

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

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

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

My Jesus, I Love Thee
Mengfei Xu, organ

arr. Joyce Jones

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the day that the Lord has made:
Let us rejoice, and be glad in it.

INTROIT

One Basket
Cherub, Carol, and Chapel Choirs

Gospel Light VBS

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN 41

O Worship the King, vs. 1-4

LYONS

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

Holy and gracious God, you have called us into new life, yet we confess we cling to the old ways of death. We doubt your promises and refuse your guidance. We look down the path you have laid out, but turn back without following. We hear your call, but instead choose the many other voices offering fun and prosperity. We chase the power and privilege of empire over the peace and justice of your kingdom. Forgive us, O Lord. Wash away our sin and make us clean. Give us the courage to follow where your Spirit leads, proclaiming the love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let us hear and believe the Good News:

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

**Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.**

*Children of all ages are welcomed to come forward for the Baptism. Following the Peace,
children ages 3 through 2nd grade will be dismissed through the side door for activities;
3rd grade through 5th grade may return to their seats.*

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

David Sutton Seay
Son of Sierra and Weber Seay

**read in unison when invited*

The Apostles' Creed

**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.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

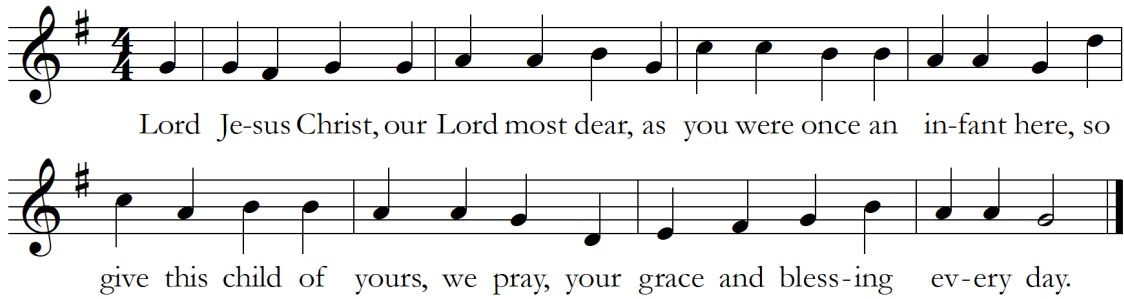
CONGREGATION *read in unison when invited*

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's one holy
and apostolic church. We are the people of God, members of the
household of faith, a royal priesthood. Proclaim with us the good
news of Christ for all the world. We are one in Christ Jesus: share
with us at the table of God's kingdom. Welcome to the family of God
and to Christ's ministry with us!**

BAPTISM HYMN

Lord Jesus Christ, Our Lord Most Dear

TALLIS CANON



*PASSING OF THE PEACE *read responsively*

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

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Prayer for Peace

Michael Helman

Austin Memorial Handbells; Jim Rittenhouse, director

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Micah 7:18-20 (OT. 818)

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

SECOND READING

Matthew 5:43-48 (NT. 5)

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

SERMON

Welcome Home: Confession & Assurance

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

The Response

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!



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Kyrie
Sanctuary Choir

René Clausen

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Grant us peace.

Adonai, Adonai, Adonai.
Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Grant us peace.
Amen, Amen, Amen.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD 100TH

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. Amen.

*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 839

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

ASSURANCE

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Postlude in A (excerpts)

Horatio Parker

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

In Worship Today

Introduction to the Sermon Series:

This worship service is different from any other gathering in society. You can find community at a concert, football game, or even a coffee shop, but what we do in worship evokes a different feeling and understanding of community. Every Sunday morning, we begin worship with two simple words: *Welcome Home*. They form the basis of why we are here and how we are called to move in this space. For worship, just like the home, can only function if we all participate.

We each arrive here from different places. In this series we will explore why everything we do for the worship hour - from the Prelude to the Postlude, and all parts in between - is meant to draw us closer as a family of faith, as siblings in Christ. We hope it will assure you that your faith is deeply rooted - or welcomes you to ask a question that plants a seed. — Rev. Barrett

ABOUT OUR MUSICAL MEDITATION & Anthem

Our Austin Bells play a moving piece dedicated to all those lost on 9/11/01 written by Michael Helman - *Prayer for Peace*. At the very beginning, the piece portrays the 4 tragic disasters in NYC, Shanksville, and the Pentagon, but concludes with a beautiful sense of peace. Our anthem this morning, *Kyrie*, was written by René Clausen, former professor at Concordia College, as part of his *Memorial*, written in tribute to the victims of the September 11 attacks and all victims of violence. It is a quiet plea for God's mercy on this world.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by Elizabeth and Dick Clay in Thanksgiving for the Community of Second Presbyterian Church.

USHERS

Brad Hume, Glen Hume, Crystal Kannapell, Sandy Bailey, Leigh Parrot, Jane Roth

GREETERS

Cheryl Cooper, Sunny Seale, Cheeky Bahe, James Seiler

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, preacher; Rev. Andrew Bowman, liturgist; Sandy Bailey, lay reader;
Priss Hovious, Elder for Baptism

The Sanctuary Choir; Jim Rittenhouse, conductor; Mengfei Xu, organist

William Vicic, Audiovisual Engineer

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We Lift Up in Prayer

The family and friends of Lamoine Cash on her death, 9/7/26.

The family and friends of Bruce Lunsford on his death, 9/5/26.

Watson & Kendy Courtenay and grandchildren Tyler, Matt, and Alex and their families on the death of Watson's mother, Edith McFerran Courtenay, 8/27/26.

Guthrie, Lisa, & Drayden Zaring on the death of Guthrie's father, Ben Zaring, 7/26/26.

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

Mark Your Calendars for These Churchwide Events!

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

Sept. 16, 5:30 p.m. - Wednesdays Together and Children's Choir Program Return

Sept. 19, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. - Young Families Meet-Up in Great Hall (Gym)

Sept. 20, 3:00 p.m. - Charlie Castner Celebration Concert - Sanctuary

Sept. 26, 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Habitat Build - 1828 Lytle Street

Oct. 4, 9:45 a.m. - Rev. Dr. David Gambrell - Worship Topics - Pathways Class - JFHA

Oct. 17, 6 p.m. - Fellowship Family Feud Event - JFH

41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
 2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
 3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
 5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,

O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:
 whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,
 Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form;
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

Addressing the first two stanzas to the singers of the hymn and the last three to God, this free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve. Though it was first published in England, the tune has been more popular in North America than there.

839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!

1 Bless-èd as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine: O what a
2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of
3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my

3 fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal -
rap - ture burst on my sight; an - gels de -
Sav - iour am hap - py and blest— watch - ing and

5 va - tion, pur - chase of God; born of his Spir - it, washed in his
scending bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of
wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his goodness, lost in his

Ancient and Modern: hymns and songs for refreshing worship 601

Text: Fanny Crosby, (Frances Jane vanAlstyne) (1820-1915)

Music (BLESSED ASSURANCE 9 10 9 9 and refrain): Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1839-1908)

8 Refrain

blood:
love: *This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais-ing my*
love:

11

Sav-iour all the day long. This is my sto - ry, this is my

14

song, prais-ing my Sav - iour all the day long.

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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