD MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Let's continue to Eat This Book, our study by Eugene Peterson, on the art and practice of spiritual reading – how to ingest and digest scripture to transform our lives. Join at 9:30 a.m. in Second Hall on **November 20** for chapters 5 and 6; bring a Bible if not the book for practice in deep spiritual reading of scripture.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTRY UPDATE

SPY Kids will meet on TODAY, November 12, to make pumpkin bread for friends at home. We will have church family lunch on November 12 and November 26. Please join us for fellowship and food! All are welcome. November 12 will be hosted by the Hankins Family (9 Cape Cod Court) and November 26 will be hosted by the McCormack Family (2 Northwest Court).

We are excited to host a preschool popup on November 18 at Two Rivers Park. We invite all 2-5 year olds to join us for fun play time and snacks at the new inclusive park at Two Rivers. For more information on these events, contact Maggie Kirchner at maggiekirchner@secondpreslr.org or Leslie McCormack at lesliemccormack@secondpreslr.org.

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

SECOND HALL SHORT SERIES FOR NOVEMBER

Healing After Challenge: The Christian and Trauma

Exhausted? Burnt out? Short temper? Maybe fearful or anxious? You aren't alone. We live in troubling times: changes wrought by COVID, anxiety produced by the news, and difficulty in our personal lives – births, deaths, career changes, illness, natural disaster, violence - all conspire to create a very real harm to our bodies, minds, and spirits. Join us for a series informed by the book The Body Keeps the Score to understand how humans adapt to challenge and trauma, and current techniques to treat harm and recover. Reverend Ben Kane will open us with a discussion of communal challenge and trauma in scripture, and our second leader, therapist Rachel Pinto, will tell us, "Trauma isn't the event that happened, it's how our bodies become stuck in the process of healing, and how modern society prevents healing. We must learn to cope as a community, and as individuals, and the good news is that many ways are available to us." Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell will conclude our final two classes in consideration of how we can choose to help our communities and children heal as well. Books available in the church office for \$10. *Connections Class* will be joining with Second Hall for the month of November.

The *Seeking More Light* class meets in room 67. Today, November 12, we have two guest speakers, Clarice and Kwami Abdul-Bey, who will talk with us about the work of the Arkansas Peace and Justice Memorial Movement (APJMM) and the effort to memorialize the 493 known victims of lynching in Arkansas. Kwami and Clarice are Co-Conveners for the APJMM and 2021 Arkansas Peace Activist of the Year Award recipients. On Sunday, November 19, we will start our new book, Lost & Found: Reflections on Grief, Gratitude, and Happiness by Kathryn Schulz. A limited number of books will be available to purchase from the church, or you can order one on your own.

The *Bible Study Class* on Zoom and in the Library at 9:30 a.m. 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.

Spiritual Nourishment is reading Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers by Anne Lamott. Join them at 9:30 a.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.



**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

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.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

(11/19) David Eifling

11:00 A.M.

(11/19) Emma Ryall

(11/26) Jo Paulus

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Stewardship Dedication Sunday

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00

Sunday School 9:50

*Children and Families Lunch 12:00

Praeclara Ringers 2:00

Middle School SPY 5:30

SPY Dinner 6:30

High School SPY 7:00

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Day Ringers 11:30

Pastoral Care 1:30

Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:00

Stephen Ministry 6:00

Volleyball 7:00

Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00

*PW Gathering 10:30

Card Making 1:00

Environmental Stewardship 5:30

Fellowship Ministry 6:00

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Staff Meeting 9:00

*W.A.C.K.Y. 5:00

Adult Choir 6:30

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

*Young Adult Bible Study 7:00

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

*Young Adult Fall Retreat

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

*Young Adult Fall Retreat

Beth Baldwin Memorial Service 10:00

Silas Brewer Memorial Service 2:00

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00

Sunday School 9:50

Praeclara Ringers 2:00

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* Denotes announcement in bulletin

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First and Third Thursdays – Bible Study | 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Youth Building

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Sunday Lunch (every week) | 12:00-2:00 p.m. Gather in the narthex to discuss location.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**600 PLEASANT VALLEY DRIVE
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72227**

**OFFICE: (501) 227-0000
FAX: (501) 227-6513**

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Healing After Challenge: The Christian and Trauma

