26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 27th, 2026 **10:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE ***Kyrie*** *Girolamo Frescobaldi*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT

✞CALL TO WORSHIP *based on* Psalm 78

One: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
All: And also with you.
One: God has done glorious things!
All: God worked marvels in the land of Egypt.
One: God divided the sea and made the waters stand like a heap.
All: God led the people with clouds by day and with fire by night.
One: God split rocks open in the wilderness and caused water to flow down like rivers.
All: God has done glorious things! Let us worship God!

✞HYMN OF PRAISE ***Let All Things Now Living*** **#37**

✞PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, you know the truth of our hearts before we can even utter a word. You know when our good intentions exceed our capacity for gospel living. You know when we embrace the good news with our lips but don't change our actions. You know that we are stubborn and stuck in our ways, refusing to believe any truth but the ones we hold tightly. Forgive our shortcomings and the ways we have failed to live the words we say. Restore us in the confidence of people who have heard good news and remind us that even when we fail to do what is asked on the first try, there is still work to be done. Amen.

✞ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

One: Friends, believe this good news: in Christ we are new creations.
All: We are forgiven; we are set free; and we are made ready to live out the Word of God.

✞PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

✞RESPONSE ***With Praise and Thanksgiving*** ASH GROVE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Registration Pad found at the end of the row and pass it along.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward for the Time for Young Disciples. Following this time, children through 2nd grade are invited to Children's Church.

✞HYMN OF PREPARATION ***Take My Life*** **#697, vv. 1,2,5,6**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, your name is hallowed.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

HEBREW BIBLE READING Ezekiel 18:25-32 p. 785 OT
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM ***Eternal Light*** *Benjamin Harlan*

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 21:23-32 p. 23 NT
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED **Tim Reynolds**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory ***Canon on "Comfort, Comfort You My People"*** *Leupold*
✞Response ***Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*** **#606**
✞Prayer of Dedication

✞AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from* The Theological Declaration of Barmen

The Christian Church is the congregation of the kindred in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the Church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order, that it is solely Christ's property, and that it lives and wants to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance. We reject the false doctrine, as though the church were permitted to abandon the form of its message and order to its own pleasure or to changes in prevailing ideological and political convictions.

✞HYMN OF SENDING ***Give Thanks, O Christian People*** **#644**

✞BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

✞POSTLUDE ***Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ*** *Johann Pachelbel*

✞PLEASE STAND IN BODY OR IN SPIRIT, AS YOU ARE ABLE

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Tim Reynolds – Pastor
Sarah Morgan – Pastor
Charles White – Liturgist
Matthew Mimbs – Director of Music & Arts
Sarah Warner-Sperl – Organist
2nd Presbyterian Chancel Choir

Ushers: Lauren Dodson, Betsy Foster, Doug and Leslie Matthews
Technicians: Dale Henley (video); Paul Sexauer (audio)

WORSHIP

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS: We are following the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle of readings used all over the world that provide a structured way to engage with Scripture throughout the liturgical year. We are currently in Year A, which focuses on the Gospel of Matthew.

Sept 27	Matthew 21:23-32	Doing God's Will
Oct 4	Matthew 21:33-46	The Wicked Tenants
Oct 11	Philippians 4:1-9	Rejoice in the Lord
Oct 18	Matthew 22:15-22	The Question about Paying Taxes

THE FLOWERS THIS WEEK are given to the glory of God.

PASTOR SARAH will be out of the office this week for continuing education.

THE FAMILY OF GEOFF DUGGAN will be gathering in the courtyard next Sunday following worship to spread some of Geoff's ashes. Anyone who wishes to attend is welcome to do so.

HANDBELL REHEARSALS resume next Sunday, October 4th at 1:00pm in the choir room. We look forward to ringing together again in the year ahead!

WAYS TO SERVE IN WORSHIP: There are many ways in which you can serve on Sunday mornings, and we'd love to help you get involved!

Ushers: Our ushers greet folks arriving at worship and are often the first contact a visitor makes in our congregation. If you are interested in joining the usher rotation, please text either Kim Hudgens 865.567.6477 or Janis Smith 615.260.7784.

Liturgists: We are looking for folks who are interested in serving as liturgists for worship beginning in September. Training is provided. If interested, please email Pastor Tim at treynolds@2ndpres.org.

A/V Tech: Our A/V Techs run the sound, the screens and the streaming. Training is provided. If interested, contact Paul Sexauer at 865.850.7328 or sexauerpaul@gmail.com.

