

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.



With gratitude to God, 2025 marks our 195th anniversary, and as we move toward our bicentennial, we have a great opportunity to reflect on our many accomplishments, evaluate our current mission, and identify new strategic pathways that will help us meet the needs of our congregation and community.

Please join us on our continued journey to preserve, strengthen, and innovate our community of faith.



Children of God, welcome home!

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

For our worshippers at 11 a.m. 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 at 11 a.m. 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 headset unit, please ask an usher to provide one.



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

***Bold** type indicates where we share the liturgy together.*

Service for the Lord's Day

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled."
- Luke 1:38

The Gathering

PRELUDE

At the Coming of the Angel
Laura de St. Croix-Vicic, viola; Mengfei Xu, piano

Rebecca Clarke

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT

Ave Maria
The Octet

Rihards Dubra

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *read responsively*

8:30 a.m. Larry & Bonnie Boram

11:00 a.m. Tim & Cathy Martin; Lindsay, Joshua, & Bailey Cook

The angel said, "Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God!"

Though we face trial and trouble, God is with us.

We light the second candle to remember the light of peace Christ brings.

In peace, we await the coming of the Son. - from Luke 1:30

*HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
vss. 1, 4, 6, 7

VENI EMMANUEL

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

Holy God, you call us to be people who do what is right, no matter the circumstances. Yet we hide what needs to change in our hearts and our habits. We confess that we take your promises to us for granted. We assume all that we do is acceptable to you, while we judge others without mercy. We resist showing love to others, especially if their backgrounds or beliefs are different. Have mercy on us when we justify ourselves instead of seeking your way of wisdom. Forgive our failure to be what you desire for us, and turn our hearts back to you.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

In peace, let us receive and proclaim the Good News:
Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God! Amen.

*RESPONSE HYMN 880 *Come, O Come, Emmanuel, refrain* VENI EMMANUEL

11:00 a.m.: Children of all ages are welcome to come forward.

*Following the Peace, children ages 3 through kindergarten will be dismissed
through the side door for activities.*

Those in 1st grade and above may return to their seats.

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

*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

Psalm 72:1-19

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

SECOND READING

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

Luke 1:26-38

SERMON

Light Dawns: The Angel & Mary

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

The Response

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *congregation remains seated*

I'll Go Tell Elizabeth

Ken Medema

Krista Heckmann, mezzo soprano

(text in back of bulletin)

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!*



HYMN 100 *seated* *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout* STAR OF THE COUNTRY DOWN

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING *read responsively*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In the rich dark of winter, O God, you make an astounding promise: ...
so that all your people might rejoice together, saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty...And now with your people of all times and
places, we await with hope the fulfillment of your vision for all creation...

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

In Worship Today

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by Harvey Johnston, John & Cheeky Bahe, and their families, in memory of their parents, Bob & Jane Johnston, Gordon & Muriel Bahe, and all who lost their lives at Pearl Harbor.

USHERS

8:30 Peter Conway, Lorrie Conway

11:00 Connie Smith, Linda Watson, Leigh Parrot, Whitney Watt, John Bahe, Cheeky Bahe

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, preacher; Rev. Andrew Bowman, liturgist; Ricky Case (8:30); Wilson Masick (11), lay readers.

The Octet (8:30); The Sanctuary Choir (11); Jim Rittenhouse, director; Mengfei Xu, organist; Laura de St. Croix-Vicic, guest violist

Evan Vicic, Audiovisual Engineer; William Vicic, camera (11)

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

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 CHAPEL ADVENT CANDLE STAND

The Advent candle stand found in the Chapel is constructed of cherry and maple wood, stained red cherry and finished with lacquer and polished with paste wax. The lathed candle holders are etched with 3 rings representing God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Attached at the bottom of the main pole is an acorn symbolizing God's abundant forgiveness, love, and grace. The stand was constructed by Dr. Larry Boram and the wood was donated by Dr. Lynn Ogden.

“I’ll Go Tell Elizabeth” - © Music and Lyrics, Ken Medema, 1977.

*So many things are happening to me that
I don't understand –
Visions and angels and a baby named Jesus –
It's not what I planned;
The plans I have made are like birds' nests
blown down in the wind and the rain;
And I'm scattered like straw, and I can't quite
tell where to find saneness again.*

*So, I'll go tell Elizabeth,
For she'll understand.
I'll go tell Elizabeth,*

*She'll hold my hand – she'll understand.
“Go talk to Joseph.” Well I've talked to Joseph
and Joseph's a man;
So many things that a woman can know that
a man never can.
Joseph is practical and Joseph is worried with
things of his own.
And talking to Joseph is sometimes no better
than being alone – being alone.*

*So, I'll go tell Elizabeth,
'Cause she'll understand.*

*Yes, I'll go tell Elizabeth,
She'll hold my hand – she'll understand.
Sometimes I wish I could wake up and discover it
all was a dream;
I ought to be shouting for joy, yet I'm coming
apart at the seams.
Mostly I'm quiet – I keep things inside me –
It's how I get by.
When there's too much to handle, and I need someone
near me to share a good cry – share a good cry.

