

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. 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, 2026 moves Second Presbyterian Church one year closer to celebrating our bicentennial milestone. After reflecting on our achievements and evaluating our current mission, we have identified 5 strategic pathways that will help us meet the needs of our congregation in 2030. We invite you to join us on our continued journey to preserve, strengthen, and innovate our community of faith.

Children of God, welcome home!

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

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering

With the sounds of the Prelude the worship service has begun. You are encouraged to use this time for meditation and reflection prior to your participation in the service.

PRELUDE *Prelude in E-flat Major, BWV 552/1* Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT *Thy Splendor Drives the Night Away (from BWV 248)* J. S. Bach
 The Octet
Thy splendor drives the night away and turns the darkness into day.
Shed thou thy glory o'er us, thy beauteous face and radiant grace,
Our light and guide before us.

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN 645 *Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above, stzs. 1-3* MIT FREUDEN ZART

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

Gracious God, we confess that we are more eager to receive your mercy than we are to extend your kindness to others. We ask for what we need without wondering if we have what someone else might require. We seek your forgiveness, while holding grudges against others. We want you to lead us, but only if you will send us where we want to go. Forgive us, patient God. Teach us to give more than we think we can spare; to forgive even those who have yet to ask forgiveness; to follow you wherever you choose to lead us. Grant us your grace, and strengthen our commitment to new life.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Let us believe and proclaim this very Good News:

**Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.
Amen.**

*RESPONSE 645 *Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above, stz. 4* MIT FREUDEN ZART
Children ages 3 through completed 2nd graders are welcome to come forward and be dismissed through the side door for activities following the Peace. Children can be picked up in the Great Hall or the playground, depending on the weather.

**Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,
That all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:
To God all praise and glory!**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE *read responsively*
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING 1 Chronicles 25:1a, 6-8

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

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

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

SERMON *Stained Glass Saints: Johann Sebastian Bach* Rev. Barrett Abernethy

The Response

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *read in unison* *From the Declaration of Faith*

God has not taken his people out of the world, but has sent them into the world to worship him there and serve all humankind. We worship God in the world by standing before the Lord on behalf of all people. Our cries for help and our songs of praise are never for ourselves alone. Worship is no retreat from the world; it is part of our mission.

We serve humankind by discerning what God is doing in the world and joining him in his work. We risk disagreement and error when we try to say what God is doing here and now. But we find guidance in God's deeds in the past and his promises for the future, as they are witnessed in Scripture.

We affirm that the Lord is at work, especially in events and movements that free people by the gospel and advance justice, competition, and peace.

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

Lobet den Herrn, BWV 230

J. S. Bach

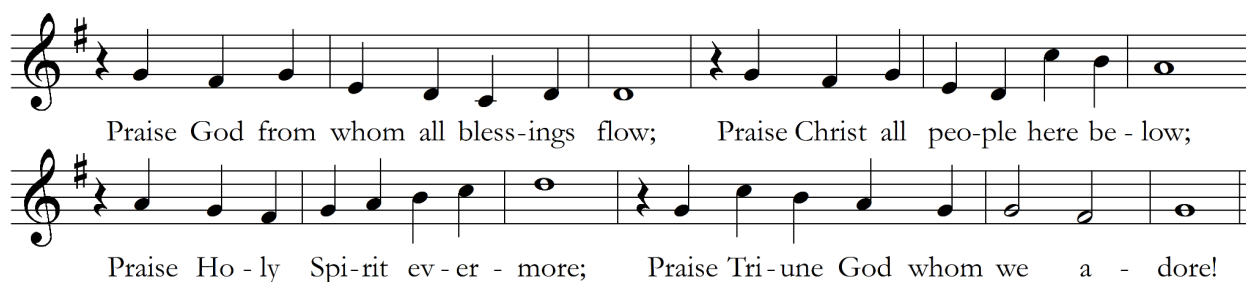
The Octet

Lobet den Herrn, alle Heiden,
und preiset ihn, alle Völker!
Denn seine Gnade und Wahrheit
waltet über uns in Ewigkeit.
Alleluja.

