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Please ask an usher.**

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

APRIL 23, 2023

8:30 AND 11:00 A.M.

The Congregation will speak aloud the bold print in responsive readings.

*** Please rise in body or spirit.**

GATHERING

*Worship begins with God. God takes the initiative and calls the Church into being.
In the name of Christ, we heed God's call and gather as the community of faith.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

Please leave a record of your attendance. At 11:00, take the red friendship pad, sign your name, and pass it down the pew and back, noting the names of those worshipping with you. At 8:30, complete the yellow card and place it in the offering plate. We encourage our guests to share your information that we might be aware of your presence with us.

PRELUDE

Baptized in Water

arr. J. Krug

*** CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

Come and worship, all you who love and serve the Lord—

outsiders and insiders,

old-timers and newcomers,

the young, old and the in-between.

Come as you are,

for this is God's house—a house of prayer for all people,

and God welcomes each one who comes.

Come let us worship now.

*** HYMN NO. 43** *You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord* ON EAGLE'S WINGS

Verse 1: Melanie Hanna Verse 2: Ethan Ezell

Verse 3: Jón Stevenson Verse 4: Janette Robinson

Refrain: Congregation

*** CALL TO CONFESSION**

We continue to believe that we must earn our way into God's heart.

But God's grace is given to each of us, for all of us,

freely, unconditionally, always.

Let us open our lives to this mercy as we pray saying...

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

It seems we cannot decide, God. We say we will live to serve others, but end up meeting only our needs. We claim to live in a way that honors Christ, but we do not take him to work, school, or home. We believe that the gospel can transform lives, (at least, for those who need it - not us). Forgive us, Prince of Peace. Instead of grumblers, may we be ambassadors of grace. Instead of continual complaining, may we carry compassion to the hurting. Instead of whiners, may we be workers with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, to reach out and bring the kingdom of God to everyone we meet.

*** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer -
cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Elizabeth Cahoon, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

The Reverend Doctor Randy Hyde

The Reverend Alisa Secrest

Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts

Adam Savacool, Organist

Clint Brockway, Interpreter

Liturgists: (8:30) Mike Paulus (11:00) Jeannie Ford

Elder of the Day: (11:00) Joseph Yancey

Ushers: (11:00) Nancy and Ansley Fleming, Tom Hicks,
Joseph, Amara and Rosie Yancey, Jill, Bradley and Lucille Wright

Our 11:00 a.m. worship is video recorded and shared live online.

Please be aware that your image may be recorded and stored.

Please notify the church office of hospitalizations,
joys and concerns. For a full listing of prayer
concerns, please call the Care and Concern line at
(501) 227-6117.

STATEMENT OF WELCOME AND INCLUSIVENESS

As one part of the church of Jesus Christ, we are inspired and guided by Christ's vision of God's realm—one that includes all who seek to love God and neighbor.

Second Presbyterian Church welcomes all people.

As a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), we invite those who respond in trust and obedience to God's grace in Jesus Christ to become part of the membership and ministry of the church.

We would be pleased to have you join us in our journey of faith, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic or family status, ethnic background, mental or physical abilities.

TORNADO RELIEF FUND: Many members of our congregation and wider community sustained significant loss during the tornado, and our church has set up a fund specifically to support local recovery efforts. If you would like to contribute, you may do so by mailing a check to the church office with "Tornado Relief" in the memo line or by giving online through our church website.

TORNADO HELP FOR EVERYONE AFFECTED from FEMA. Have you heard the rumor that homeowners with insurance are not eligible for FEMA? That's not true! FEMA agents are canvassing the city, encouraging everyone affected to apply for assistance, whether homeowners or renters, insured or not. FEMA can function as a Plan B for costs not covered by insurance. All applicants receive notification that approval is pending additional information (read your letter to the end, past the word "declined") and are encouraged to complete the application and even appeal to keep their application open for several years to accommodate future needs. What does this mean? Please talk with your friends and family to share the news that help is available from the church, and from state and federal agencies!

WE WELCOME WITH JOY AND THANKSGIVING our Confirmands into membership this morning and congratulate them on the completion of this first step in their journeys of faith.

Braylin Arnold--Mentor, Woody Jolley

Lily Butler--Mentor, Carrie Johnson

Eren Ibis--Mentor, Amy Wisdom

Miriam Knight--Mentor, Jeannie Ford

Rosemary Mallory--Mentor, Patty Bates Abraham

Mary Evelyn May--Mentor, Jennifer Knight

Will Schumacher--Mentor, Chris Johnson

TIME AND TALENT DEDICATION APRIL 30: Please be prayerful as you discern where God may call you to be a part of Christ's work at Second Presbyterian. When you are ready, please complete the Time and Talent Covenant which you have received in the mail. After you complete the form, please return it to the church office, or use the QR code and submit your covenant online. Please consider how you might use the gifts God has given you to support the life and ministry of Second Presbyterian Church.



