

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.*

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering

PRELUDE *Praeludium in E-minor*, BuxWV 142 (excerpts) D. Buxtehude

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT *O God, Who Gives Us Life* trad. English, arr. A. Sullivan

O God, who calls your people out,
To venture and to dare,
To plumb the bleak abyss of doubt
And find you even there:
When we despair in wandering
Through wastes of empty lies,
Refresh us with the living spring
Of hope that never dies.
Carl P. Dam, Jr.

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN 49 *The God of Abraham Praise* LEONI

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read responsively*

Forgiving Lord, we fall short.

You give us your word, both in scripture and in Son,
you promise your presence, both in Spirit and in community,
and you grace us with your kingdom, both in teaching and in service.

Even so, we neglect, ignore, and reject your purposes for us.

We do not love what you love.

We do not embrace what you embrace.

We do not defend what you call us to defend.

Have mercy on us.

Forgive us for what we do and what we fail to do.

**And with your gifts, promises, and grace, continue working in our
lives that we might live fully in Jesus Christ, now and forevermore.**

Time for silent prayer.

*RESPONSE HYMN

Christ Be Beside Us

BUNESSAN

**Christ be beside us; Christ be before us;
Christ be behind us, King of our hearts.
Christ be within us; Christ be below us;
Christ be above us, never to part.**

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*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

FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1–5a

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

SECOND READING

John 3:1–17

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

SERMON

The Wind of Rebirth

Rev. Steve Jester

The Response

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *read in unison*

The Nicene Creed

Found on Page 34 in the Glory to God hymnal.

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

There in God's Garden SHADES MOUNTAIN, arr. J. Bankson

There in God's garden stands the Tree of wisdom,
whose leaves hold forth the healing of the nations.
Tree of all knowledge, Tree of all compassion,
Tree of all beauty.

Its name is Jesus, name that says, 'Our Saviour!'
There on its branches see the scars of suffering;
see where the tendrils of our human selfhood
feed on its life-blood.

Thorns not its own are tangled in its foliage;
our greed has starved it; our despite has choked it.
Yet look, it lives! Its grief has not destroyed it,
nor fire consumed it.

See how its branches reach to us in welcome;
hear what the voice says, 'Come to me, ye weary!
Give me your sickness, give me all your sorrow.
I will give blessing.'

This is my ending; this my resurrection;
into your hands, Lord, I commit my spirit.
This have I searched for; now I can possess it.

This ground is holy!

Pécselyi Király Imre; trans. Erik Routley

Congregation stands to sing when invited.

All heav'n is sing - ing, 'Thanks to Christ, whose Pas - sion of - fers in
mer - cy heal - ing, strength and par - don. Peo - ples and na - tions,
take it, take it free - ly!' A - men! My Mas - ter!

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.

We give you thanks...to sing your praise:

HYMN 572

Holy, Holy, Holy

SANCTUS (PAVLECHKO)

We give you thanks...all glory is yours, O God, now and always.

HYMN 574

Amen

AMEN (PAVLECHKO)

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All those who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to take part in the sacrament. A choice of red wine or white juice is offered. Gluten-free bread is available in cups on the plates. You are invited to say, as you pass the bread, "Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life" and as you pass the wine, "Jesus Christ, the Cup of Salvation."

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

O Salutaris Hostia

Edward Elgar

*O salutaris hostia
quae caeli pandis ostium,
bella premunt hostilia:
da robur, fer auxilium*

*Uni trinoque Domino
sit sempiterna gloria,
qui vitam sine termino
nobis donet in patria.*

Thomas Aquinas

O saving Victim! opening wide
The gate of heaven to man below,
Our foes press hard on every side,
Thine aid supply, thy strength bestow.

All praise and thanks to thee ascend
For evermore, blest One in Three;
O grant us life that shall not end
In our true native land with thee.

trans. J.M. Neale

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SHARING GRACE

The Sending

*HYMN 774

There Is Now a New Creation

STUTT GART

*BLESSING

*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

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 loving memory of Virginia and William Costel by their family.

USHERS

Gene Smith, Connie Smith, Sarah Middleton, Ernie Dreher, Valerie Dreher,
Gordon Duke, Marilyn Duke

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Steve Jester, preacher; Rev. Rich Gianzero, liturgist; Jane Roth, 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

Mary Agnes Norman, Cecy Brewer, and their families on the death of husband and brother,
Jon Norman, 2/23/23.

The family and friends of Meredith Smythe Grider on her death, 2/11/23.

The family and friends of Alice Virginia Dodd on her death, 2/6/23.

Cathy Cole Irvin, Cole Irvin, Brittany Cartwright, and Bill Cole on the death of her daughter,
their sister, and his niece, Shelley Louise Irvin, 1/12/2022.

Bob Nast and Laura Hood and their family on the death of wife and mother,
Jane Nast, 1/11/23.

Bob Horton and his family on the death of his wife, Rae, 1/11/23.

Heather Campbell and her family on the death of her husband, Chris, 1/9/23.

Becky Lyles and her family on the death of her mother, Martha Sanderson Bryant,
12/30/22.

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>
Ricky Case rlcase01@gmail.com	<i>Student Music Coordinator</i>
Elizabeth Clay eclay@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Parish Associate</i>
Michelle Hormann mhormann@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Ministry Coordinator for Care & Stewardship</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 Formation & Mission</i>
Samuel Libra, DMA slibra@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Organist & Worship Assistant</i>
Elliott Nichols enichols@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Technology Coordinator</i>
Patty Moody pmoody@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Custodian</i>
Christina Recktenwald christinabrecktenwald@gmail.com	<i>Children's Choirs Coordinator</i>
Jim Rogers jrogers@2ndpreslou.org	<i>Facilities Manager</i>
Paula S. Roberts	<i>Organist Emerita</i>



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

49 The God of Abraham Praise

1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove,
 2 Your spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will.
 3 Your good - ly land we seek, with peace and plen - ty blest,
 4 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;

the An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, the God of love!
 In proph-et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
 a land of sa - cred lib - er - ty and Sab - bath rest.
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.

The Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven con-fessed,
 Es - tab-lished is your law, and change-less it shall stand,
 There milk and hon - ey flow, and oil and wine a - bound,
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name:

we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart by your strong hand.
 and trees of life for - ev - er grow with mer - cy crowned.
 the first, the last, be - yond all thought, and still the same!

Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, this selection of English stanzas conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

774 There Is Now a New Creation



1 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ,
2 Call the lost and found to - geth - er; tell the news to ev - ery - one:
3 Wrap the prod - i - gal in wel - come; run to greet the way - ward child.
4 Come and join the cel - e - bra - tion; come and join this hap - py feast;
5 There is now a new cre - a - tion through the grace of Je - sus Christ.



peace and rec - on - cil - i - a - tion with the God of end - less life.
now the past is gone for - ev - er and a new life has be - gun.
All is fin - ished and for - giv - en; let us now be rec - on - ciled.
Je - sus makes an in - vi - ta - tion to the great - est and the least.
Sing, with thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, to the God of end - less life!

