

# 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](http://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.



With gratitude to God, 2025 marks our 195th anniversary, and as we move toward our bicentennial, we have a great opportunity to reflect on our many accomplishments, evaluate our current mission, and identify new strategic pathways that will help us meet the needs of our congregation and community.

Please join us on our continued journey to preserve, strengthen, and innovate our community of faith.



*Children of God, welcome home!*

*Thank you for silencing mobile phones and other devices to honor the sanctity of our worship.*

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

# *Service for the Lord's Day*

*The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them. - Luke 2:20*

# *The Gathering*

## TOLLING OF THE HOUR

## WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

## CAROL-SING

### *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear, Hymn 123*

CAROL

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 all, from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

## *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, Hymn 132*

IN DULCI JUBILEO

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

\*HYMN 117

## *While Shepherds Watched Their Flock by Night*

## WINCHESTER OLD

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION *read in unison*

God of Light, throughout Advent we beckoned for your light to dawn. Now that your Christmas miracle, Jesus Christ, has arrived in the flesh, we humbly confess that the light has not been witnessed by all. We know we have not done our part to share the light. We too quickly blow out our candles on Christmas Eve and look inward. We profess to want to share the gift of the incarnation with the world, but far too often our gift giving extends only to those who immediately surround us. This morning, help us to follow in the shepherd's footsteps and make known to all how your light has come into the world. Rekindle the flame of faith and move our hearts, mind, and feet. In your holy name we pray.

*Time for silent prayer.*

\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news of great joy: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

Glory to God in the highest!

**And peace to God's people on earth.**

\*RESPONSE HYMN 133

*O Come, All Ye Faithful, refrain*

ADESTE FIDELES

*Children of all ages are invited to come forward;  
they will return to their seats following the Peace.*

**O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE *read responsively*

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION *He Shall Feed His Flock* from MESSIAH G.F. Handel  
Christina and Isabella Recktenwald, sopranos

# *The Word*

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST READING

Psalm 148

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

### SECOND READING

Luke 2:8-20

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

### SERMON

*Light Dawns: The Shepherds*

Rev. Andrew Bowman

# *The Response*

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*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

*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

*Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow*

The Octet; Kenneth Oeth, soloist

John Rutter

### \*DOXOLOGY 143

*Angels from the Realms of Glory, vs. 4*

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 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 136

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

Go TELL It

\*BLESSING

POSTLUDE

*March of Joy*

Hans-André Stamm

Jim and Nicholas Recktenwald, trumpets; Mengfei Xu, organ

*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*

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God in Gratitude for his Mercy and Grace visited upon Second Presbyterian Church .

### USHERS

Kit Davis, Curt Engelstad, Julie Engelstad

### OUR WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Andrew Bowman, preacher; Lorie Williamson and Jim Rittenhouse, liturgists

The Octet; Isabella Recktenwald, guest soprano; Nicholas Recktenwald & Jim Recktenwald, guest trumpets; Jim Rittenhouse, director, Mengfei Xu, organist Evan Vici, Audiovisual Engineer; William Vici, camera (11)

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## *We Lift Up in Prayer*

Cindy & Mike Dickman, and Lillie, Maggie, and Jack on the death of Cindy's mother, Maxie Key, 12/23/25.

The family of Margaret Flowers on her death, 12/10/25.

Gene and Connie Smith and family on the death of Gene's sister, Elizabeth Land, 11/20/25.

The family of Natalie Brymer on her death, 11/20/25.

Ann and Roy Bowling and family on the death of her brother, Bruce Kleinschmidt, 11/18/25.

*The flowers and wreaths are given to the glory of God by...*

### *Wreaths:*

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Edward Glasscock in memory of Clinton, and Jane Shewmaker

Jean O'Brien & family in loving memory always of John D. O'Brien MD & Matthew P. O'Brien

Lorrie & Peter Conway in memory of George & Ruth Conway, and Robert & Marilynn Smith

Ann Buckman in memory of J.D., Angelina, & Carletta Buckman

Eric Jaegers

Janie & Tom Scovil in memory of her parents Jack & Jane Duerson and given with love

Tim & Sharon Clark in honor of our children & grandchildren, and in memory of our parents



## *Poinsettias:*

The Pastor Nominating Committee in honor of Rev. Barrett Abernethy and his family

Allison, Will, Kate, Mary Claire & William Duncan in honor of: our Gadgy, (Prentice Brown), and Gran, (Pam Duncan); and in loving memory of Grandmommy, (Judy Brown) and Grandfather, (Bill Duncan)

Charlie Ratliff, and Liz, Jonathan & Maddie Evans in memory of Melissa Ratliff

Liz Evans in memory of my grandparents, Frank and Jane Ware, James and Adelene Ratliff