Exhausted? Burnt out? Short temper? Maybe fearful or anxious? You aren't alone. We live in troubling times: changes wrought by COVID, anxiety produced by the news, and difficulty in our personal lives – births, deaths, career changes, illness, natural disaster, violence - all conspire to create a very real harm to our bodies, minds, and spirits. Join us for a series informed by the book The Body Keeps the Score to understand how humans adapt to challenge and trauma, and current techniques to treat harm and recover. Reverend Ben Kane will open us with a discussion of communal challenge and trauma in scripture, and our second leader, therapist Rachel Pinto, will tell us, "Trauma isn't the event that happened, it's how our bodies become stuck in the process of healing, and how modern society prevents healing. We must learn to cope as a community, and as individuals, and the good news is that many ways are available to us." Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell will conclude our final two classes in consideration of how we can choose to help our communities and children heal as well. Books available in the church office for \$10. *Connections Class* will be joining with Second Hall for the month of November.

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**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

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.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

(11/19) David Eifling

11:00 A.M.

(11/19) Emma Ryall

(11/26) Jo Paulus

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Stewardship Dedication Sunday

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00

Sunday School 9:50

*Children and Families Lunch 12:00

Praeclara Ringers 2:00

Middle School SPY 5:30

SPY Dinner 6:30

High School SPY 7:00

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Day Ringers 11:30

Pastoral Care 1:30

Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:00

Stephen Ministry 6:00

Volleyball 7:00

Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00

*PW Gathering 10:30

Card Making 1:00

Environmental Stewardship 5:30

Fellowship Ministry 6:00

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Staff Meeting 9:00

*W.A.C.K.Y. 5:00

Adult Choir 6:30

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

*Young Adult Bible Study 7:00

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

*Young Adult Fall Retreat

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

*Young Adult Fall Retreat

Beth Baldwin Memorial Service 10:00

Silas Brewer Memorial Service 2:00

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00

Sunday School 9:50

Praeclara Ringers 2:00

Middle School SPY 5:30

SPY Dinner 6:30

High School SPY 7:00

* Denotes announcement in bulletin

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

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 12, 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 to "49th Parallel"* R. Vaughan Williams

* CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)

God is our refuge and strength, **a very present help in times of trouble.**
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; **it shall not be moved.**
Be still **and know that I am God.** *Psalm 46 (selected verses)*

* HYMN NO. 25 *O Lord, Our God, How Excellent* WINCHESTER OLD

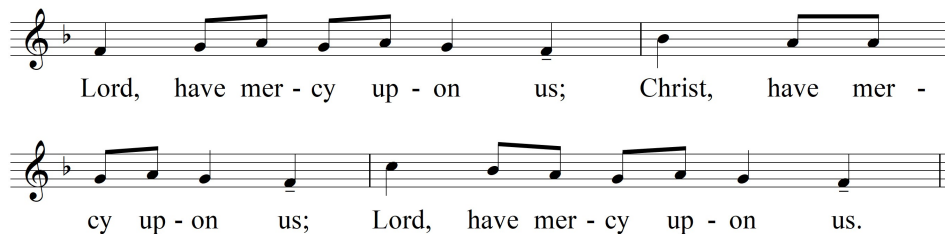
CALL TO CONFESSION (RESPONSIVE)

This is the day that the Lord has made, **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
This is also the day when we realize our need for the Lord.
Let us turn to God and confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Lord of all, we come to you in need.
We've heard your call upon our lives to follow you and your ways.
But we aren't quite sure what to do with all you've said.
We aren't sure if we can do it. We aren't sure we want to do all of it.
You've invited us to live a life that seems challenging.
It is full of hard choices and difficult decisions.
But we can't shake the feeling that you've called us for a reason.
You think so highly of us that you keep showing up in our lives.
And it makes us aware that your invitations matter.
You believe in us, Lord,
and believe we can do all you've called us to do.
But before we do your work, we must confess
that we need you,
and that our lives are incomplete without you.
So we come to you seeking mercy and grace as we 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*)

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

This means that God's grace is for all.

May we believe the good news of the gospels:

That we are forgiven by a loving and gracious God. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE (*RESPONSIVE*)

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

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

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

ANTHEM *As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought* F. Green
 SPC Small Ensemble
 Janette Robinson, soprano
 Satia Spencer, mezzo soprano

FIRST READING *PSALM 46* OT, P. 517-18

GOSPEL READING *MATTHEW 7:24-29* NT, P. 7

SERMON *Between a Rock and a Hard Place* Rev. Ben Kane

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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

* **HYMN NO. 716** *God Whose Giving Knows No Ending* BEACH SPRING

PRESENTATION OF ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS

You are invited to come forward to place your Estimate of Giving Cards and your morning offerings in the baskets up front. As we bring them forward, please be in prayer for the life and ministry of Second Presbyterian Church.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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.

