

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 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.*

+ Texts and translations can be found in the back of the bulletin.

The Gathering

PRELUDE

+ *Adam Lay Ybounden*

Boris Ord

The Octet

+ *Gesu Bambino*

Pietro Yon

Christina Recktenwald, Molly Mehlan, sopranos; Laura Atkinson, mezzo soprano

Prelude on ADESTE FIDELES

T.F.H. Candlyn

Samuel Libra, organ

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES



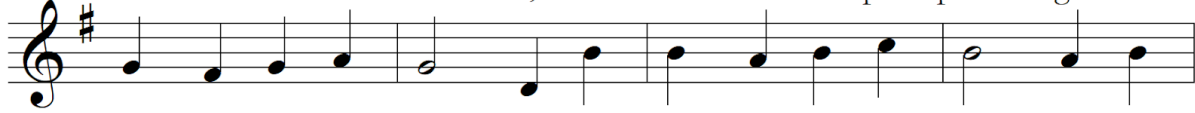
1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem!
sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heav'n a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee — be all glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels. O
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:



come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O



come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

God of grace and truth, in Christ you offer us the gift of yourself, but we are distracted by presents under the tree. You come to us in human flesh, but we fail to recognize you in the humans right beside us. You shine brightly in the world, but we focus on the darkness in the daily news. Forgive us, and renew our hope and trust in you. Draw us closer to the one who loves unconditionally and welcomes all, the one who drew near to us: Jesus Christ, our Lord born this night.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, vs. 3

IN DULCI JUBILO

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Word

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE *read responsively*

Charlie, Mindy, Kaylee, Lucy, Eleanor, & Piper Farnsley

Those who walk in darkness
will see a great light.

**For a child is born to us,
who will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Prince of Peace.**

There is Good News of great joy—
Joy for all people!

As we light the Christ candle,
We glimpse the light of heaven.

**No matter how impossible it may seem,
God's promises will be fulfilled.**

Mary and Joseph

Rev. Jordan Akin

Away in a manger, vs. 1

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.**

The Animals

Christina Recktenwald

Away in a manger, vs. 3

**The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

The Angels

Jason Steigerwalt

Angels we have heard on high, vs. 3

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains:
Gloria...in excelsis Deo! Gloria...in excelsis Deo!**

The Shepherds

Laura Atkinson

Angels we have heard on high, vs. 2

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria...in excelsis Deo! Gloria...in excelsis Deo!**

The Kings

Russ Dunlap

We Three Kings of Orient Are, vs. 2

**We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts; we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!**

Conclusion

Lorie Williamson

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, vs. 3

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

The Response

*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.

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.**

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

⁺*My Dancing Day* trad. English carol, arr. Parker & Shaw
The Octet

VOLUNTARY

Meditation on IRBY
Samuel Libra, organ

T.F.H. Candlyn

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *read in unison*

God of wonder, we offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know the riches of your love in the Word made flesh. Amen.

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

To light, please tilt your unlit candle toward the lit candle of the person next to you.

*CAROL

Silent Night, Holy Night

STILLE NACHT



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;



'round you vir - gin mo - ther and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so
glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav'n - ly hosts sing
with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia



ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
"Al - le - lu - ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
to our King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

The Sending

*BLESSING

*CAROL

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heav'n and nature sing...**

POSTLUDE

Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabelle

trad. French carol

Samuel Libra, organ

arr. Keith Chapman

*We are called to go out from our worship to share the light of Christ's coming
& the grace of God with one another and the world around us.
You are welcome to remain seated for the postlude or exit quietly.*

In Worship Today

THE CHRISMON TREE

In 1986 a former member of our church, Edith Breed, President of the Women of the Church, had a dream of one day having a Chrismon Tree during the Advent Season in our church. Many women in the church researched the symbols of Christianity and handmade all of the decorations that you see on the tree in the Sanctuary. White is the liturgical color of Christmas which refers to the purity and perfection of Christ, and gold to the majesty and glory of Christ. The first Chrismon Tree was put in the Narthex for all to see in 1989. Please enjoy this piece of our history, which represents the work of so many women of our church.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given...

In memory of Charles & Jerry Pence by their daughter, Sallye.

To the glory of the newborn Christ child, and in loving memory of Judy Brown and son and brother, Chip, by Prentice Brown, Allison & Will Duncan, and family.

In loving memory of his mother, Pat Jaegers, and his brother, Ken Jaegers, Jr., by Eric Jaegers.

To the glory of God, for all of our earthly and spiritual blessings, by Nancy & John Hubbard.

A special thank you to Bonnie Boram, House and Gardens Committee, our office administrators, children from our Weekday School, and many others who helped to decorate our indoor and outdoor spaces so beautifully.

