

SUN
January 19
2025

Welcome TO WORSHIP



*Whoever and Wherever You Are,
We Welcome You into a Life with Christ at Second Pres.*

Second Sunday After Epiphany



Second
PRESBYTERIAN LITTLE ROCK

The Congregation will speak aloud the **bold print 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.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

† CALL TO WORSHIP *(Responsive)*

No matter where we look, you are there, Lord.

This truth gives us hope.

It is a reminder that no matter what is happening in our lives,

you are at the ready, standing fast and waiting for us.

Lord, as we gather for worship today, we bring our very selves to you.

We're here to sing hymns, pray prayers, fellowship, and deepen our faith.

Guide us in all we do today and forevermore through your infinite wisdom.

And lead us into the kingdom you are creating.

Let us worship God!

Let us worship God, indeed!

† HYMN 17

Spring Praise to God, You Heavens!

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Responsive)*

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

We turn our minds and hearts to confess to our gracious and loving God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Responsive)*

Lord, you stand at the ready, waiting for our arrival.

We're often surprised you are aware of all that's happening to us.

As we gather together this morning, we're cognizant of all we've done,

and all we've left undone.

We're aware that we haven't lived our lives according to your ways.

We've taken things into our own hands and attempted to follow our ways.

We've gone off and lived as though we are the only voice we need.

But we're here. And that matters because it showcases our need for you.

To hear your words of welcome and to feel your tender embrace.

To know that despite our shortcomings and sins, you welcome us.

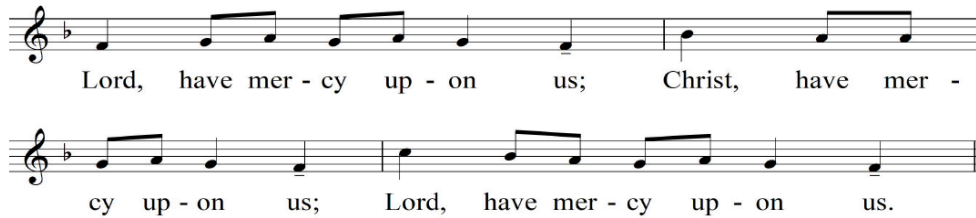
Whoever and wherever we are, Lord, we know you welcome us.

And that welcome is into a life with you and your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As we enter into that life, we know it requires us to confess our sins...

(Time for silent confession.)

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND PASSING OF THE PEACE *(Responsive)*

Lord, we aren't sure how you do it, but you keep welcoming us.

You meet us where we are and embrace us with your grace and mercy.

You tell us we matter and that our lives offer something to the world.

You tell us that we are forgiven and your love supersedes anything we do.

So we say with gratitude: **Thanks be to God.**

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

Let us greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.

You are invited to stand and greet one another with a handshake, fist-bump, hug, or wave — all of which remind us that Christ's peace is for each of us.

WORD

Gathered in God's name, we now open ourselves to God's life-giving Word.

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

Doug Barr

HEBREW BIBLE READING

Psalm 121

OT p. 571

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Lift Thine Eyes
SPC Adult Choir

F. Mendelssohn

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:11-32

NT pp. 78-9

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

How Big Is Your God?

Rev. Ben Kane

Following the sermon, there will be a time for meditation to consider what God might be saying to you after hearing God's word read and proclaimed.

✠ HYMN 263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

CORONATION

E U C H A R I S T

The proclamation of God's Word invites responses of faith.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Our response to God's love and grace is one of gratitude for what is and hope for what will be. In this time of Offering, our gratitude is a tangible response back to God with our gifts and resources. We invite you to give generously to the Second Pres offering as it helps us do the ministries God's called us to enact.

OFFERTORY

The Lord is My Shepherd
SPC Adult Choir

J. Rutter

✠ DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

OLD HUNDREDTH

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

S E N D I N G

The God who calls us together in worship now sends us out in service.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

The Pastors and Session of Second Pres invite anyone interested in knowing more about this church, especially those interested in becoming members of Second Pres, to come forward after the Benediction to learn more about this community of faith, and, if ready, to join the church.

