

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 register as a guest and receive information 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 worshippers 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

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY, arr. T.F.H. Candlyn

INTROIT

Who Would Think That What Was Needed

J. Bell & G. Maule

Who would think that what was needed to transform and save the earth
might not be a plan or army, proud in purpose, proved in worth?

Who would think, despite derision, that a child should lead the way?

God surprises earth with heaven, coming here on Christmas Day.

John Bell

PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

1 John 1:1–4

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

SECOND READING

John 1:1–14

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

MOMENT FOR CHILDREN

HOMILY

Rev. Rich Gianzero

The Response

*HYMN 136

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

*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.

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

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

How Far Is It to Bethlehem

STOWEY, arr. Gordon Lawson

How far is it to Bethlehem?
 Not very far.
 Shall we find the stable-room
 lit by a star?
 Can we see the little Child?
 Is he within?
 If we lift the wooden latch,
 may we go in?
 May we stroke the creatures
 there—
 ox, ass, or sheep?
 May we peep like them and see
 Jesus asleep?
 If we touch his tiny hand,
 will he awake?
 Will he know we've come so far
 just for His sake?

Great kings have precious gifts,
 and we have naught;
 Little smiles and little tears
 are all we brought.
 For all weary children
 Mary must weep;
 Here, on his bed of straw,
 sleep, children, sleep.
 God, in his mother's arms,
 babes in the byre,
 Sleep, as they sleep who find
 their heart's desire.

Frances Chesterton

*DOXOLOGY

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
 Evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One.
 Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ,
 the newborn King!**

*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 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, vs. 1 & 2

IN DULCI JUBILO

*BLESSING

*SENDING HYMN

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, vs. 3

IN DULCI JUBILO

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

We are called to go out from our worship to share the grace of God with one another and the world.

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."

USHERS

Diana Jester, Judy Hettmansperger, Tom Hettmansperger, John Stone, Bonnie Stone

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Rich Gianzero, preacher; Rev. Steve Jester, & Rev. Jordan Akin, liturgists

Jim Rittenhouse, soloist; Samuel Libra, organist

Evan Vicic, 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.

Ron Suter and his family on the death of his sister, Martha Dorsey, 12/6/2022.

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.

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>
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Paula S. Roberts	<i>Organist Emerita</i>



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CHURCH

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