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 worshipers 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

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Doch weichet, ihr tollen, from Cantata 8 Jason Steigerwalt, soloist

J.S. Bach

Doch weichet, ihr tollen, vergeblichen Sorgen! Mich rufet mein Jesus: wer sollte nicht gehn? Nichts, was mir gefällt, besitzet die Welt. Erscheine mir, seliger, fröhlicher Morgen, Verkläret und herrlich vor Jesu zu stehn. anonymous

Away, foolish, futile anxieties! My Jesus calls me: who would not go to him? Nothing the world possesses gives me pleasure. Dawn on me, blessed, joyful day, transfigured and glorious to stand before Jesus. trans. Francis Browne

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

Rejoice! Rejoice Believers

LANCASHIRE

Rejoice! Rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear; the evening is advancing and darker night is near. The Bridegroom is arising and soon he will draw nigh. Up, watch with expectation; at midnight comes the cry.

See that your lamps are burning; replenish them with oil; look now for your salvation, the end of sin and toil. The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand; arise, O heirs of glory; the Bridegroom is at hand!

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear; arise, thou Sun so longed for, above this shadowed sphere! With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption, and ever be with thee!

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION read in unison

Holy God, your way for us is clear: We are to live so that the manner of our lives speaks of your goodness, your generosity, your infinite mercy. Too often, though, we forget the purposes for which you made us. Too often, when we might meet inhumanity with the reflection of your goodness, we turn aside. We return unkindness for unkindness. We cling to what might be shared. We avoid those who are not like us. We fail to give grace in the measure we have received it. Forgive us, we pray. Remind us that your goodness is enduring, and your mercy is everlasting, for we pray all these things in the name of our savior, Jesus Christ.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS read responsively

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing: it is the gift of God, not the result of works, so that no one might boast.

For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Believe the promise of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

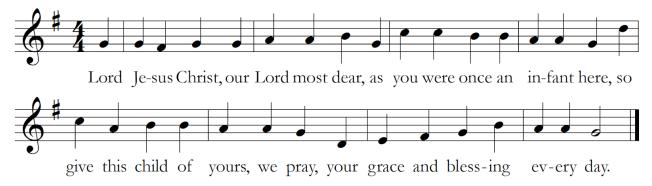
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Harrison Abraham Hahn son of Elisa & Jason Hahn

BAPTISM HYMN Lord Jesus Christ, Our Lord Most Dear

TALLIS CANON

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



*read in unison when invited

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 read responsively

The peace of Christ be with you all. And also with you.

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Ready for the Long Haul

Rev. Steve Jester

The Response

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We welcome you to scan this OR 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!



Solo

Ciacona in F-major

Johann Pachelbel

Amos 5:18-24

Matthew 25:1–13

*DOXOLOGY

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

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 716	God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending	BEACH SPRING
*BLESSING		
POSTLUDE	We Will Rejoice from Joseph and His Brethren	G.F. Handel
	We will rejoice in thy salvation, and triumph in the name of the Lord our God. Hallelujah! <i>James Miller</i>	
We are called to go	out from our worship to share the grace of God with one anothe	er and the world.

You are welcome to remain seated for the postlude or exit quietly.

In Worship Joday

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 HARPSICHORD USED IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY was a generous gift of longtime member Roberta M. Fischer. It had been lovingly played by her late husband Carl, and was built by the pioneering American harpsichord-builder John Challis. We give thanks for this beautiful instrument and dedicate it to the glory of God in the making of music to praise his name!
- THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given in honor of Alden, for his birthday, by his grandparents Edie and Charlie Edinger.

USHERS

Henry Kelsey, Tony Duncan, Elaine Duncan, Gordon Duke, Marilyn Duke

- OUR WORSHIP LEADERS
 - Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Rev. Jordan Akin, & Rev. Andrew Bowman, liturgists; John Hubbard, lay reader

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

Evan Vicic, Audiovisual Engineer; Elliott Nichols, Technology Coordinator

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We Lift Up in Prayer

Sue Rogers and her family on the death of her father, O.D., 11/8/23. Kyle Wiggins and his family on the death of his father, Mac, 10/14/23. Eric Jaegers and his family on the death of his mother, Pat, 10/9/23. The family and friends of Ellie Salsbury on her death, 10/7/23. 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.

The Ministry Jeam

Steven P. Jester sjester@2ndpreslou.org	Pastor
Jordan Akin jakin@2ndpreslou.org	Associate Pastor for Formation & Mission
Andrew Bowman abowman@2ndpreslou.org	Associate Pastor for Community Life
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Patty Moody pmoody@2ndpreslou.org	Custodian
Paula S. Roberts	Organist Emerita



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Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.