SENDING

The God who calls us together in worship now sends us out in service.

* INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

* **HYMN NO. 711** *Lord of All Good* TOULON

* CHORAL BENEDICTION *Threefold Amen* TRADITIONAL

* BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE *Vater unser im Himmelreich* F. Mendelssohn

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Benjamin E.E. Kane

Rev. Alisa Secrest

Rev. Lindy Vogado

Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts

Adam Savacool, Organist

Clint Brockway, Interpreter

Liturgists: (8:30) Mike Paulus (11:00) Bruce Rentz

Elders of the Day: (8:30) Leslie McCormack (11:00) Alicia Byrd

Greeters: (11:00) Laura and Steve Dunnagan

Ushers: (8:30) Dan, Chrissy, Clara, Anna and Ezra Voth

(11:00) Debbie Bass, Laura and Steve Dunnagan, Mary Helen Henry, Tom Hicks,
Linda and Steve Humphries, Galen Wenger

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.



**STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024
TODAY IS DEDICATION SUNDAY!**

You may have seen the question our Stewardship Team is asking in this Stewardship Season on the table in the narthex or heard it at one of our *Home Gatherings*. The question is this: **What**



will it take for Second Presbyterian to meet Christ on the mountain? We'd love to hear your answer as we believe it will take all of us to meet Christ on the mountain as a church. Today we will be dedicating our Estimate of Giving cards at all three worship services. You can present your card today, go to the church website or use the QR Code to make your 2024 Estimate of Giving.

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.**



THE FLAGS IN THE SANCTUARY are placed in honor of Veterans' Day, November 11.

SAVE THE DATE! HANGING OF THE GREENS: This year, it is an *evening* event! Join us Sunday evening, Nov. 26 at 4:00 p.m. for an hour of decorating, making, placing, hanging, and preparing our church for the first of Advent in December. Our redesigned evening tradition begins with volunteer stations throughout the building to set up Christmas Trees, make ornaments, fluff and place wreaths, build outdoor installations, and craft blessing bags and cards for the homeless and homebound.

4:00 p.m. Decorating inside and out

5:00 p.m. Potato and Chili Bar dinner, \$7.00 per person, \$28.00 max per household

5:45 p.m. Brief worship in Sanctuary to Light the Chrismon Tree



Make your reservations now for this enjoyable friends-and-family fellowship by calling the church office or registering online at this code! You don't want to miss the fun and fellowship of our annual tradition.

IS IT YOUR BIRTHDAY MONTH? REMEMBER THE BIRTHDAY FUND! If you have a November 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.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Faith and Grief support group meets the third Tuesday of the month in Second Hall at noon. This is a monthly community gathering of support and comfort. Join at any time. Faith and Grief support group will not meet at its regularly scheduled time in November, due to Thanksgiving week. We will be praying for you and look forward to our next gathering on **December 19**.

CARE FOR CAREGIVERS: Our Dementia Caregiver Support Group gathers for support, resources and sharing of experiences. Please join us Thursday, **December 7** at 1:00 p.m. in person or on Zoom. For more information, contact the church office or Sandra Rogers.

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.

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Spiritual Nourishment is reading Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers by Anne Lamott. Join them at 9:30 a.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.



**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

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.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

(11/19) David Eifling

11:00 A.M.

(11/19) Emma Ryall

(11/26) Jo Paulus

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Stewardship Dedication Sunday

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00

Sunday School 9:50

*Children and Families Lunch 12:00

Praeclara Ringers 2:00

Middle School SPY 5:30

SPY Dinner 6:30

High School SPY 7:00

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Day Ringers 11:30

Pastoral Care 1:30

Prayer Shawl Ministry 3:00

Stephen Ministry 6:00

Volleyball 7:00

Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00

*PW Gathering 10:30

Card Making 1:00

Environmental Stewardship 5:30

Fellowship Ministry 6:00

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Staff Meeting 9:00

*W.A.C.K.Y. 5:00

Adult Choir 6:30

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

*Young Adult Bible Study 7:00

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17

*Young Adult Fall Retreat

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

*Young Adult Fall Retreat

Beth Baldwin Memorial Service 10:00

Silas Brewer Memorial Service 2:00

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00

Sunday School 9:50

Praeclara Ringers 2:00

Middle School SPY 5:30

SPY Dinner 6:30

High School SPY 7:00

* Denotes announcement in bulletin