✠ HYMN 550

Give Praise to the Lord

LAUDATE DOMINIUM

✠ BENEDICTION

✠ CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

J. Rutter

✠ POSTLUDE

Learn More About Second Pres

www.secondpreslr.org

Preaching Series

Building on God's Foundation: Casting a New Vision for Second Pres

Whoever and Wherever You Are, We Welcome You into a Life with Christ at Second Pres.

This new vision statement adopted by the Session of Second Pres launches us into a new year and chapter. What we've found as we developed this statement was the firm foundation on which we stood as members of Second Pres. Our church has a storied history of proclaiming God's grace and love to all and we feel primed to open our doors wider and welcome more people into Christ's good news of the gospels. Join us in January as Rev. Ben preaches about three prominent parables that Jesus shared as guides for how our new vision can be lived out and practiced at Second Pres and in the larger community.

January 12: *The Building Blocks of a Vision*, Luke 15:1-7

January 19: *How Big Is Your God?*, Luke 15:8-10

January 26: *The Grace that Makes this Possible*, Luke 15:11-32

Second Sunday Lunch TODAY after 11:00 a.m. Worship

Join us TODAY for an all church lunch in the Great Hall after the 11:00AM worship service. The menu is: chicken enchiladas with a vegetarian enchilada option, rice, black bean corn salsa with tortilla chips, and chocolate cake for dessert!

Call for Elder and Deacon Nominations

In the Presbyterian Church, Elders and Deacons Rule! Elders and deacons make up the leadership of our church and serve as leaders of our ministries and committees. They serve three-year terms and are selected each year by our Nominating Committee, which is comprised of representatives from a variety of groups at the church. The Nominating Committee depends on suggestions from the congregation to consider who God might be calling to serve in these leadership roles. If you would like to suggest a church member for consideration, please use the QR code to submit their name or fill out the form included in our bulletin. For more information, please contact Lindy Vogado (lindyvogado@secondpreslr.org).



A Ministry Only Christ Could Build



We're almost to the end of the road: Just a few more pledges will help fund our 2025 ministries! We are grateful to God for all those who have given and invite those who haven't to complete our Estimate of Giving card. You can use the QR code or come to the church office to make your Estimate of Giving. Happy New Year!



Second Spotlight and Monthly Newsletter

Grab a copy of our monthly announcement sheet and newsletter at Second Presbyterian! These publications highlight key upcoming events and activities to keep you informed. Pick up a copy in the narthex or at the back of the sanctuary, or scan the QR code for the digital version!



Statement of Welcome & 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.

Giving to Second Pres

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 Annual Budget, Memorial Gifts and the Birthday Fund.



OFFERING PLATE

You may place your offering in the offering plate



BY MAIL

Church Office, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive
Little Rock, AR 72227



ONLINE

Scan the QR Code or visit secondpreslr.org/give

Worship Leaders

Rev. Dr. Benjamin E.E. Kane
Rev. Lindy Vogado
Rev. Elizabeth Cahoon
Doug Barr, Director of Children and Families Ministry
Dr. Bevan Keating, Director of Music and the Arts
Melanie Hanna Ezell, Associate Director of Music and the Arts
Adam Savacool, organist
Liturgists: (8:30) Diane McVinney (11:00) Amara Yancey
Elder of the Day: (11:00) Vernon Markham

January Usher Captains

1/19 (8:30) Diane Karlson (11:00) Ann Owen
1/26 (8:30) (11:00) Cayce Jennings

Usher & Greeter Volunteer Sign Up

Use the QR code for the Usher and Greeter Sign Up!



