



Second Presbyterian Church

We are . . .
 a family of Christians,
called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
TO SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S GRACE AND LOVE,
 to care for one another,
AND TO SERVE JESUS CHRIST
 in our community and throughout the world.

For those desiring childcare, the nursery is available during the service for children five years of age and younger. In addition, there is a "family room" available at the back of the sanctuary.

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a prayer request form (found in the friendship register) and place it in the offering plate. We will include your request in the bulletin for a month, unless you request for us to leave it in longer.

2018 SPC SESSION AND MINISTRY TEAMS

Larry Hull, Clerk of Session

DISCIPLESHIP

Marie Finch
 Sandy Simmermon
 Ben Foster
 Ann Byrd Porter

MISSION AND STEWARDSHIP

Alice Allen-Grimes
 Joe Morgan
 Denise Tinkham
 Philip Ndahi
 Rich Voter

ADMINISTRATION

Rob Courtois
 Dave Horner
 Bill Reed

STAFF

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Dr. Craig Wansink, *Senior Pastor*
 Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe, *Covenant Associate Pastor*
 Isaac Thomas, *Pastor of Music, Outreach, and Technology*
 Katie White, *Director of Administration, Families, & Youth*
 Amanda Besso, *Nursery*
 Madeline Tamburo, *Nursery*
 Tom Libbey, *Facility Manager*
 Helen Pribesh, *Parish Cook*
 Barbara Watson, *Housekeeper*

Our pastor since 2010, Dr. Craig Wansink received his Ph.D. in New Testament from Yale University, after having graduated from seminary in Chicago, and having studied at universities in Japan, Jordan, Germany, and Israel. Since 1993 he has been a Professor of Religious Studies at Virginia Wesleyan University, where he also serves as the Joan P. and Macon F. Brock, Jr. Director of the Center for the Study of Religious Freedom. Craig is married to Nancy Chapman, and his two children—Katrina and Teddy—are college students.

Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe, our Covenant Associate Pastor for Discipleship & Spiritual Formation, received her M.Div. from Union Presbyterian Seminary. Catherine also serves as the chaplain for University Presbyterian Ministries at Old Dominion University. She and her husband, Chuck, live in Norfolk with their three children, Whitley, Hart, and Alden.

Isaac Thomas, our Pastor of Music, Outreach, and Technology, joined the SPC staff in 2014. He received his education at John Brown University and The University of Texas at Arlington. He is a published composer and has served as conductor for contemporary Christian recording artists Twila Paris and Fernando Ortega. He is a graduate of Dubuque Theological Seminary via the Commissioned Lay Pastor program. Additionally, he completed a six-week piano course through The Juilliard School under the instruction of Dr. Michael Shinn, Chair of Keyboard Studies.

Epiphany Sunday
 "HOME BY ANOTHER ROAD: THE MAGI AND THE STAR"
 Second Presbyterian Church, January 6, 2019



— We Gather in God's Name —

GATHERING MUSIC *"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring/It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"*
 —Music by J.S. Bach (1685-1750) and Richard Storrs Willis; Arranged by Jay Rouse

WELCOME

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.
 Greet your neighbor with the peace of Christ.

RINGING THE CHIMES

PRELUDE *"God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen"*—Arranged by David Lanz

Whether we are old or young, whether we are first-time or longtime worshippers, whether we come full of doubts or confidence, joy, or sorrow, in this place we all are family, because of what Jesus did for us on the cross.

“Robert Louis Stevenson, one evening, stood transfixed at his nursery window watching the lamplighter in the street. When his nanny asked the boy what he was doing he replied: ‘I’m watching the man knocking holes in the darkness.’ We live in a universe made dark by sin. Let’s knock holes in the darkness.”
—Selwyn Hughes

Don’t ask the Lord to guide your footsteps unless you are willing to move your feet.

“We do not draw people to Christ by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it.”
—Madeleine L’Engle

“Walking toward the light isn’t what you do when you die; it’s what you do when you live.”
—Bob Goff

CALL TO WORSHIP

May the light of God’s love push back the darkness.
We come to the light from the four corners of the earth,
from the north, from the south, from the east, and from the west.
But we are all one in Jesus Christ.
We come from many nations and many cultures.
But we are all one in Jesus Christ.
We come seeking the light that guides us to life.
But we are all one in Jesus Christ.
Let us lift up our voices and praise the God of all people.

*HYMN # 105 “As with Gladness Men of Old”

*CONFESSION OF SIN

**O God, who once used a star to lead people to Christ,
we confess our poor sense of direction.
We let ourselves become confused, easily distracted, and lose our way.
We fail to follow the signs you provide.
Forgive our waywardness.
Lead us to Christ so that we may follow his way to you. Amen.**

*MUSICAL RESPONSE # 884 “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”

—Words: Anonymous; Music by George Whelpton
*Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;
incline thine ear to us and grant us thy peace. Amen.*

*WORDS OF GRACE

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.
To all who have received him, to those who believe in his name,
he gave the right to become children of God (John 1:9, 12).
In Jesus’ name, life begins anew. **Amen.**

— *We Hear the Word* —

TIME OF DISCOVERY “Jesus Loves the Little Children”

—Words by C.H. Woolston and Josph Barlowe; Music by George F. Root
*Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.
Red, brown, yellow, black, and white, they are precious in his sight.
Jesus loves the little children of the world.*

VOCAL SOLO “In the Bleak Midwinter”

—Words by Christina Rossetti (1830-1894); Music by Mary E. Caldwell (1909-2003)
Isaac Thomas, Tenor

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago. Our God, heaven could not hold him nor
earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away the he comes to reign: In the bleak midwinter a stable-place
sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ. Angels and archangels may have gathered there, cherubim
and seraphim thronged the air; But only his mother in her maiden bliss worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.
What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb. If I were a wiseman I would
do my part: yet what I can I give him, give my heart.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

(page 2; large print, page 2)

SERMON

“Home by Another Road: The Magi and the Star” —Dr. Craig Wansink

HYMN # 106 “De tierra lejana venimos/From a Distant Home” —Nancy Chapman, drums

— *We Respond to God’s Word* —

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING: THE SHARING OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY “O Come, All Ye Faithful”—Music by John Francis Wade; Arranged by David Lanz

*THE DOXOLOGY #965 “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

—Words by Thomas Ken; Music by Louis Bourgeois
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving God, as Magi approached the child Jesus, we follow a star of hope,
we come with awe and wonder, and we bring gifts—ourselves, our time, our money,
and our commitment. Send us home changed by coming here.
Guide the nations of the earth by your light,
that the whole world may see your glory. **Amen.**

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND BREAKING OF THE BREAD

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS AND COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*All are invited to come down the center aisle, take bread (or a gluten-free cracker),
and dip it in the cup (grape juice), and return using the outside aisle.
Please tell an usher if you wish to be served in your pew.*

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DURING COMMUNION “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

—Music by John H. Hopkins Jr.; Arranged by Jay Rouse

*PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

*HYMN # 950 “Go Now in Peace”

— *We Are Sent in Christ’s Name* —

*BENEDICTION

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to
the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE “Rejoice!” (quoting *In Dulci Jubilo*)—Music by Jay Rouse

“Of all the facts I daily live with there’s none more comforting than this. If I have two rooms, one dark, the other light, and I open the door between them, the dark room becomes lighter without the light one becoming darker. I know this is no headline, but it is a marvelous footnote; and comforts me in that.”
—Gerhard Frost

As you receive the elements, you may wish to receive them in silence or say words like “Amen” or “Thanks be to God.”

As you leave Second, live each day by leaving a meaningful legacy for your life: be rich toward God.