Susan & David Wood and family in memory Mr & Mrs Melvin Carter and

Mr. & Mrs W. Roberts Wood

Nelson & Deborah Clemmens in memory of Doug Toms

Elizabeth McKean in memory of Frank McKean

Mr and Mrs W. Edwin Lewis & Mr and Mrs Edwin H. Lewis in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Hughes, & Mr & Mrs Robert K Lewis

Emily & Tom Lawrence in memory of our granddaughter Caroline Vitale, parents Hazel & Herb Ledford, Ruby Lawrence & sister Lucy Lawrence

Tom & Karen Sweets in memory of our parents

Bonnie & John Stone in honor of our daughters & grandchildren

Sandall & Tom Tyrrell in memory of Mr & Mrs Gerald F. Tyrell, Mr & Mrs Charles L. Dade, Gerald G. Tyrell, Charles L. Dade IV

Kelly, Joe, Campbell, Caroline, & Elizabeth Seiler in memory of John G Seiler Jr, and Mrs Louise B. Seiler

Kelly & Joe Seiler in honor of our children Campbell, Caroline, & Elizabeth Seiler

Ed Wilson in memory of Jeanie Wilson

Eric Jagers

Cindy & Mike Dickman in honor of our children Lillie, Maggie, & Jack, and in memory of our parents Norma & Bill Dickman, and Lester Key, in honor of Maxie Key

Jess & Susanne Wright in honor of our children & grandchildren. in memory of Portia Leatherman

Marcy Suter in memory of my husband Ron

Sunny & Ronnie Seale in honor of our grandchildren Morgan Fellon, Jackson & Ruby Seale

Anne Ehrman in loving memory of Frederick C. Ehrman MD by his family

Gene & Connie Smith in memory of our parents Mr & Mrs Mason Venner Smith, and Mr & Mrs Lester J. Rausch

Evelyn Hwang in memory of M.C. Hwang, Maria Niu, Hedy Shao, & Peter T.K. Wu., and in memory of Henri Hou MD, John Church, Eric Huang, and in memory of Rev. Chet Minarcik

Ken Herrington

Laura Hood in memory of Jane Nast (Grammy)

John & Laura Davis in honor of our children Abby, Allison, & Scott Davis

Priss & Gregg Hovious in honor of our children Kate, Robert, & Sam

Amy Rosenberger Babikian in memory of Bonita & Robert Rosenberger

Sissy Russelburg in memory of Paxton & Joyce Price

Wayne & Linda Rudloff in honor of their children Elizabeth, Andrew, Liz, Clay, & Stuart

Susan & Jack Moss, Elliott, Wesley, & Rhodes in memory of Bill & Louise Elliot, and in memory of Betty Kilgore Moss Gibbs & George Gibbs

Mary Lane & Eloise Penner in honor of Linda & Harold Blevins

Linda & Harold Blevins in honor of our children & grandchildren  
Patty & Bill West in loving memory of Pat & Gordon Dabney, and Pat & Bill West  
Edie Wells in honor of my grandchildren Lottie, Mary Townsend, & Miles  
Kaye Chesemore in memory of Sharon Stern & Katherine Ferguson  
Pat & Angela Duffy in honor of Evelyn Hwang, & the Duffy Boys  
Glen & Brad Hume in honor of Florence Jenney Hume. in memory of Marion & Mac Chowning,  
Walter Hume, Margurite Hume  
Cathy Flowers in honor of my children & grandchildren: Will, Blair, Grayson, Maggie, Andrew,  
Charlie, Lulu, Clark, Katie, Caroline, Tommy, & Vivi  
Nan Dobbs in memory of Dr. Charlie Dobbs  
Will, Maggie, Clark, & Caroline (Flowers) in loving memory of Margaret Flowers, our wonderful  
grandmother  
Andrea & Kyle Wiggins in memory of Robert B. Patterson  
Frances & Charlie Scholtz in honor of their grandchildren Latham & Charlie, and in celebration for  
the blessing of family  
The Nichols-Pecceu Family in memory of Robert W. Nichols & Thomas B. Nichols  
Cathy Cole Irvin in memory of Shelley Louise Irvin  
Kitty & Stan deVoogd in honor of their granddaughters Amelia, Nori, & Charlotte  
Greg & Harriet Treitz in memory of John & Jean Lee Treitz, and Albert & Ming Dick  
Bruce & Joan Dudley, Nancy & Walter Ostertag, and Liz & Rick Haas in memory of  
Barbara & George Dudley  
The Costel Family in memory of William J. Rutledge, and William & Virginia Costel  
Marcia & Scott Koch in memory of Abbott & Susan Reid  
Heather, Amelia, & Colleen Campbell in memory of Chris Campbell  
Walt & Jamie Swyers in honor of our grandchildren Marin, Tyler, Bennett, Lily, & Sam  
Ed, Carolyn, Edwin, & Kim Lewis in memory of Clinton Glasscock  
The McGuire Family in memory of Patrick & Kelsey McGuire  
Jane, Annie, Lucy, Patrick, Claire and Libby in loving memory of Jack Roth  
Elizabeth & Doug Owen in memory of our parents Alice Cary & Eugene Farmer, Cecilia Reynolds  
Hill, & Douglas H. Owen  
Tim & Sharon Clark in honor of our children & grandchildren, in memory of our parents  
George White in memory of Susan England White  
Prentice Brown & Kim Muir Graven in memory of Joan Muir  
Prentice Brown, Allison Duncan & Mark Brown in memory of Judy Brown & her son Chip  
Walter Crutcher, Cheryl Cooper in memory of Scott Davis