Calendar for the Week

SUN JAN 19

8:30&11:00am Worship
9:45am Sunday School
12:00pm Churchwide Lunch
4:30pm Middle School SPY
6:00pm High School SPY
6:00pm SPY Dinner

MON JAN 20

Martin Luther King Day
Church office closed
5:00pm Finance Committee
7:00pm Volleyball

TUES JAN 21

7:00am Men's Group Ministry
9:00am Staff Meeting
12:00pm Faith and Grief
7:00pm Session/Diaconate Meeting

WED JAN 22

5:30pm MS Girls Bible Study
6:45pm Adult Choir
7:00pm Cheeses With Jesus *offsite*

SAT JAN 25

11:30am Merry Widows *offsite*

SUN JAN 26

8:30&11:00am Worship
9:45am Sunday School
12:30pm Miriam Training
4:30pm Middle School SPY
6:00pm High School SPY
6:00pm SPY Dinner

*A WEATHER REMINDER: Weekday church events are canceled and the church office is closed if the Little Rock Public Schools are canceled or dismissed due to weather. Check our social media and website for updates.

New to Second Pres?

If you are a guest, we are grateful you have joined us in worship and we hope you are well taken care of and feel at home. Feel free to stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex or say hello to a staff member or greeter. Check out the bulletin insert and *Second Spotlight* for more on Second Pres and things that may be of interest to you. We're glad you're here.

Church Officers

Session

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Ben Kane

Clerk: Philip Shell

Assistant Clerk: George Keck

Treasurer: Kenneth Rich

Class of 2025

Alicia Byrd
Cotten Cunningham
Kate Franks
George Keck
Vernon Markham

Class of 2026

Mary Helen Henry
Leslie McCormack
Ruth Shepherd
Alan Solomon
Justin Villines

Class of 2027

Laura Connor
Elaine Eubank
Steve Dunnagan
Edwin Hankins
Allison Pickell

Youth

Ezra Voth
Beckett Wright

Diaconate

Moderator: Lauren Gann

Vice Moderator: Amy Lloyd

Class of 2025

Lauren Gann
Freddie Jolley
Diane Karlson
Johanna Lewis
Jo Paulus
Ashton Pickell
Scott Polk
Margo Shoffner
Becky Talmadge
Dan Voth
Galen Wenger
Bradley Wright

Class of 2026

Matt Christenson
Cindy Downs
David Eifling
Judy Johnson
Amy Lloyd
Ann Owen
Emma Ryall
Matthew Smith
L.B. Vaught
Zachary Ward

Class of 2027

Doug Barton
Ken Cook
Cayce Jennings
Matt Lindsey
Jane Mages
Lindsey Taylor
Amara Yancey

Officer Nominations

For Elders and Deacons

Please help the Nominating Committee with your ideas of members of Second Presbyterian to serve as elders and deacons for the Class of 2027. The Nominating Committee is a representative one, made up of members who have been selected to serve from the following Church groups: the Session (two), the Diaconate (two), Presbyterian Women, Adult Sunday School, Youth Ministry, the Choir, and two members-at-large. This Committee will nominate a slate of officers to be voted upon at a Congregational Meeting in March.

After giving prayerful consideration, please fill out this form and turn it into the church office or place it in the offering plate. All suggestions will be given careful consideration.

I suggest the name of _____ to serve as a an elder.

I suggest the name of _____ to serve as a deacon.

(The committee needs further information to help decide, among the names suggested, which to nominate this year. To help them, please check those areas in which you feel this person is strongly qualified, and make any comment on these or other areas that would be helpful to the Committee.)

Church Involvement:

- Regular attendance at public worship
- Active participation in other church activities
- Offices held (Please list under comments.)
- Services rendered (Please list under comments.)
- Willingness to commit to Presbyterian heritage and form of gov't

Christian Living in Daily Life:

- within the family
- in the work place
- in the community

Personal Characteristics and Skills:

- Strong faith
- Grace and compassion
- Willingness to devote the time and effort
- Cooperativeness
- Patience
- Willingness to learn
- Openness to new ideas
- Maturity of judgment
- Ability to follow through on tasks

Why, in your opinion, would this person be a good officer?

In what activities, in or outside of the church, have you worked with this person and what was your experience?

Submitted by: _____