Choir: The choir rehearses each Sunday at 9:15 a.m. We'd love for you to add your voice! For more information, contact Matt Mimbs at mmimbs@2ndpres.org.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are excited to have you with us today and hope you feel at home! We are honored you are here and pray you will feel God's presence in this place. If you do not have a church home, we would love for you to be a part of the 2nd Pres. Please let us know a bit about you by completing a Visitor's Card or by filling out your information in the Friendship Register. Children are welcome in worship. There is a **family worship area** down front. There is also a "crying room" next door in the Library where the service is live streamed. **Children's Worship Bags** are available in the Narthex. Children ages 2 through 2nd grade are invited to **Children's Church** following the children's time in worship. A **nursery is available** beginning at 9:15 for infants and children through age 2. **Hearing Devices** are available if needed.

CONNECT

FOOD & FRIENDS is a ministry to college students and young adults. **On the 2nd Sunday of each month,** all college students and young adults are invited to have lunch together at a local restaurant paid for by the church. Our NEXT Food & Friends is October 11th. If you are interested in being a host, scan the QR code to sign up or just let Pastor Tim know.

3 CHEERS FOR 30 YEARS! Your SPC Preschool has a big anniversary this year, and we will celebrate this alongside our annual Fall Festival on Monday, October 19th, at 5:30 p.m. As always, if you would like to coordinate a booth/table for the event, contact Linda Sue (865-310-0355) or Holly (865-243-6353). Candy (nut-free)/prize donations are also being collected at this time for the activities – a donation box is located outside the church office! Congrats to SPC Preschool on this milestone!

GROW

THE FAITH, SCIENCE & THE FUTURE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS meets in the Barbour Room at 9:30 a.m. weekly. This class studies current events through the lens of faith using a weekly curriculum called *The Wired Word.* All are welcome!

A SPIRITUAL GIFTS CLASS focusing on studying the book, *Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts* takes place Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the library. Books are available in the church office at no charge and the class will conclude before Thanksgiving. For more information, contact Liz Peebles: enp3613@gmail.com.

THE PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY meets on Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. We are discussing Walter Brueggemann's book, *Chosen? Reading the Bible Amid the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* and considering how to understand God's promises to the biblical people called Israel in light of the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine today.

LET'S GO TO THE PUMPKIN PATCH! All are welcome to join us for a trip to the pumpkin patch at Oakes Farm on Saturday, October 17th, at 10:00 a.m. Adults are $10 and children are free! Let Holly Grimm know by this Friday, October 2nd, if you would like to go (hgrimm@2ndpres.org or call/text 865-243-6353). See you there!

GO

SUPPORT WEST VIEW This is the FINAL Sunday to purchase a book before the sale ends September 30. See Sandra Butler to make a coupon book purchase!

SUPPORT

WI-FI NETWORK: Our Wi-fi network is for use by anyone who visits the building. The network is "Second Presbyterian Church", and the password is *Psalm100*.

GIVE ONLINE: Visit us at www.2ndpres.org/give, text *2ndPresKnox* to 73256, or scan the QR code to the right.

THIS WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Sunday, September 27th

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Classes (various locations)
10:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time (outside, *weather permitting*)

Tuesday, September 29th

10:00 a.m. Clerks of Session Regional Gathering (Fellowship Hall)
8:45 p.m. UKirk Basketball (Gym)

Thursday, October 1st

10:30 a.m. Bible Study (Barbour Rm.)
1:00 p.m. Go Team Meeting (Barbour Rm.)

Sunday, October 4th

9:15 a.m. Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Classes (various locations)
10:30 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time (outside, *weather permitting*)

PRAYER CONCERNS

Clara Hardin, Fran McLean, Bill Roach, Jr., and Arlys Milligan

*Please notify the office if you are sick, in the hospital, or have a prayer request.
Names remain on the prayer list 4 weeks unless requested to keep them on longer.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN STAFF

	Members & Friends of the Congregation	
Ministers:		
Teaching Elder:	Tim Reynolds	treynolds@2ndpres.org
Teaching Elder:	Sarah Morgan	smorgan@2ndpres.org
Director of Music & Arts:	Matthew Mimbs	mmimbs@2ndpres.org
Organist:	Sarah Warner-Sperl	sartherrgurl2@outlook.com
Student Ministries Director:	Holly Grimm	hgrimm@2ndpres.org
Preschool Director:	Linda Sue Byrd	lsbyrd@2ndpres.org
Church Administrator:	Kathryn Paden	admin@2ndpres.org
Custodian:	Nichole Duran	nichole_duran05@yahoo.com

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2nd Pres Knox

WELCOMING + FAITHFUL + HOPEFUL

Responding in gratitude to God's love and grace, we are a welcoming, faithful, and hopeful community, following Jesus and serving him in the world.

Second Presbyterian Church
Organized 1818

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
2829 Kingston Pike + Knoxville, TN 37919
Church Office: 865.523.2189
Preschool: 865.523.9997
Church Office Email: admin@2ndpres.org
Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

September 27, 2026