

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

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Before Thy Throne, O God, I Kneel*, BWV 668 J.S. Bach

WELCOME

INTROIT *A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing* DEO GRACIAS

A hymn of glory let us sing!
New songs throughout the world shall ring:
Christ by a road before untrod,
ascends unto the throne of God.

The Venerable Bede; trans. Lutheran Book of Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP *read responsively*

Christ is the Light of the world. In him there is no darkness at all.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* ST. DENIO
vss. 1-3

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Time for silent prayer.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE HYMN 12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, vs. 4*

ST. DENIO

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

**Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

*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

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

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

SECOND READING

Matthew 25:31–46

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

SERMON

The Least of These

Rev. Jordan Akin

The Response

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *read in unison* *from* A Brief Statement of Faith

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord
Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy
Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the
reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the
captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with**

outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

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

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven
Text can be found at #620 in the Glory to God hymnal.

LAUDA ANIMA (ANDREWS)
arr. Mark Hayes

*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.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.**

The Sending

*HYMN 766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

McKee

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Fugue on St. Denio

Percy Whitlock

*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 thanksgiving for the lives of our parents, Don and Carolyn Jester, and May and Bill Scarbrough, by Steve, Diana, and David Jester.

USHERS

Emily Lawrence, Edie Wells, Tony Duncan, Elaine Duncan, John Stone, Bonnie Stone

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Jordan Akin, preacher; Lorie Williamson & Rev. Steve Jester, liturgists;
Deb Vetter, lay reader

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

Evan Vicic, Audiovisual Engineer; Elliott Nichols, Technology Coordinator

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We Lift Up in Prayer

Sue Rogers and her family on the death of her father, O.D., 11/8/23.

Kyle Wiggins and his family on the death of his father, Mac, 10/14/23.

Eric Jaegers and his family on the death of his mother, Pat, 10/9/23.

The family and friends of Ellie Salisbury on her death, 10/7/23.

The Ministry Team

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Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

766 The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by
 2 True faith will o - pen up the door and
 3 True love will not sit i - dly by when
 4 If what we have we free - ly share to
 5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by

walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the
 walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and

love are found, there can the church be known.
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.
 Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.
 love are found, there can the church be known.

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwritng competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.