

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.*

*RESPONSE HYMN

Meditative Passacaglia

Carol Lynn Mizell

11:00 *Children ages 3 through 3rd graders are welcome to come forward
and be dismissed through the side door for activities following the Peace.*



O Lord God, hear my prayer. Com-fort me with your lov-ing care.



Guide my thoughts, guide my steps. Ev-er let me thank-ful be.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS *read responsively*

...In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.
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

Ephesians 2:1–10

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

ANTHEM

God So Loved the World from *St. John Passion*

Bob Chilcott

The Octet (8:30); Sanctuary Choir (11:00); Molly Melahn, soloist

*God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
John 3:16, KJV*

SECOND READING

John 3:14–21

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

SERMON

Beyond Slogans

Rev. Steve Jester

The Response

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *read in unison*

from the Iona Community

We believe in God whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives; whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth; whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all; and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, in God we trust; and, in the name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness, to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power of the spirit of love, and in the company of the faithful so to be the church, for the glory of 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!



VOLUNTARY

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
Austin Memorial Handbells

HOUSTON, arr. J. Behnke

*RESPONSE HYMN 711

Lord of All Good, vs. 3

TOULON

**Father, whose bounty all creation shows;
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows:
To you with grateful hearts, ourselves we give.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

11:00

INVITATION TO PRAYER *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

Ken Medema

Youth Worship Arts

Join in singing when invited.

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

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 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE
arr. Benedict Sheehan

*BLESSING

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 memory of Larry's sister, Jane Boram, by
Bonnie & Larry Boram.

USHERS

8:30 James Seiler, Allie Seiler, Beth Blythe, Blake Blythe, Walt Tucker, Odetta Tucker

11:00 Emily Lawrence, Curt Engelstad, Julie Engelstad, Sasha Bjork-Meyer,
Vic Baltzell, Lee Baltzell

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Elizabeth Clay (11:00) & Rev. Jordan Akin, liturgists;
Susanne Wright (8:30) & Vic Baltzell (11:00), lay readers.

The Octet (8:30); The Sanctuary Choir (11:00); Jim Rittenhouse, Director;
Dr. Samuel Libra, Organist

Austin Memorial Handbells; Jim Rittenhouse, director

Bonnie Boram, Ricky Case, Terry Cissell, Elizabeth Clay, Lindsay Cook, Stacie Farris, Steve Farris, Brandon Flamion, Jean Herp, Diana Jester, Katharine King, Sue Rogers & Carmen Sanders

(11:00) Worship Arts (4th–6th grade) & Youth Worship Arts (7th–12th grade);

Ricky Case, director; Lindsay Cook, assistant.

Morgan Fallon, Charlee Hayden, Wilson Masick, Avery Summer, Briggs Tyler, William Wright

Evan Vicic, Audiovisual Engineer; William Vicic, camera

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We Lift Up in Prayer

Jim Baker and family in the death of his wife, Patricia "Patsy", 2/27/24.

DeeDee Davis and her family on the death of her husband, Scott, 2/10/24.

Dixie Baird and her family on the death of her brother-in-law, Bobby Jones, 1/23/24.

The Ministry Team

Steven P. Jester sjester@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Pastor</i>
Jordan Akin jakin@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Associate Pastor for Faith Formation & Mission</i>
Andrew Bowman abowman@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Associate Pastor for Community Life</i>
Elizabeth Clay eclay@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Parish Associate</i>
Hayley Abell habell@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Director of the Weekday School</i>
Lorie Williamson llwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Director of Children's & Family Ministry</i>
Jim Rittenhouse jrittenhouse@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Director of Worship & Music Ministry</i>
Samuel Libra slibra@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Organist and Assistant Director of Worship & Music Ministry</i>
Ricky Case rlcase01@gmail.com	<i>Student Music Coordinator</i>
Diane Jackson diane.jackson@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Bookkeeper</i>
Amy Kiefner akiefner@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Church Administrator</i>
Tammy Kissling tkissling@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Ministry Coordinator for Faith Formation & Mission</i>
Jeremy Doyle jdoyle@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Director of Facilities</i>
Paula S. Roberts	<i>Organist Emerita</i>



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What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.

ADORATION

634 To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo - ry; great things he has done!
2 Great things he has taught us; great things he has done,

So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,
but pur - er and high - er and great - er will be

and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.
our won - der, our trans - port, when Je - sus we see.

This American gospel song became popular in England in the late 19th century, then returned to this country in the mid-20th century with the Billy Graham crusades. Its continuing popularity may well be due to the freedom from subjective considerations in its praise of God.

ADORATION

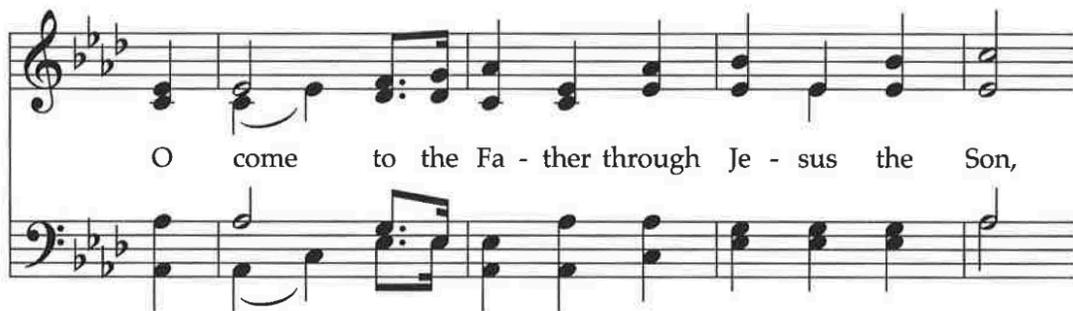
Refrain



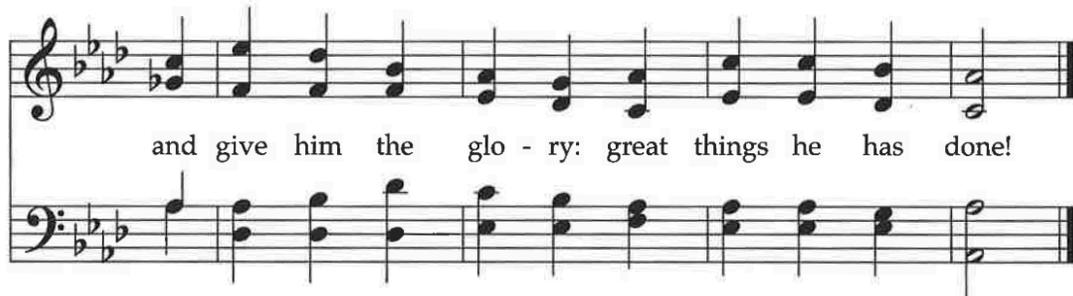
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord; let the people rejoice!



O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,



and give him the glory: great things he has done!