*Praise the Lord, all nations
And celebrate him, all the people!
For his grace and truth
Reign over us forever.
Alleluia.*

-Text: Psalm 117:1-2

*DOXOLOGY 608 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* PRAISE GOD (HOPSON)



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Christ all peo-ple here be - low;
Praise Ho - ly Spi-rit ev - er - more; Praise Tri-une God whom we a - dore!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 643

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Fugue in E-flat Major, BWV 552/2

J. S. Bach

*We are called to go out from our worship to share the grace of the risen Christ with one another and the world.
You are welcome to remain seated for the postlude or exit quietly.*

In Worship Today

INFO ABOUT THE SERMON SERIES “*Stained Glass Saints*”

This summer, we are exploring the Stained Glass Saints that adorn our narthex (lobby) window. The first time I ever laid eyes on this window, I knew it had to be the basis for a sermon series. I was awed by both the beauty as well as the uniqueness of this window that celebrates people from all walks of life. My hope is that you will be equally intrigued. This belief is not new to me. For years I have enjoyed creating sermon series that reveal what is unique within a particular congregation. I believe it roots us to who we are, while also inviting us to imagine how these notes of Godly wisdom inspire our faith beyond these walls.

Since this is summer, each sermon will stand alone, as each will explore a different saint - from Michelangelo to Madame Curie, and from Rembrandt to Reinhold Niebuhr. My hope is that you will see what I suspect former pastor, Rev. Dr. Glenn Dorris, wanted you to see: that God's call upon each and every one of us is full of hope and grace, taking us in different directions, but leading us all to bear witness to the light of resurrection. May we, together, enjoy pondering and gazing into the light God emits through this wonderful window!

— *Pastor Barrett*

ABOUT THIS MORNING'S MUSIC: One can think of no one more quintessentially a church musician than J.S. Bach - his output for sung worship music (chorales, hymns, cantatas for every Sunday) and instrumental voluntaries and works is unparalleled. Our sung music this morning includes a chorale from *Christmas Oratorio*, a motet based on Psalm 117, and hymns whose tunes Bach would have sung as a child, and certainly from the influence of his time. Today's instrumental music, Bach's *Prelude and Fugue in E-flat Major, BWV 552*, reminds us that music itself is a form of witness. As we continue our Stained Glass Saints series, Bach's image in our narthex windows points beyond artistic achievement to a life dedicated to the praise of God.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by Lynn & Henry Sanders in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. McKay Reed, Sr. and Mr. & Mrs. Henry W. Sanders, Jr.

USHERS

Emily Lawrence, Tim Martin, Cathy Martin, Ernie Dreher, Valerie Dreher,
Chuck Dobbins, Joey Dobbins

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, preacher; Rev. Andrew Bowman, liturgist; Acton Ostling,
lay reader

The Octet and Guest Singers*: *Stephanie Mattingly, Molly Melahn, Erin Shina*, Laura
Atkinson, Megan Easton*, Krista Heckmann, Rob Carlson*, Ricky Case, Kenneth Oeth,
Russ Dunlap, Matthew Houston*, Jason Steigervalt*

Jim Rittenhouse, conductor; Mengfei Xu, organist/harpsichordist

Evan Vicic, Audiovisual Engineer; William Vicic, Visual Technician

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We Lift Up in Prayer

Family of Rev. Gretchen Micka, former assoc. pastor of Second, on her death, 6/20/26.

Bob Cox and family on the death of his sister, Jean Cox Hill, 7/12/26.

Stephanie Mattingly (Octet) & family on the death of her grandmother, Jane Jacobs, 7/4/26.

Nancy Thomas and family on the death of her brother, Harold H. Helm II, 7/1/26.

Jamie Harper and family on the death of her husband, David W. Harper, 6/23/26.

Cathy Flowers and her daughters Maggie Phelps and Caroline Schifano on the death of
Cathy's father, Colonel Robert N. Clark, 6/17/26.

The family and friends of Elizabeth Haynes on her death, 6/7/26.

Sondra Curth and family on the death of her husband, David Curth, 6/7/26.