So many things are happening to me that
she'll understand.
Now that she's pregnant her life isn't going*

*exactly as planned.
The plans we both made are like birds' nests
blown down in the wind and the rain.
And we're scattered like straw, and we can't quite
tell where to find saneness again – saneness again.

So, I'm coming Elizabeth.
'Cause I'll understand.
I'm coming Elizabeth.
I'll hold your hand – I'll understand.
Yes, I'm coming Elizabeth.
For I'll understand.
I'm coming Elizabeth – I'll hold your hand –
I'll understand.*

We Lift Up in Prayer

Gene and Connie Smith and family on the death of Gene's sister, Elizabeth Land, 11/20/25.

The family of Natalie Brymer on her death, 11/20/25.

Ann and Roy Bowling and family on the death of her brother, Bruce Kleinschmidt, 11/18/25.

James, Allie, and Claire Seiler and family on the death of their son and brother, 10/30/25.

The family of Anne Anderson on her death, 10/22/25.

Sallie, John, and Lee Ann Cunningham on the death of Sallie's father, Robert L. Bellamy,
10/19/25.

Wayne, Christie, Sims, and Marie Wilson on the death of Wayne's mother, Linda, 10/18/25.

The family of Wallace Horine on his death, 10/18/25.

Lucy Hovis and family on the death of her sister, Eva Sirach, 10/12/25.

Lee Ann and David Dorsey and their family on the death of Lee Ann's sister, Roberta
Gordon Barnett, 10/8/25.

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from
 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple
 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 save and give them vic-tory o'er the grave.
 Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, thou Key of David, come,
 and open wide our heavenly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
 our spirits by thine advent here;
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 all peoples in one heart and mind;
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)

Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)

Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)

Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)

Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.

100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer-or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the *Magnificat*, Mary's song at her meeting with her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

G D Em C Em

name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain G D

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the

Em C D Em

fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the

C D Em C Em

dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the
 2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
 3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the
 4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more
 5 An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
 nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
 brings new life to earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley


Peo - ple, look

a - ble; trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.
 fro - zen God for fledg - ing time has cho - sen.
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.
 hum - ming with the word, the Lord is com - ing.

This text was written to provide a new Advent text for an existing carol tune, here named for the city in eastern France where it originated. The author has imaginatively expressed the cosmic implications of Christ's coming by addressing each stanza to a part of creation.


JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

east and sing to - day:



Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.
 Love, the Bird, is on the way.
 Love, the Star, is on the way.
 Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Peo - ple, look east: (Love is on the way.)



JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT


G D Em C Em



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.


Refrain

G D




My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the

Em C D Em



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the

C D Em C Em



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Ruling Elders

Class of 2025

Paul Costel
Elaine Duncan
Bob Horton
John Hubbard
Elizabeth Scinta
Linda Watson
vacant

Class of 2026

Miriam Ballert
Marilyn Duke
Liz Ratliff Evans
Lindsey Hundley
Lucy Kosse
Deb Vetter
Whitney Watt

Class of 2027

Ann Bowling
John Cunningham
Angela Duffy
Stephanie Fellon
Larry Jones
Justin Powers
Kyle Wiggins

Youth Elders: Morgan Fellon & Wilson Masick

Clerk: Chip Snyder

Deacons

Class of 2025

Sandy Bailey, *Clerk*
Prentice Brown
Scott Carothers
Cathy Flowers
Jane Roth
Martha Spencer
Lowell Stevens

Class of 2026

John Davis
Nathan Dicken
Glen Hume
Sissy Judy
Susan McDowell
Paige Reinstine
Kristi Smith

Class of 2027

Kelly Bryant
Tim Clark
Kitty deVoogd
Jim Haynes
Patrice Paton
Kay Reis
Sunny Seale

Staff

Barrett Abernethy *Pastor & Head of Staff*

Andrew Bowman *Associate Pastor for Community Life*

Elizabeth Clay *Coordinator for Pastoral Care*

Karla Wright *Director of the Weekday School*

Lorie Williamson *Director of Children's & Family Ministry*

Jim Rittenhouse *Director of Worship & Music Ministry*

Michael Harper *Coordinator for Youth Ministry*

Mengfei Xu *Organist and Assistant Director of Worship & Music*

Amy Kiefner *Communications Specialist and Technology Administrator*

Tammy Kissling *Ministry Coordinator for Faith Formation & Mission*

Jeremy Doyle *Director of Facilities*

Earl Toepfert *Maintenance Technician*

Yilena Romero Aguilera *Custodian*

Paula S. Roberts *Organist Emerita*

barbernethy@2ndpreslou.org

abowman@2ndpreslou.org

eclay@2ndpreslou.org

kwright@2ndpreslou.org

llwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org

jrittenhouse@2ndpreslou.org

mharper@2ndpreslou.org

mengfei@2ndpreslou.org

akiefner@2ndpreslou.org

tkissling@2ndpreslou.org

jdoyle@2ndpreslou.org

yraguilera@2ndpreslou.org



**SECOND
Presbyterian
CHURCH**

3701 Old Brownsboro Road
Louisville, KY 40207
502.895.3483
info@2ndpreslou.org
YouTube: 2ndPresLou