# Announcements

December 28, 2025

## TO OUR VISITORS - Welcome to Second Presbyterian!

Please help us get to know you better by filling out an information card (in the pew pockets). You are welcome to hand the card to a pastor in the Narthex or place it in the offering plate. *Thank you!*

CHILDCARE is not available today. Please visit the Children's Worship Cart in the Narthex for items to help keep your child engaged in worship.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Sign up by scanning the QR code or contact Lorie Williamson at [lwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:lwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org). (All volunteers must be members and are subject to background check and training.)



CHILDREN'S CHURCH will resume next week 1/4/26. Please visit the Children's Worship Cart in the Narthex for items to help keep your child engaged in worship.

BITES WITH BARRETT - Join Barrett for a small-group gathering on *Sunday, January 11th, from 5:00 - 7:00 PM*. Please complete the form found in Seconds to Go. To ensure a meaningful opportunity for everyone to connect, the event is limited to ten guests. Additional opportunities to meet Barrett will be available in February and March.

PLEDGE CARDS - If you have not had a chance to turn in your pledges for 2026, please do so as soon as possible. Pledge cards have been sent in the mail, and extras are available at the tables outside of the worship spaces if you need one. We still have quite a few yet to be returned, so let's keep those pledges coming. *Thank you!*

CABBAGE PATCH CHRISTMAS GIFTS: Did you miss out on donating toward Cabbage Patch Christmas gifts? Presents have been purchased, wrapped, and delivered, but there is still time to give! All additional funds received will be given to Cabbage Patch families in the form of gift cards. Contact Brad Hume or Emily Lawrence for more information.

DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH - For the month of December we are collecting monetary donations for foreign mission outreach to both PC(USA)'s Global Ecumenical Partnerships and mission co-workers, Dustin and Sherri Ellington currently working in Lebanon. Please make checks payable to Second Presbyterian Church or online through our giving page.

WEDNESDAYS TOGETHER starts back on January 7 with a special Epiphany Celebration for the whole family! Dinner at 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall followed with a service featuring the traditions of Epiphany - meditations, and hands-on crafts for the whole family, and King Cakes! NB: Children's Choirs and Worship Arts, along with new adult programming begins on January 14. Reservations need to be to Tammy by Monday, January 5: [tkissling@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:tkissling@2ndpreslou.org).

WEDNESDAYS TOGETHER CLASS OFFERINGS- beginning 1/14: Join Rev. Barrett Abernethy as we peruse the book *Presbyterian Questions, Presbyterian Answers*. Please sign-up so you are guaranteed a copy of the book (Cost is \$12). Parenting Education Nights 1/21-2/4 *Bringing New Understanding and Connection: Relationships in Early Childhood*. RSVP needed for dinner & childcare. Contact Tammy Kissling at [tkissling@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:tkissling@2ndpreslou.org).