USHERS

Gene Smith, Connie Smith, Patrick Farnan, Georgia Farnan, Katherine Farnan, Robert Farnan, Edie Wells, Beth Blythe, Davis Blythe, James Seiler Jr., Laura Cromer, Brian Cromer

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Rev. Andrew Bowman & Rev. Jordan Akin, liturgists; Lorie Williamson, Christina Recktenwald, Jason Steigerwalt, Laura Atkinson, Russ Dunlap, readers

The Octet of the Sanctuary Choir: Laura Atkinson, Russ Dunlap, Molly Mehlan, Kenneth Oeth, Christina Bouras Recktenwald, Jason Steigerwalt

Jim Rittenhouse, Director of Worship & Music Ministry

Dr. Samuel Libra, Organist and Assistant Director of Worship & Music Ministry

Evan Vicic, Audiovisual Engineer; Elliott Nichols, Technology Coordinator

All music is printed or live-cast with permission under OneLicense.net #718492 and CCLI License No. #2036813.

We Lift Up in Prayer

Martha Spencer and her family on the death of her sister, Fuchsia Nelson, 12/18/23.

LaMar Gaston, Joan Gaston, Page Penna, and their family on the death of LaMar's son, Mark, 11/24/23.

Sue Rogers and her family on the death of her father, O.D., 11/8/23.

The flowers and wreaths are given to the glory of God by...

Wreaths:

Susanne & Jess Wright in honor of their children and grandchildren.

Lorrie & Peter Conway in honor of our grandchildren Eleanor and John Gleason, and Rose, Josephine, and Dorothy Conway.

Janie Duerson Scovil & family in memory of her parents Jack and Jane Duerson.

Jay O'Brien in memory of Lucy and E.J. O'Brien.

Poinsettias:

The Dunbar, Hall, & Parker families in memory of Thomas E. Dunbar and Evan T.J. Dunbar

Ronnie & Sunny Seale in honor of our grandchildren, Morgan Fellon, Jackson & Ruby Seale

Caroline Wells

Cheryl & Dan Russell in memory of our wonderful family in heaven;
In memory of our loved ones. Forever in our hearts.

Margaret Brown in memory of William Lewis Brown

Prentice Brown and Kim Muir Craven & family in memory of Joan Muir

John & Bonnie Stone in memory of our parents

Ann Buckman in loving memory of J.D., Angelina, and Carletta Buckman

Martha Clay Nichols in memory of Robert W. Nichols; In memory of Tom B. Nichols

Kelly & Joe Seiler in honor of our children, Campbell and Elizabeth

Kelly, Joe, Campbell, and Elizabeth Seiler in memory of Mr. & Mrs. John G. Seiler Jr.

Sandall & Tom Tyrrell in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Tyrrell; In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Charles L. Dade;
In memory of Mr. Gerald G. Tyrrell

In memory of Peyton Wells by his family

In memory of Caroline & Jim Mapother and Marion & Peyton Wells by their families

Lisa Houghlin in memory of Jim & Joan Bell; In memory of David Houghlin

Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Lewis in memory of Clinton Glasscock;

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Hughes and Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lewis

Lynn Dunbar in memory of Evan Thomas Joseph Dunbar; In memory of Tom Dunbar;

In honor of my children, April, Sergey, & Allysa; In memory of Joseph Cieskiewicz;

In memory of Joseph Kelly Cieskiewicz

Sarah Middleton, Brian, Libby, Margaret, and Matt in memory of Kenneth Middleton

Heather, Amelia, & Colleen Campbell in memory of Christina Larsen Campbell;

In memory of Judith Coye Gilchrist; In memory of Arthur Keith Gilchrist;

In memory of The Honorable William J. Campbell; In memory of Marie Cloherty Campbell

Margaret Flowers in memory of Louise Horine and Lynn Adair

Mr. & Mrs. Edward Glasscock in memory of Jane Shewmaker; In memory of Clinton Glasscock

Linda Watson in honor of Elizabeth Clay



Laura Davis in honor of our children Abby, Allison, & Scott Davis; In honor of our parents, Bill Davis, Linda Watson, & Jim Watson, and in memory of John's mom, Caroline Davis

Becky Shaw in memory of Judd Shaw

Linda & Wayne Rudloff in honor of their 5 children and 4 grandchildren, and in memory of our parents

Stuart Ferguson in honor of Anabelle, Beau, and Elise; In honor of the House and Garden Committee Members;
In memory of Bruce L. Ferguson, Jim Kneisley, Bruce W. Ferguson, and Alyssa Kneisley

