



SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 27, 2022, 10:30am



"Where Advent Begins" (c) Jan Richardson. janrichardson.com. Used by permission.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Beth Felder

**O God,
we are steeped in a world of violence.
War is one of the first things we learn,
and we let it work its way into our lives.
Your promises of peace sound like impossible dreams,
and we become accustomed to cruelty.
Forgive us. Wrest our weapons from our hands,
and show us how beautiful life can be
when you forge them into instruments of peace.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Beth Felder

Beloved, know this:
the God of Presence,
the God of Transformation,
the God of Peace,
hears our prayers
and gives us power to love.
**Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!**

*CELEBRATION OF FORGIVENESS *Angels We Have Heard on High*
HYMN #113 **Refrain only**

GLORIA

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Clark and Holly Pool

The world says, "All is lost."
God says, "All is loved."
The darkness says, "The light is dying."
The light says, "The fire is catching."
Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears."
Hope says, "Wait, watch, and listen."

As we light our first Advent candle,
we pray for holy hope of God.
Come now, O Child of Mary.
Come now, O Prince of Hope.

*HYMN #103

Come Now, O Prince of Peace
Verse 1

O-So-So

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Beth Felder

Holy God, our hope and strength,
by the power of your Spirit
prepare the way in our hearts
for the coming of your Word,
so that we may see the glorious signs
of your promise fulfilled;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: ISAIAH 2: 1-5

Beth Felder

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

MEDITATION

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
Beau Lochte, handchimes

French carol
arr. by Lee Dengler

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: MATTHEW 24: 36-44

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

SERMON

“Known Unknowns”

The Rev. Dr. Randy Clayton

*HYMN #107

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

REJOICE, REJOICE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

- **Place** it in the offering plate as it is passed.
- **Online** through www.secondpresby.org/give-now or through your Realm account. (If you would like to create a Realm account, email office@secondpresby.org to receive a link to set it up. You can make single or recurring gifts through Realm.)
- **Text** to 73256. Enter “SeekShareServe” —caps not required—in the message box. If you already have a Realm account, please use your log-in.
- **Mail** a check to Second Presbyterian Church, 4200 Saint Paul Street, Baltimore, MD 21218

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Every Valley
Chancel Choir

Joseph Martin

*Every valley shall be lifted, every mountain be made low.
Every valley shall be lifted, and the crooked be made whole.
Sound the trumpet, for the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.
Come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lowly exile here,
until the Son of God appears.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.*

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING AND RESPONSE (HYMN #606)

***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. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #364

Lift Up the Gates Eternal

GILU HAGALILIM

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

For many of us, the last act of worship is the postlude. We invite you to remain seated either where you are or in the front rows during the Postlude. If you wish to leave during the music, please be mindful that many are still worshipping.

POSTLUDE

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

arr. by Wilbur Held

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Portions of the liturgy in this morning's service are from Call to Worship, vol. 55.2, Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA).

The chancel flowers are given by the Chancel Guild to the Glory of God.

Our Nursery is open to all children under the age of 5. While we delight in having your little ones with us in worship, we know that sometimes it can be hard for families to worship amidst the wiggles and giggles. Parents, rest assured that your children will be in good hands.

Announcements

ADVENT NEWS AND UPDATES

ADVENT WREATH MAKING – TODAY, 9:30AM, SMITH HALL

Join us for this family-friendly annual post-Thanksgiving activity. We will be making Advent Wreaths in Smith Hall during the Christian Education Hour at 9:30 AM. You may take the wreaths home and light each Sunday in Advent. There will be no Sunday School today.

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS – Memorial or celebratory poinsettias have always been a big part of our church Christmas decorations. Donations for these poinsettias are being accepted until Tuesday, December 13th. The donors' names, along with the names of the person(s) remembered or honored will be included in the Christmas worship bulletins. To participate, contact Joyce Zimmerman at 410-467-4210 (ext. 16), email to jzimmerman@secondpresby.org, or simply send a note. Contributions should be made payable to Second Presbyterian Church, noting Chancel Guild in the memo line, and directed to Joyce at the church.

