

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!

***Bold** type indicates where we share the liturgy together.*

Service for the Lord's Day

The Gathering

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE & INTROIT *Silent Devotion & Response from Sacred Service* Ernst Bloch

Kim Tichenor, violin; Mengfei Xu, organ; The Sanctuary Choir

Yib'yu l'ratzon imrei fi, May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart
V'hegyon libi l'fanecha be acceptable to you, Adonai, my Rock
Adonai tzuri v'goali. Amen and my Redeemer. Amen - *Psalm*

PRESENTING THE MEANS OF GRACE

*HYMN 49

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

CALL TO CONFESSION

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

RESTORATION

Chapel Choir & Worship Arts

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;

Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power.

Refrain: I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.

In the arms of my dear Savior, O, there are ten thousand charms.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

God of compassion, you pour out your love on those in need, and on your hurting creation. Yet we confess we are quick to turn away so we do not have to see the pain, suffering, and injustice right before our eyes.

We don't like to feel uncomfortable, or to be pushed into action.

Forgive us, O God. Grant us courage to see what we'd rather avoid, and help us to love others with the love you have shown us, in Jesus Christ.

Time for silent prayer.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Let us believe and proclaim these words of very Good News:

Through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God! Amen.

RESPONSE *all singing*

Children of all ages are welcomed to come forward to help with the Passing of the Peace. Following the Peace, children ages 3 through 6th grade will be dismissed through the side door for activities.

Refrain: I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me in his arms.

In the arms of my dear Savior, O, there are ten thousand charms.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE *read responsively*

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

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Braegan Abernethy

Beth Abernethy

Nathan Abernethy

Katie Hockensmith

Rue Hockensmith

Pam Slung

James Yackle

The Word

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Amos 6:1a; 4-7 (OT, p. 805)

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

SECOND READING

Luke 16:19-31 (NT, p. 75)

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

SERMON

Closing the Chasm

Rev. Barrett Abernethy

The Response

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *read in unison*

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God, who Jesus called Abba, Father.

**In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone
equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's
commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death
to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation.**

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant
people to bless all families of the earth.**

**Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house
of bondage.**

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who
runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

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

Psalm 8 (Adonai, Adonenu)

Dan Forrest

Adonai, Adonenu.

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

When I consider the heavens.

The work of Your fingers, the moon and stars, that You have set in place.

What are mortals that You care for them, O Lord?

How majestic is Your name in all the earth. Adonai.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

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 DEDICATION

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 730

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

GRAND ISLE

*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Dance Improvisation on a Hebrew Folksong, op. 37 Joseph Achron

*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.*

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.

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God



1. I sing a song of the saints of God, _____
2. They loved their Lord so dear, so dear, and _____
3. They lived not on - ly in a - ges past; there are



pa - tient and brave and true, who toiled and fought and
his love made them strong; and they fol - lowed the right for
hun - dreds of thou - sands still. The world is bright with the



lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And
Je - sus' sake the whole of their good lives long. And
joy - ous saints who love to do Je - sus' will. You can



one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, and one was a
one was a sol - dier, and one was a priest, and one was
meet them in school, on the street, in the store, in church, by the



shep - herd ess on the green; they were all of them saints of
slain by a fierce wild beast; and there's not a - ny re - ason,
sea, in the house next door; they are saints of God, whe - ther



God, and I mean, God hel - ping, to be one too.
no, not the least, why I should - n't be one too.
rich or poor, and I mean to be one too.

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 by Susan Stokes in honor of her wonderful family!

USHERS

Emily Lawrence, Jane Roth, Patrice Paton, Jim Haynes, Cathy Martin, Cathy Flowers

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Barrett Abernethy, preacher; Rev. Andrew Bowman, liturgist; Philip Anderton, lay reader

The Sanctuary Choir; Jim Rittenhouse, Director; Mengfei Xu, Organist; Kim Tichenor, violin.