Nancy Ostertag in memory of Barbara & George Dudley

Evelyn Hwang in memory of Henré Hou, Eric Huang, and John Church;
In memory of M.C Hwang, Maria Nice, and Hedy Shao

Edith and Charlie Huber in loving memory of our parents, Dr. and Mrs. Ralph F. Huber and Mr. and Mrs. Z. Charles Justice

Jamie and Walt Swyers in honor of our grandchildren Marin, Tyler, Bennett, Sam, and Lily

Nan Dobbs in memory of Dr. Charlie Dobbs

The Costel Family in honor of Bill & Shirley Rutledge; In memory of Virginia & William Costel

Gene & Connie Smith in memory of their parents Mr. & Mrs. Mason Venner Smith and Mr. & Mrs. Lester J. Rausch

An anonymous donor in memory of Viola & George Austin;
In loving memory of Frederick C. Ehrman, M.D., by his family

Joyce Kneisley in honor of the Stuart Ferguson family, with love from Joyce Kneisley, Jennifer's mother

Maryann Bell in honor of Ellen Rudd

Lynn Maddox in memory of Robert Tyler Maddox

The Duffy family in honor of Evelyn Hwang

Henry & Debbie Kelsey in honor of our children Caroline, Henry, and Rachel;
In memory of Ronald Sanders (Sandy) Ligon

Jim Seiler in honor of our children and grandchild, Allie & James Seiler and Katie, Alex, and Turner Harkess

Tom & Karen Sweets in memory of their parents

Leigh & Latham Speiden in honor of Chase, Melanie, John, Lucy; Frank, Tricia, Louise, and Maymie Speiden; In loving memory of our parents Mr. & Mrs. John M. Nichols and Mr. & Mrs. Fillison L. Speiden

Cindy & Mike Dickman in honor of Lillie, Maggie, and Jack;
In honor of Maxie Key and in memory of Lester Key, Norma McCray, and Bill Dickman

Ward Tabler in honor of William & Andrew Tabler; In memory of Elizabeth K. Bondurant

Rosemay Palmer-Ball in memory of Shirley & Helen Palmer-Ball

Susan Langford in honor of 2nd Act

The Lyles Family in memory of Martha Bryant

Angela Florence in memory of Shirley Rizzo

Drew, Stephanie, & Morgan Fellon in honor of Grace Fellon, Sunny & Ronnie Seale;
In memory of Leonard Fellon

Cheryl Cooper and Walter Crutcher in memory of Courtney Cooper

Ed Wilson in memory of Jeanie Wilson

Amy & Frank Parker, and family in honor of Jean Groskreutz; In honor of Cathy Hollander

Carole Nadar in honor of my brother, Leonard DeToma, Jr., and his unwavering faith despite critical health concerns; In memory of beloved parents, Carolyn and Leonard DeToma, Sr.

Hunter & Sissy Judy in memory of Randy Canfield

Betty Kilgore Gibbs in memory of George S. Gibbs III

Betty Kilgore Moss Gibbs, and grandchildren Gwinn & Jack Moss, in memory of her parents Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Wesley Kilgore Jr.

Susan Elliott Moss, and grandchildren Elliott, Wesley, & Rhodes Moss, in memory of her parents Bill & Louise Elliott

In honor of Betty Kilgore Moss Gibbs by her grandchildren, Elliott, Wesley, & Rhodes Moss

Kyle, Andrea, Kate, and Zara Wiggins in memory of Mac Wiggins, father of Kyle Wiggins

Frances & Charlie Scholtz in honor of Latham Weissaupt; In memory of Mary Haggin and Charlie Scholtz

Elizabeth and Doug Owen in loving memory of our parents Alice Carn & Eugene Farmer Leelia Reynolds Hill and Douglas St. Owen

Tom & Jeannette Pardue in honor of Pastor Steve Jester

Patty & Bill West in loving memory of their parents

Liz Evans in memory of my grandmother, Jane Ware

Kitty Keeley in honor of Hal Keeley; In honor of Graham Keeley; In honor of Ches Keeley

Susan & Bill McDowell in honor of Trey, Leslie, & Dutch

Jane & Annie Roth and Lucy, Patrick, & Claire Kosse in honor of my precious family, Annie, Lucy, Patrick and Claire; In loving memory of Jack Roth

Timothy & Sharon Clark in honor of our grandchildren Logan Michael & Isla Elizabeth;
In memory of our parents Charles & Ruth Clark and John & Ethelyn Jeffords

Kitty & Stan deVoogd in honor of our granddaughters Amelia Joy and Eleanor Kay;
In honor of Kitty's father, Bill Billingham

John and Cindy McCarthy in memory of John & Jane McCarthy; In memory of Bess & Leon Stone; In memory of John & Margaret Moss

