

Welcome to Second Presbyterian Church

Sharing the grace of God with one another and the world around us.



This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ's people; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.

Please visit our website 2ndpreslou.org to connect with various ministries, or to contact the office for more information about our faith community.



If you are new to us, scan this QR Code to visit our website and learn about our life at Second.

Children of God, welcome home!

*Thank you for silencing mobile phones and other devices
to honor the sanctity of our worship.*

For our worshippers with little ones needing a quiet space during the worship service, there is an infant and caregiver room off the Narthex. If you have any questions, please notify an usher.



For our worshippers who use hearing devices, please be reminded that we have the T-Coil system available. If you have the T-coil feature on your hearing device, and most devices do have that feature, you simply need to switch it to that setting. If you would like a unit, please ask an usher to provide one.

** Please stand if you can do so comfortably.*

Bold type *is sung or read in unison.*

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Toccata on NETTLETON

S. Libra

CALL TO WORSHIP *read responsively*

Christ is the Light of the world. In him there is no darkness at all.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN

The Gathering

NETTLETON

**Out of need and out of custom,
We have gathered here again.
To the gathering, we are bringing
Love and laughter, grief and pain;
Some believing, some rejoicing,
Some afraid, and some in doubt.
Come we now our questions voicing;
We would search these matters out.**

**Come we now our masks displaying,
Fearing that we shall be known;
Foolish games forever playing,
Feeling, meanwhile, so alone.
Let pretension's power be broken;
To be human let us dare.
Let the truth in love be spoken;
Let us now the questing share.**

**We have heard the glowing stories
Of the things which God has done,
Of God's power and of God's glory,
And of Christ, God's holy one.
God of human transformation,
For your presence now we pray.
Lead us ever on the journey
As we gather here again.**

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

Holy God, we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you. You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world, but we indulge our own desires. Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts. Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life. Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are, in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS *read responsively*

...hear this good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

RESPONSE HYMN

A Brand New Song

Ken Medema

Children ages 3 through completed 3rd graders are welcome to come forward as congregation sings final verse; they will be dismissed through the side door for activities following the Peace.

Refrain

Can - tad al Se - ñor un cán - ti - co nue - vo. Can -
tad al Se - ñor, can - tad al Se - ñor.

4. Sing the song and tell the sto - ry of the God who makes things new.
Give to God the praise and glo - ry; this is what we glad - ly do.
We will be God's joy - ful part - ners, work - ing all the day and night.
'til the sto - ry's great con - clu - sion; when all things will be set right.

to Refrain

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 55:1–11

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

John 7:32–39

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Sacred Hunger

Rev. Steve Jester

The Response

SERMON RESPONSE

Ken Medema

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *read in unison*

from The Iona Community

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

Your Call, O God

Ken Medema

Like a light that shines, when the night is dark and moonless,
Like a summer cloud that promises the rain,
Like the smallest sound that moves the wall of silence,
Is your call, O God, to come and worship you again.
Like a rose in winter, or a river in the desert,
Like a bell that rings when a friend is at the door,
Like the roar of an airplane that brings the weary traveler home,
Is your call, O God, to come and worship you one more.

Like alarms that ring out in the rush and rumble of the day,
Like the running feet that rush to find the child who's lost her way,
Like an email, like a phone call, like a siren, like a summons,
like a rainstorm, like an earthquake,
Is your call, our all in all.

Like an open doorway that welcomes home the homeless,
Like a surgeon's scalpel, which alone can end the pain,
Like a banquet table that knows no class or boundary,
Is your call, O God, to come and worship you again.

Ken Medema

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *read responsively*

...O healing river, **pour down your waters and heal your people.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *read in 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.**

The Sending

*HYMN

God, You Made Us in Your Image

HOLY MANNA

**God, you made us in your image,
brother, sister, woman, man;
children of new generations,
every nation, race, and clan.
Brought together in one mission,
ever faithful to your call;
sharing treasures of creation,
bound as one and serving all.**

**Blessed with senses to perceive you
in a world filled with dismay;
ears to hear the music 'round us,
eyes to shine with each new day.
Sweet the scent of fresh-mown pastures,
rich the taste of bread and wine;
warm the touch of kindred spirits,
earthly friends and Love Divine.**

Give us, God, a heart of caring
for our neighbors in distress;
temper judgment with compassion,
justice grow in righteousness.
help us heed the cries of others;
lend us hands to dry our tears.
Make us more like Christ in serving
those in need throughout our years.

Lord, instill in us your wisdom;
show your will, and guide our ways.
When your Word is spread before us,
we respond with songs of praise!
So direct our understanding
of the paths the saints have trod,
confident the life before us
leads us to the throne of God.

*BLESSING

RESPONSE

Ken Medema

We are called to go out from our worship to share the grace of God with one another and the world.

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."*

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given in honor of her children and grandchildren, and in memory of their father, Dr. Lowell L. Stokes, Jr., by Susan Stokes.

USHERS

Henry Kelsey, Edie Wells, Larry Jones, Ginny Jones, Sallye Pence, Jennifer Scott

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Rev. Jordan Akin, & Elizabeth Clay, liturgists;
Ronny Seale, lay reader

The Sanctuary Choir; Jim Rittenhouse, Director; Dr. Samuel Libra, Organist;
Ken Medema, guest pianist

Carol Choir; Krista Mueller, director:

*Amelia Beck, Ellis Bowman, Sam Bryant, Ellis Clark, Charlie David, Ellie Farnsley,
Piper Farnsley, Isabelle Hayden, Theo Hayden, Teddy Mayer*

Chapel Choir; Samuel Libra, director:

*Elizabeth Arton, Joshua Cook, Bebe Davis, Una Donan, Lucy Farnsley, Miriam Ransan, McClain
Watkins, Ava Grace Wright*

Worship Arts; Ricky Case, director:

Olivia Bennett, May Davis, Chappell Mayer, Briggs Tyler, Kate Watkins, William Wright

Jonathan Mueller, Audiovisual Engineer; Elliott Nichols, Technology Coordinator

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We Lift Up in Prayer

Gene Smith and his family on the death of his sister, Rose Ann O'Daniel, 9/20/23.

Ellen McCarty and her family on the death of her mother, Donna Gill, 9/14/23.

Nancy Thomas and her family on the death of her sister, Mary Helm Myers, 9/9/23.

Eleanor Maddox, Toby Nutt, and their families on the death of husband and stepfather, Bob Maddox, 9/7/23.

Penny Carneal and her family on the death of her brother, Lynn Phifer, 8/14/23.

Ed & Mary F. Glasscock and their family on the death of their son, Clinton, 8/3/23.

The Ministry Team

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