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: Faith and Grief support group meets every third Tuesday in Second Hall at noon. The next meeting is May 16. This is a monthly community gathering of support and comfort. Join at any time. There is no cost, but we appreciate a good will offering of \$8 to cover the cost of lunch. Please register through faithandgrief.org or through the church office, so we can have plenty of lunches available.

DID YOU MISS ONE OF THE SERMONS? If so, you can watch past worship services on the church website at secondpreslr.org. To receive a copy of a sermon either by e-mail or regular mail, contact Karin Howze, karinhowze@secondpreslr.org or (501) 227-0000. Printed copies are available in the Narthex and the church office.

OFFERINGS TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:

Your generosity is a meaningful expression of your faith in God and your commitment to Christ's work in the world. Contributions can be made to the 2023 Annual Budget, Memorial Gifts and the Birthday Fund. You may support the ministries of our church by placing your offering in the offering plate, through online giving at secondpreslr.org/giving or mailing a check to the church office, **600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72227.**



TEACHER/STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK AT BALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: LRSD's Teacher Appreciation Week is the first week of May, and we want to let all the wonderful teachers and staff at our school partner Bale Elementary know how much we appreciate all they do for the children in our community, especially in these very challenging times. We anticipate doing several nice things for the staff over the course of the week, and we are in need of volunteers to write letters, put together gift bags, and make food and other treat deliveries. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Lindy Vogado in the church office (lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org).

NEW OFFICER TRAINING: April 23 and 30 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. in Second Hall. All new officers, elders and deacons, will enjoy a lunch and education on Presbyterian polity, theology, history and how that impacts out week in ministry at Second Pres!

NEWCOMER DISCOVERY SEMINAR-LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER! Today, from 9:35 a.m.-10:50 a.m. in the Church Library. Several times each year, we offer an introductory course as a ministry to those who are new to our church - including visitors and new members. Topics covered will give an overview of what we believe, as well as opportunities we offer to grow in faith and mission. We invite you to come get to know *us*, as well as *others* new to our church family.

CHEESES WITH JESUS Our next meeting is on April 26 at 7:00 p.m. at 5224 Hawthorne Rd. For our study we will discuss Chapter 4 ("Nowhere Among the Gentiles") from The Difficult Words of Jesus, by Amy-Jill Levine. Who are the 'lost sheep of Israel'? Why did Jesus advise the disciples to "go nowhere among the Gentiles"? For our spring mission project, we will be packing snacks into baskets for *Teacher Appreciation Week* at Bale Elementary School. We are an LBGQTQ+ friendly adult group for those in between "young adult" and retiree. We are always glad to meet new friends!

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	
600 PLEASANT VALLEY DRIVE	OFFICE: (501) 227-0000
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72227	FAX: (501) 227-6513
CARE & CONCERN LINE: (501) 227-6117	
WWW.SECONDPRESLR.ORG	

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED: Church Women United is a nation-wide movement to bring diverse church women together in Christian unity. In our community, Church Women United events are a great opportunity for women in predominantly white and black congregations to worship together. This year, May Friendship Day will be on May 5, 2023, and we will be meeting at Bethel AME church at 815 W. 16th Street at 10:00 a.m. The theme will be *Living a Legacy of Love: Doing God's Work*. The offering will go to Stewpot, and we will also be collecting men's and women's underwear for the Stewpot clothes closet. If you would like to carpool with women from Second Pres, please meet in the church parking lot at 9:30 a.m.

UPDATE FROM THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The Pastor search is ongoing! We are continuously evaluating applications/applicants, and we have begun some initial interviews. We believe we have some very good candidates, and hopefully one of them is the one God is calling to be our Head of Staff. Remember, we are working on God's timeline and trying to hear His voice in the process. Please continue to pray for us as we continue this search. PNC Members: Beth Sigler-Moderator, Greg Adams, Christina Littlejohn, Jim Marsh, Kathryn McMillian, Jennifer Rigsby, and Jón Stevenson.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: If you identify as a young adult or an adult without children, we want to update you on some new changes to our weekly schedule. We welcome all friends to join us on Sundays after 11:00 a.m. worship for lunch at various locations; the location is determined in the narthex by those present. We also meet for bible study or fellowship every Thursday, depending on the week. First and third Thursdays, we meet in the Youth Building for a new bible study called *Second Helpings* where we will teach each other new meals to cook and each receive a "second helping" of Jesus. On the second and fourth Thursdays, we meet at Taco Godoy (14710 Cantrell Rd A1, Little Rock, AR 72223) for dinner and trivia.