PEACE CHOIR – Peace Choir will be participating in the Christmas Eve service at 5PM. All ages are welcomed! The choir will have both singers and instrumentalists. Stay tuned for more details.

HOLIDAY MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

ANGEL TREE – The Angel Tree will be up by the first Sunday in Advent, November 27th. As the needs of our community continue to evolve, we will be working with multiple mission partners this year. Donations through the Angel Tree will benefit Glenwood Life, GEDCO, Helping Up Mission, and more. We invite you to take an angel and return it with your unwrapped donation by Sunday, December 11th, or use the Amazon Wish List (coming soon).

ORCHKIDS BOOK DRIVE – OrchKids began in 2008 with 30 kids at one City school. Today seven schools and 1,800 students participate in this amazingly successful, carefully tracked, in-school and after-school program under the auspices of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Join us to hear more about this amazing mission partner on December 11, 2022 between the two worship services in the Westcott Room. BSO violinist and SPC Member, Ellen Troyer, and program Vice President, Nick Skinner, will present.

Once again, Second Presbyterian Church is gifting 75 books, specially chosen by Rona London, the Ivy Bookstore's children's book expert. We will paste an attractive plate in each book that will say, "Merry Christmas from a friend at Second Presbyterian Church."

To purchase books for OrchKids, simply write on the memo line of your check to Second Presbyterian Church: OrchKids Books. \$20 for one book, \$40 for two and so on. \$100 for five books would make a great gift!

CONGREGATION NEWS AND UPDATES

2023 OFFERTORY ENVELOPES – Envelopes for the 2023 giving year have been received and are available for pickup in the church office. Please contact Joanna Bradley at joanna@secondpresby.org with any questions.

LITURGISTS NEEDED – Service Slots for fall liturgists for the 10:30 AM service are now full (thank you to everyone who signed up), but many are still open at 8:30 AM. New Sign Up has been created for winter/spring liturgists for both services. Find the sign-up online at secondpresby.org/signups or contact Joanna Bradley at joanna@secondpresby.org

COVID-19 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – Although masking is currently optional at Second, it is still encouraged. The Session has recently re-affirmed the decision to provide socially distanced seating on the lectern side of the Sanctuary. Thank you for respecting the safety and comfort of your fellow worshippers.

SMALL GROUPS

THE BIBLE GUYS – Bible Guys, a men's Bible study group meets monthly on the second Thursday of each month at 7 am. For information about the group, please contact Rev. Randy Clayton.

THE HOLY STROLLERS (NOW ON WEDNESDAYS!) – All are invited to join on Wednesday mornings at 10:00am for our "Holy Strollers" walking group! They meet at the Westcott entrance and walk around local neighborhoods and Sherwood Gardens. Please contact Emily Park at emily@secondpresby.org with any questions or to share interest!

TOGETHER ON TUESDAY – Together on Tuesday meets each Tuesday morning at 7am on Zoom. All are welcome to join in this 45-minute time of prayer and study.

Meeting ID: 885 0938 5420

Passcode: 162861

Scripture: Matthew 3: 1-12

Second Presbyterian Church Staff

The Rev. Randall Clayton, Interim Senior Pastor,
Joyce C. Zimmerman, Pastoral Assistant
Peyson Moss, Music Director
Beau Lochte, Handbell Director
Emily Park, Church Ministry Coordinator
Joanna Bradley, Office Coordinator
Matt Warren, Livestream Operator

Session

Scott Silverwood, Clerk of Session
Benard Agyingi, Keith Getter, Gene Leber, Gretchen Martin,
Barbara Matheson, Fay Miller, Steve Randall, Karen Ruppert,
Cheryl Sunderland, Steve Walsh

Trustees

Scott Anderson, President
Scott Crosby, Beth Felder, Clay Furtaw, Greg Heid, Pete Heumann
Harry Kleiser, Garland McPherson, Ben Payne,
Clark Pool, Todd Ruppert, Janet Short

Deacons

Diane Melia Anderson, Moderator
Barbara Antonides, Frauke Davidsen, Jennifer Figler,
Sallie Miller, Nancy Getter, Deborah Jones,
Stephanie Kleiser



Founded in 1803, Second Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA).
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