

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

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

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

8:30 AND 11:00 A.M.

The Congregation will speak aloud the bold print in responsive readings.
* Please rise in body or spirit.

GATHERING

*Worship begins with God. God takes the initiative and calls the Church into being.
In the name of Christ, we heed God's call and gather as the community of faith.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

Please 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

Now Thank We All Our God

J. S. Bach

* CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)

How lovely is your dwelling place, **O Lord of hosts!**
My soul longs, indeed it faints, **for the courts of the Lord.**
My heart and my flesh sing for joy **to the living God.**
For a day in your courts is better **than a thousand elsewhere.**
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than live in the tents of wickedness.
O Lord of hosts, **happy is everyone who trusts in you.**
Psalm 84 (selected verses)

* HYMN NO. 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

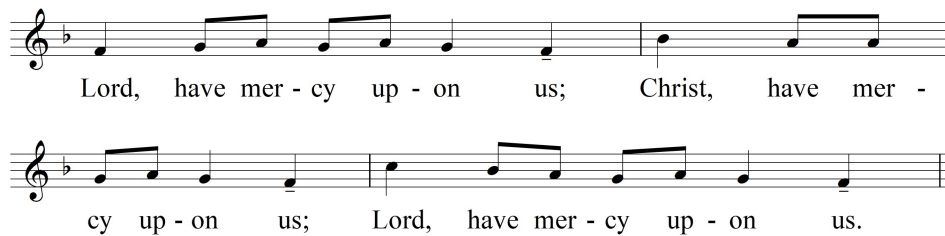
CALL TO CONFESSION (RESPONSIVE)

If we say we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins,
God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins.
Let us confess our sins together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Lord we love to follow our own paths and listen to our own voices.
They tell us what we want to hear and make us feel validated.
But you keep showing up and reminding us that your ways are better.
They are more life-giving and redemptive.
Your ways lead to grace and hope, justice and mercy.
But we love to follow our own paths and listen to our own voices.
Inspire within us a desire to come to the waters of baptism,
where we might touch the coolness of your grace that claims us.
Release us from a need to follow our own paths and voices.
And increase within us a reliance on you and your words of life.
Lord, we come to you with open hearts, ready to 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*)

Create in us a clean heart, O Lord **and renew a right spirit within us.**
Remind us that your grace **showers us with forgiveness and acceptance.**
May we know these words are true: **We are forgiven.**

* 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.

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Hanging of the Greens

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

(8:30) Mary Margaret Hundley and Devon Rex present their daughter, Georgia May Rex, and (11:00) Jamie and Will Collins present their daughter, Claire Somers Collins, to receive the Sacrament this morning.

PRESENTATION

* THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE BAPTISM

WELCOMING

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Jesus Loves Me* Hymn No. 188, Stanza 1

FIRST READING *PSALM 51:1-2, 10-12, 15-17* OT, P. 520-21

ANTHEM *Wade in the Water* Arr. M. Hogan
SPC Adult Choir
Janette Robinson, soprano
Satia Spencer, mezzo soprano

GOSPEL READING *MATTHEW 8:14-17* NT, P. 8

SERMON *One of the Most Important Words of Faith: AND* Rev. Ben Kane

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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

* HYMN NO. 41 *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!* LYONS

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.
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Aria* H. Willan

* **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. 643** *Now Thank We All Our God* NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

* **CHORAL BENEDICTION** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* J. Rutter

* **BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE** *Now Thank We All Our God* S. Karg-Elert

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Benjamin E.E. Kane

Rev. Alisa Secrest

Rev. Lindy Vogado

Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell

Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts

Adam Savacool, Organist

Clint Brockway, Interpreter

Liturgists: (8:30) Jean Kohler (11:00) Ann McCoy

Elders of the Day: (8:30) Justin Villines, Mim Hundley (11:00) George Keck

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

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

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. To make your 2024 Estimate of Giving, complete the Estimate of Giving card located in the pews, go to the church website or use the QR code.

A WEATHER REMINDER: Weekday church events are canceled and the church office is closed if the Little Rock Public Schools are canceled or dismissed due to weather.

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**.



SAVE THE DATE! HANGING OF THE GREENS: This year, it is an *evening* event! Join us Sunday evening, November 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.

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.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTRY: We will have our next church family lunch at 12:15 p.m. on **November 26** hosted by the McCormack Family (2 Northwest Court). Please join us for fellowship and food! All are welcome.

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.

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.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS: *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.

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.

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

THANKS FOR HELPING OUR SCHOOL PARTNER BALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the "Boxes for Bobcats" Thanksgiving food drive as well as those who helped bake pumpkin bread for the teachers and staff. Both the donations and treats were warmly received by our friends at Bale!

CALLING ALL SECOND PRES VEGANS AND VEGETARIANS! The Environmental Stewardship ministry is creating a Vegan/Vegetarian supplement to our Second Pres cookbook, and we would love to share your vegan and vegetarian recipes. By consuming less or no meat in our daily lives, we can make a significant difference in our care for the planet by reducing agricultural waste and pollution. Please send your recipes and/or questions to lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org.

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

The *Seeking More Light* class meets in room 67. TODAY 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.

11:00 A.M.

(11/26) Jo Paulus

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
Middle School SPY 5:30
SPY Dinner 6:30
High School SPY 7:00

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

*First and Third Monday Morning
Bible Study 9:30
Pastoral Care 1:30
Finance Committee 5:00
Volleyball 7:00
Boy Scouts 7:00

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Adult Choir 6:30

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Thanksgiving Day
Church Office Closed

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Church Office Closed

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

SPY Service Day 12:00

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
*Children and Families Lunch 12:15
*Hanging of the Greens 4:00
Middle School SPY 5:30
SPY Dinner 6:30
High School SPY 7:00

* Denotes announcement in bulletin