SECOND HALL SHORT SERIES

9:50 A.M. SECOND HALL

Today, Dr. Robert Williamson, professor of Religious Studies at Hendrix College, continues a four-part lecture series called *The Bible and Economic Justice*. Dive into the ongoing themes and narratives throughout the Old and New Testament that comprise the Biblical concern on economics and justice for the poor and outcast as well as the powerful and well-off. Discuss how your understanding of these biblical principles impacts your life today. The last two dates in the series are May 7 and 14.

How To Be a Real Ally to the LGBTQ Community: On Sunday, April 30, while our regular presenter is out of town, Adult Ed is offering a class folks have requested—how to be truly supportive and inclusive to the LGBTQ community. Sharon Downs, presenter of Safe Spaces at UA Little Rock, will share how to say the right thing, understand new terminology, and be a real ally rather than one just in name only.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Connections Class (Room 62) This laid back, conversational class discusses life, family, parenting, current events and everything in between. We are exploring the book *The Four Agreements* by Miguel Ruiz with our guest leader Laura Campbell through the month of April. Based on Toltec wisdom, *The Four Agreements* offer a code of conduct to transform our lives with a new experience of freedom, true happiness and love; no pre-reading required!

Seeking More Light (Room 67 and Zoom) is a diverse and affirming group aiming to stretch our theology and practices of welcome, now studying *White Too Long* by Robert Jones, a provocative examination of the unholy relationship between American Christianity and white supremacy.

Adult Bible Study (starts early at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom only, Meeting ID 395 818 9248, password: second) with Graham Catlett continues *The Present Word* curriculum for discussion of Biblical Texts. Perfect for those at home or out of town! Printed or digital curriculum available at no cost.

Spiritual Nourishment (Zoom and Heritage Room) with Nancy Hicks continues to study *The Book of Forgiving* by Desmond Tutu in their intimate and caring exploration of personal faith.

MIDWEEK ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

to enliven your faith during the week.

Tuesday Men's Group Ministry: each Tuesday at 7:00 a.m., men gather in Second Hall and Zoom for encouragement, support, and bible study. Free donuts and coffee! Discussions center on the sermon text used by the Transitional Pastor, Randy Hyde.

First and Third Monday Morning Bible Study meets next on May 1 in Second Hall at 9:30 a.m.

The Intergenerational Bible Study will meet the first Wednesday of the month beginning May 3 through August 2. The May 3 gathering will be at the home of Leslie and Preston McCormack for drinks, snacks and discipleship. All are welcome. RSVP to Betsy Eldridge at 901-517-0296 and Bapple48@gmail.com

Presbyterian Women's Monthly Gathering for fellowship and Bible study is the second Tuesday of each month, and our next is May 9th! Join us in the narthex at 10:00 a.m. for light refreshments, and then at 10:30 a.m. in Second Hall.

Presbytery Partner Midweek Manna Bible Study meets Wednesdays from 12:05-12:55 p.m. in the underground chapel of Westover Hills Presbyterian Church and by Zoom. Attendees are invited to bring lunch and join in the conversation, currently on the book of Romans, led by Rev. Dr. Robert Lowry.

For more information, Zoom address, and questions please contact Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell at mariemo@secondpreslr.org.

PRAECLARA RINGERS PRESENT: A DISNEY CELEBRATION! Be our guest as we ring through Disney favorites. Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 30, at 4:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. Children and adults alike will love this magical musical afternoon. Costumes are encouraged! There will be fun photo opportunities with our Disney friends after the show. For more information, please contact Mary Ibis, maryibis@secondpreslr.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

*For more information please contact Elizabeth Cahoon
elizabethcahoon@secondpreslr.org*

Sunday, April 23: TODAY we welcome seven Confirmands into membership at Second Presbyterian Church at our 11:00 a.m. service. Please help us welcome Braylin Arnold, Lily Butler, Eren Ibis, Miriam Knight, Rosemary Mallory, Mary Evelyn May, and Will Schuhmacher. We invite all family, mentors, and Church Officers to our Confirmation Breakfast in the Great Hall at 9:30 a.m. Please bring \$10 for each family member. Confirmands will receive their breakfast complimentary on behalf of the Youth Ministry.