## *Upcoming Events - December 28, 2025*

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<b>Sunday, December 28</b>	<b><i>The First Sunday of Christmas - 11 a.m. service only</i></b>		
9:45 a.m.	Adult Faith Formation	Rooms 251, 252, Parlor, JFH	
11:00 a.m.	Service for the Lord's Day	Sanctuary/Live Streamed	
3:00 p.m.	SPOT: Mah Jongg	Room 168	
<b>Thursday, January 1</b>	<b>Happy New Year! Offices and building are closed.</b>		
<b>Friday, January 2</b>	<b>Offices and building are closed.</b>		
<b>Sunday, January 4</b>	<b><i>Epiphany Sunday - 11 a.m. service only</i></b>		
9:45 a.m.	Adult Faith Formation	Rooms 251, 252, Parlor, JFH	
11:00 a.m.	Service for the Lord's Day	Sanctuary/Live Streamed	
12:30 p.m.	SPOT: Sunday Singles	Mesh	
3:00 p.m.	SPOT: Mah Jongg	Room 168	
<b>Monday, January 5</b>			
1:00 p.m.	Monday Afternoon Club		Room 252
<b>Tuesday, January 6</b>			
5:30 p.m.	SPOT: Book Notes		Parlor
<b>Wednesday, January 7</b>			
5:00 p.m.	Wednesdays Together Epiphany Celebration	Fellowship Hall	
7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room/Sanctuary	
<b>Thursday, January 8</b>			
9:30 a.m.	Morning Joy	FHA/Zoom	
11:00 a.m.	Reflections	Room 251	
1:00 p.m.	SPOT: Mah Jongg	Room 168	
<b>Friday, January 9</b>			
7:00 a.m.	Men's Weekly Bible Study	Room 251/Zoom	
1:00 p.m.	SPOT: Mah Jongg	Room 168	
<b>Sunday, January 11</b>	<b><i>Baptism of the Lord Sunday</i></b>		
8:30 a.m.	Service for the Lord's Day	Chapel	
9:45 a.m.	Adult Faith Formation	Room 251, 252, Parlor, JFH	
11:00 a.m.	Service for the Lord's Day	Sanctuary/Live Streamed	
12:00 p.m.	SPOT: Busy Needles	Parlor	
3:00 p.m.	SPOT: Mah Jongg	Room 168	
<b>Monday, January 12</b>			
1:00 p.m.	Monday Afternoon Club	Room 252	
4:00 p.m.	Caregiver's Group	Zoom	



## JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

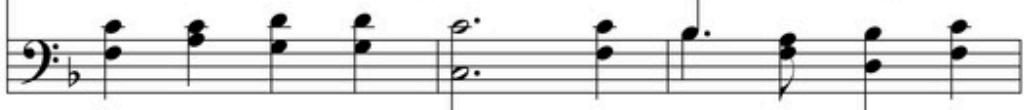
## 117 While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks



1 While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all  
 2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had  
 3 "To you, in Da - vid's town this day, is  
 4 "The heaven - ly babe you there shall find to



seat - ed on the ground, the an - gel of the  
 seized their trou - bled mind: "Glad ti - dings of great  
 born of Da - vid's line the Sav - ior, who is  
 hu - man view dis - played, all hum - bly wrapped in



Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.  
 joy I bring to you and hu - man - kind.  
 Christ the Lord, and this shall be the sign:  
 swath - ing bands, and in a man - ger laid."



5 Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith  
 appeared a shining throng  
 of angels praising God, who thus  
 addressed their joyful song:

6 "All glory be to God on high,  
 and to the earth be peace;  
 good will to all from highest heaven  
 begin and never cease!"

This was one of the first metrical texts to deal with a New Testament narrative rather than paraphrase one of the Psalms. It is set here to a psalm tune that is more than a century older than the words, though the two were not firmly joined until the mid-19th century.

## Ruling Elders

### *Class of 2025*

Paul Costel  
Elaine Duncan  
Bob Horton  
John Hubbard  
Elizabeth Scinta  
Linda Watson  
*vacant*

### *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*

[babernethy@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:babernethy@2ndpreslou.org)

Andrew Bowman *Associate Pastor for Community Life*

[abowman@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:abowman@2ndpreslou.org)

Elizabeth Clay *Coordinator for Pastoral Care*

[eclay@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:eclay@2ndpreslou.org)

Karla Wright *Director of the Weekday School*

[kwright@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:kwright@2ndpreslou.org)

Lorie Williamson *Director of Children's & Family Ministry*

[lwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:lwilliamson@2ndpreslou.org)

Jim Rittenhouse *Director of Worship & Music Ministry*

[jrittenhouse@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:jrittenhouse@2ndpreslou.org)

Michael Harper *Coordinator for Youth Ministry*

[mharper@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:mharper@2ndpreslou.org)

Mengfei Xu *Organist and Assistant Director of Worship & Music*

[mengfei@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:mengfei@2ndpreslou.org)

Amy Kiefner *Communications Specialist and Technology Administrator*

[akiefner@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:akiefner@2ndpreslou.org)

Tammy Kissling *Ministry Coordinator for Faith Formation & Mission*

[tkissling@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:tkissling@2ndpreslou.org)

Jeremy Doyle *Director of Facilities*

[jdoyle@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:jdoyle@2ndpreslou.org)

Earl Toepfert *Maintenance Technician*

Yilena Romero Aguilera *Custodian*

[yraguilera@2ndpreslou.org](mailto:yraguilera@2ndpreslou.org)

Paula S. Roberts *Organist Emerita*