

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering

CAROL SING

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

11 a.m. PRELUDE *Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen* Johannes Brahms

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE *read responsively*

8:30 a.m. Larry and Bonnie Boram; 11:00 a.m. Jonathan and Liz Evans

The Holy One will give you a sign.

Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son,
and shall name him Immanuel.

Gracious God, your promise shines light in our darkness.

Your presence gives warmth in the cold.

Holy One, You Are. And you are coming.

We waken with wonder; we open our eyes with delight.

We listen for your Word.

We look for your glory.

You kindle in us the holy wonder of open hearts.

O come, Love Divine, and be with us, in your grace. Alleluia!

*HYMN 129 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* ES IST EIN ROS'

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

Great God, as we behold the birth of Jesus again, we are mindful of how we have failed to receive the fullness of that gift. The story points us to your glory, yet we struggle to join in the song of praise and thanksgiving. We are distracted and confused, so focused on things that matter little that we overlook the good news of great joy that you prepared. Tell us again that the Savior is born. Tell us again that we are forgiven. Tell us again that our lives can be abundant in faith, hope, and love because of what you have given us in Jesus Christ.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE HYMN 109

Blest Be the God of Israel, vs. 3

MERLE'S TUNE

**On those who sit in darkness the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes.
God guides the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace.
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 7:10–16

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

11 a.m.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 1:18–25

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

SERMON

What's in a Name?

Rev. Steve Jester

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**

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*You are invited to pass the Friendship Pad found at the end of the pew.
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

Midnight Clear

Russell Schulz-Widmar

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold;
“Peace on the earth, good will to men
From heaven’s all-gracious King”—
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O’er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o’er its Babel-sounds
The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring;—
Oh hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on
By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever circling years
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Edmund Sears

*DOXOLOGY

While Shepherds Watched Their Flock

WINCHESTER OLD

**All glory be to God on high, to Jesus, Prince of Peace,
And to the Spirit, Three in One, our praises never cease.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *read in unison*

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 110

Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

Pamela Decker

*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.*

The Advent candle stand for our Chapel is featured on the bulletin cover. It 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.

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 to the glory of God and in thanks for Susanne Wright and her dedication of service to organizing donors of flowers.

THE ROSES in the Chancel (11:00) are given in gratitude for and celebration of the births of Miles Howard Lewis, born Dec. 4, son of Eric and Hannah McConnell Lewis, grandson of Sally and Wes McConnell; and Claire Blake Kosse, born on Dec. 7, daughter of Lucy Roth Kosse and Patrick Kosse, granddaughter of Jane Roth.

USHERS

8:30 John Bahe, Cheeky Bahe

11:00 Henry Kelsey, Holly Gathright, Joe Gathright, Lawrence Palmer-Ball, Rosemay Palmer-Ball, Sam Palmer-Ball

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Rev. Rich Gianzero (8:30), & Rev. Jordan Akin, liturgists; Philip Anderton, lay reader

The Sanctuary Choir; Jim Rittenhouse, Director; Samuel Libra, Organist

Evan Vivic, Audiovisual Engineer; Elliott Nichols, Technology Coordinator

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We Lift Up in Prayer

The Palmer-Ball family, especially Lawrence, Elizabeth, Helen, Virginia, Connie, and Chris, on the death of their mother, Helen, 12/11/22.

Charlie Castner and his family on the death of his step-sister, Iva Gillet.

Scott Carothers and his family on the death of his mother, Dorothy, 12/9/22.

John Y. Brown III and his family on the death of his father, John Y. Jr., 11/28/22.

The family of Carolyn Allen on her death, 11/22/22.

Louise & Wallace Horine and their family on the death of their daughter, Margaret Lynn Adair, 11/14/2022.

David, Leslie, Nancy, Susan, and the Morrow family on the death of mother Barbara, 10/31/22.

Stephanie Altobellis, Allysa, and Sergey Dunbar, Martha Hall, Sarah Parker, and the Dunbar family on the death of husband, father, and brother, Tom Dunbar, 10/30/22.

The Ministry Team

Rev. Steven P. Jester sjester@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Pastor</i>
Rev. Jordan Akin jakin@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Associate Pastor for Formation & Mission</i>
Rev. Rich Gianzero rgianzero@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Interim Associate Pastor</i>
Hayley Abell habell@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Director of the Weekday School</i>
Jim Rittenhouse jrittenhouse@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Director of Worship & Music Ministries</i>
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Elizabeth Clay eclay@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Parish Associate</i>
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Amy Kiefner akiefner@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Church Administrator</i>
Tammy Kissling tkissling@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Ministry Coordinator for Formation & Mission</i>
Samuel Libra, DMA slibra@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Organist & Worship Assistant</i>
Elliott Nichols enichols@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Technology Coordinator</i>
Christina Recktenwald callasbouras@twc.com	<i>Children's Choirs Coordinator</i>
Paula S. Roberts	<i>Organist Emerita</i>



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Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;
 3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,

of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, by faith - ful proph - ets sung.
 with Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.
 dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where.

It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of
 To show God's love a - right she bore for us a
 En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death he

win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.
 saves us and light - ens ev - ery load.

Although the early copies of this 15th-century German text include many more stanzas than are printed here, this simpler, shorter form has much to commend it. This early 17th-century harmonization of the traditional chorale melody invites and rewards singing in parts.

Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D) (Bm7) (Em7) (A)
 F Dm7 Gm7 C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)
 F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)
 C F Dm F C B^b F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)
 Gm7 A7 B^b C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)
 F C B^b C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."