Wednesday, April 26: All Youth are requested to be present for our final Dress Rehearsal of Youth Sunday during WACKY from 5:00-7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 30: We encourage all friends and family to support our youth as they lead us in worship of Youth Sunday. Our youth will be leading all three services. At the 11:00 a.m. service we will recognize the graduating Class of 2023 and send them off with a blessing. If you are interested in your graduating senior to be a part of these special commissioning, please swiftly contact Elizabeth Cahoon. In the evening to celebrate our eventful morning, SPY Youth Group will be watching *Aquaman* for a group movie night in the Youth Building.

Middle School Mission Camp registration is open! A local mission camp for middle schoolers from July 31-August 4. For more information please scan this QR Code.



High School Mission Camp registration is open! A local mission camp for high schoolers from August 7-11. For more information please scan this QR Code

SUMMER MUSIC AND ART CAMP FOR K-5TH GRADERS has four spots remaining. The camp is June 5-9, with an extended day option. For more information, please contact Mary Ibis, 501-423-1416, cell.



Join us for **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** at 9:50 a.m. every Sunday. Preschoolers meet in the nursery area behind the Sanctuary, and Elementary-aged children meet in Bible Village, on the far side of the church from the main entry. Contact Grant Wildwright for more information at grantwildwright@secondpreslr.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND SHEPHERDS NEEDED! If you are interested in teaching children or youth Sunday School, the spring semester is a great time to start. Whether you're an experienced teacher ready to plan lessons from our curriculum, or you would rather hang out with the kids in a supporting role on a Sunday or two, we'd love to have you in Bible Village and Preschool Sunday School. To learn more, contact Grant Wildwright at grantwildwright@secondpreslr.org.

2023 SUNDAY FAMILY DINNERS Families with children are invited to dinners at the home of the McCormack family. The next dinner will be held today, April 23. Main dish provided, bring a side dish or dessert to share. The McCormacks' address is 2 Northwest Ct. Little Rock, AR 72212. Contact Grant Wildwright with questions (grantwildwright@secondpreslr.org).



**CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF
STEPHEN MINISTRY AT
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN!**

commissioned May, 1992



If you or someone you know is hurting and you would like more information about receiving Stephen Ministry care

-OR-

If you are interested in learning more about our upcoming Stephen Ministry training class, please contact any of our Stephen Leaders.

Kay Combs 501-517-5007
Cathy Crass 501-951-5890
Steve Dunnagan 501-590-9768
Laurie Stueart 501-658-7966
Jana Villemez 501-517-1474
JoAnn McQuade, Grief Care
Rev. Alisa Secrest 501-227-0000

**STEPHEN MINISTRY
GIVING COMFORT, LIFTING SPIRITS**

USHER/GREETER VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS APPRECIATED: Those who serve as ushers and greeters for our worship service are providing a ministry of hospitality for members and visitors to our church. Along with providing an important leadership role for worship, those who serve as ushers and greeters are also afforded a wonderful opportunity to meet and work alongside other members of the congregation. You may contact the following deacons who serve as usher captains to volunteer as ushers or greeters.

APRIL WORSHIP USHER CAPTAINS

8:30 A.M.

Ann Norwood
Bob Skinner

11:00 A.M.

Bradley Wright
Ashton Pickell



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

*And we know that in all things God works for the
good of those who love him.*

– Romans 8:28a

Second Presbyterian Church is a Stephen Ministry congregation. We provide confidential Christian caregiving to hurting people. To find out more about Stephen Ministry or to receive a Stephen Minister's care, call Associate Pastor Alisa Secrest at (501) 227-0000. Pastor Alisa will work with you to decide if Stephen Ministry will be a good fit for you and your unique situation.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

Confirmation Sunday

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Confirmation Breakfast 9:30
*Newcomer Seminar 9:30
Sunday School 9:50
*Officer Training 12:00
*Young Adults Lunch 12:15
*Family Dinner 4:00
*MS and HS SPY 6:00
Praeclara Ringers 6:00

MONDAY, APRIL 24

Day Ringers 12:00
Pastoral Care 1:30
Stephen Ministry Supervision 6:00
Stephen Ministry Training 6:30
Boy Scouts 7:00
Volleyball 7:00

TUESDAY, APRIL 25

Men's Group Bible Study 7:00
PW Coordinating Team 1:00

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

Staff Meeting 9:00
WACKY 5:00
*Youth Sunday Dress Rehearsal 5:00
Adult Choir 6:00
*Cheeses With Jesus 7:00

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

Young Bible Study 7:00

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

James Williams Memorial Service
11:00

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

Youth Sunday

Worship 8:30, 9:00, 11:00
Sunday School 9:50
*Officer Training 12:00
*Young Adults Lunch 12:15
*Family Dinner 4:00
*Praeclara Spring Concert 4:00
*MS and HS SPY 6:00

* Denotes announcement in bulletin