Jennifer, Chip, Cole and Mac Hancock on the death of Jennifer's mother,
Glenna B. Hamilton, 5/01/26.

Mark Your Calendars for These Churchwide Events!

July 27-29, 5:00-7:30 p.m. - Summer Music Blast (for potty-trained 3's - rising 6th graders)

August 16, 6:30 p.m. on Chapel Circle - Vespers@Second - *Ole Time Gospel Sing*

August 30, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. - Gym - Fellowship Kickoff Picnic

Sept. 13, 20 & 27, 9:45 a.m. - New Member Classes - Library

645 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief
 4 Thus all my toil - some way a - long I sing a - loud

cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song

the God of our sal - va - tion. With
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

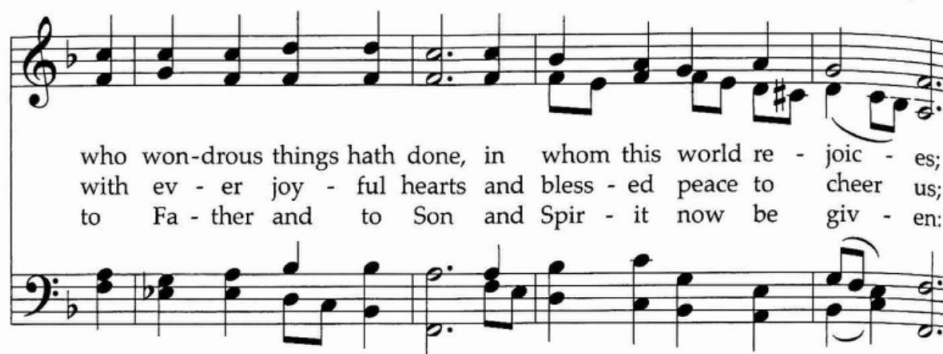
heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,

The regal divine imagery here will not be new to most singers, but some may not expect the third stanza's image of God as mother. Yet it is part of God's self-description in Isaiah 66:13. This Bohemian Brethren tune resembles both Genevan psalm tunes and French folk songs.

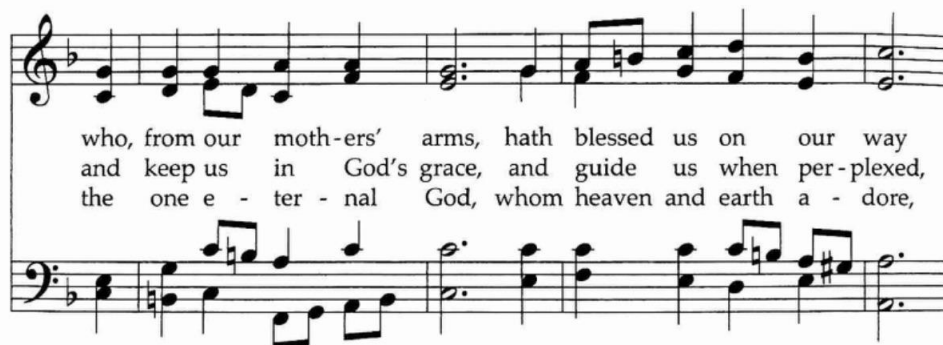
643 Now Thank We All Our God



1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun - teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,



who won - drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en;



who, from our moth - ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,



with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

TEXT: Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
 MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

Ruling Elders

Class of 2026

Vacant

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

Class of 2028

Caroline Dicken
Mary Clay Edinger
Priss Hovious
Crystal Kannapell
Henry Kelsey
Alexandra Ortiz
Larry Sloan

Youth Elders: Scott Davis & Lillian Powers

Clerk: Chip Snyder

Deacons

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

Class of 2028

Cheeky Bahe
Mac Barr
Lee Best
Terry Cissell
Sara Gilford
Nick Hertzman
John Williams

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*

Jeremy Doyle *Director of Facilities*

Earl Toepfert *Maintenance Technician*

Yilena Romero Aguilera *Custodian*

Paula S. Roberts *Organist Emerita*

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