The Chapel Choir, Lorie Williamson, director; Rachael Cole, student intern

Evie Abernethy, Elizabeth Arton, Ellis Bowman, Ellie Farnsley, Reyna Dobbins, Ellie Farnsley, Teddy Mayer, Coral Mueller, Miriam Ransan, George Sandman, Genevieve Williams.

Worship Arts, Lorie Williamson, director

Joshua Cook, Bebe Davis, Lucy Farnsley, McClain Watkins, William Wright, Ava Wright

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OUR MUSIC THIS MORNING: We are honoring our worship heritage as well as our friends in the Jewish faith who are celebrating High Holy Days. Our hymns and anthems reflect traditional worship of the Jewish faith, reminding us of the faithful God who called Abram, and who still calls us today. Our musicians will present a setting of the Silent Devotion ("May the words of my mouth"), and a beautiful setting of Psalm 8, with its opening words, "Adonai, Adonenu," or "O Lord, Our Lord." Our opening hymn is a version of the Jewish hymn Yigdal ("may He be magnified") - a 14th-century poetic summary of the Thirteen Principles of Faith, a medieval theological creed written by the philosopher Maimonides. Its tune LEONI was a transcription of a Sephardic tune by 18th century synagogue chorister Meyer Lyon, and is sung with the Yigdal text often at the end of Shabat (Sabbath) services.

We Lift Up in Prayer

Eleanor Maddox, Toby & Cindy Nutt, Grady, Heather, Grady III, & George Nutt, Amy Nutt on the death of granddaughter, niece, and cousin Meryl Maxwell Wilson, 09/18/25.
Justina, Justin, Sam, Stella, and Lillian Powers on the death of nephew and cousin, Blake Bonar, 09/14/25.
Rebecca, John Y. III, Maggie, and John IV Brown on the death of mother and grandmother, Margaret Jackson, 09/10/25.
Lucy Hovis, Julie Hovis, Peggy Coulter & Ken Coulter, Emma & Kate Coulter on the death of husband, father, and grandfather, Gary Hovis, 09/05/25.
Leigh and Ken Parrot on the death of their son, Keith, 09/01/25.
Georgia, Patrick, Katherine & Robert Farnan on the death of her mother, Susan England White, 08/22/25.
Mary Neikirk and family on the death of her daughter, Karen DeCosta, 08/18/25.
Eric, Kathryn, William, Ava, & Henry Wright and family on death of Eric's mother, Pat Wright, 08/08/25.
Greg and Harriet Treitz and family on death of his brother, John Treitz, 08/08/25.
Remy, Gil, Sutton, and Hicks Lamphere and family on death of Remy's mother, Cecily Bierly, 08/05/25.

Ruling Elders

Class of 2025

Michael Beasley
Paul Costel
Elaine Duncan
Bob Horton
John Hubbard
Elizabeth Scinta
Linda Watson

Class of 2026

Miriam Ballert
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

Youth Elders: Morgan Fellon & Wilson Masick

Clerk: Chip Snyder

Deacons

Class of 2025

Sandy Bailey, *Clerk*
Prentice Brown
Scott Carothers
Cathy Flowers
Jane Roth
Martha Spencer
Lowell Stevens

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

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*

Tammy Kissling *Ministry Coordinator for Faith Formation & Mission*

Jeremy Doyle *Director of Facilities*

Anne-Marie Iris *Accountant*

Yilena Romero Aguilera *Custodian*

Paula S. Roberts *Organist Emerita*

babernethy@2ndpreslou.org

abowman@2ndpreslou.org

eclay@2ndpreslou.org

kwright@2ndpreslou.org

lwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org

jrittenhouse@2ndpreslou.org

mharper@2ndpreslou.org

mengfei@2ndpreslou.org

akiefner@2ndpreslou.org

tkissling@2ndpreslou.org

jdoyle@2ndpreslou.org

airis@2ndpreslou.org

yraguilera@2ndpreslou.org



SECOND
Presbyterian
CHURCH

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