

Service for the Lord's Day

*O Holy Presence, whose love brings all things into being,
come and draw open by your light the ancient blossoms.*

*O Beloved, radiant with glory in all Creation,
come, and awaken us; teach us to see.[†]*

The Gathering

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prelude on HYFRYDOL

June Nixon

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *read responsively*

8:30 a.m. Brian, Carolyn, Victoria, Hurston, and Tinsley Heil

11:00 a.m. Ronnie and Sunny Seale, Drew and Stephanie Fellon

In days to come peoples shall come and say:

Come, let us go up to the mountain of God; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths.

For God shall judge between many peoples...neither shall they learn war anymore.

As we light our first Advent candle,

we pray for the holy hope of God.

Come now, O Child of Mary.

Come now, thou long-expected Jesus.

*HYMN 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace.

In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE HYMN 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

11 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

John Richard Crockett IV *son of Morgan & Samuel Crockett*

BAPTISM HYMN *Lord Jesus Christ, Our Lord Most Dear* TALLIS CANON

*Children ages 3 through completed 3rd graders are welcome to come forward for the Baptism;
afterward, they will be dismissed through the side door for activities following the Peace.*



Lord Je-sus Christ, our Lord most dear, as you were once an in-fant here, so



give this child of yours, we pray, your grace and bless-ing ev-ery day.

read in unison when invited

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.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Word

MEDITATION *Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion from Messiah* G.F. Handel
Christina Recktenwald, soloist

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion
Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, thy king cometh unto thee:
He is the righteous Savior, and he shall speak peace unto the heathen.
Rejoice...
Zechariah 9:9–10

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 2:1–5
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

11 a.m. NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 24:36–44
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Embracing God's Dream* Rev. Steve Jester

The Response

8:30 a.m. *AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *read in unison* *The Apostles' Creed*
Found in Baptism liturgy above.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*You are invited to pass the Friendship Pad found at the end of the pew.
We welcome you to scan this QR code and visit the Giving page on our website.
You can fulfill your pledges and offer your financial support for the ongoing ministries of Second Presbyterian Church. Thank you!*



ANTHEM

excerpts from *Magnificat*

Antonio Vivaldi

*Et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo,
 Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae;
 ecce enim ex hoc beatam me dicent omnes
 generationes.
 Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens est, et
 sanctum nomen ejus.
 Fecit potentiam in brachio suo;
 Dispersionis superbos mente cordis sui.
 Deposuit potentes de sede, et exaltavit humiles.*

Luke 1:46–55, Latin Vulgate, 4th century

My spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
 For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
 For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call
 me blessed.
 For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is
 his name.
 He hath showed strength with his arm: he hath
 scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
 He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and
 hath exalted the humble and meek.
trans. Book of Common Prayer, 1662

*DOXOLOGY 143 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory stanza 4*

REGENT SQUARE

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
 Evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One.
 Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ,
 the newborn King!**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *read in unison**The Lord's Prayer*

**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.**

The Sending

*HYMN 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Allegro maestoso e vivace from Sonata II

Felix Mendelssohn

*We are called to go out from our worship to share the grace of God with one another and the world.
 You are welcome to remain seated for the postlude or exit quietly.*

In Worship Today

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

Our life is in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. The Bible is the written witness to Jesus Christ, therefore it is "The Word of Life." Our lives are claimed by God through our baptism. It is God's seal on who we are as the children of God, therefore it is "The Font of Identity." The Table is the center of our home in the Body of Christ, the place where we are welcomed, renewed, and strengthened for the life to which we are called, therefore it is "The Table of Sustenance."

USHERS

8:30 Steve Miller, Mary Miller

11:00 Edie Wells, Patrice Paton, Matt Linville, Kelly Will, Vivienne Linville,
Naomi Linville

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Rev. Jordan Akin (8:30), & Rev. Rich Gianzero, liturgists;
Janet Rittenhouse, lay reader (11:00 a.m.)

The Sanctuary Choir; Jim Rittenhouse, Director; Samuel Libra, Organist

Elliott Nichols, Technology Coordinator

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[†]The Hands of God, *by Steven Garnass-Holmes. Reprinted in In Worship Today. Used with permission.*

We Lift Up in Prayer

Louise & Wallace Horine and their family on the death of their daughter, Margaret Lynn Adair, 11/14/2022.

David, Leslie, Nancy, Susan, and the Morrow family on the death of mother Barbara, 10/31/22.

Stephanie Altobellis, Allysa, and Sergey Dunbar, Martha Hall, Sarah Parker, and the Dunbar family on the death of husband, father, and brother, Tom Dunbar, 10/30/22.

The Ministry Team

Rev. Steven P. Jester sjester@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Pastor</i>
Rev. Jordan Akin jakin@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Associate Pastor for Formation & Mission</i>
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Jim Rogers jrogers@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Facilities Manager</i>
Paula S. Roberts	<i>Organist Emerita</i>



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Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.

Is-rael's strength and con-so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf-fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7-10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.