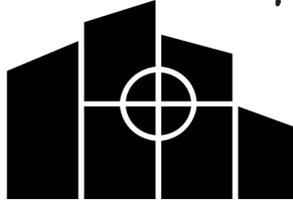


Welcome to



SECOND PRES

A Place to Be...Safe

Rev. Trey Haddon

Sunday, March 30, 2025

9:00 AM

404 N Prairie St • Bloomington, IL 61701

309-828-6297 • info@secondpres.com

 fb.com/secondpres

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To access past bulletins and announcements:
visit secondpres.com/weekly2025

PRELUDE

Here I Am, Lord arr. Mark Hayes

Dr. Dennis Gotkowski

WELCOME & LIFE TOGETHER

Rev. Trey Haddon

CHORAL INTROIT

Ye Servants of God Johann Michael Haydn

Chapel Choir

CALL to WORSHIP

Elder David Kaeb

We long for special moments life should offer:

God joins us at unexpected times.

When our hearts are burdened by doubt:

God opens the fountains of faith for us.

When our senses are overwhelmed by our culture:

God wraps us in the silence of grace.

CALL to CONFESSION

PRAYER of CONFESSION

We fear that if we tell you what we have done, God of Justice, you might not love us anymore. We are filled with temptations which only leave us empty and wanting more.

Forgive us, Gracious Comforter. Remind us that we are no longer sinners, but your beloved. We are promised the grace of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who came that we might be set free from all unrighteousness.

ASSURANCE of PARDON

God forgives us, equips us, and sends us forth!

We go from here with hope and joy.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

***GLORIA PATRI**

Congregational Singing

***PASSING of the PEACE**

Rev. Trey Haddon

***SONG of the DAY**

Here I Am, Lord No. 525

Congregational Singing

FOUNDATIONS

Rev. Trey Haddon

————— *Children invited to attend Sunday School* —————

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 32 p. 501

Elder Shelly Gant

WORD IN SONG

Hold On to the Rock Pepper Choplin

Chapel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 19:1-8 p. 326

Rev. Trey Haddon

MESSAGE

A Place to Be...Safe

Rev. Trey Haddon

***HYMN**

Give to the Winds Thy Fears No. 286

Congregational Singing

OFFERING

Offertory Andante grazioso Robert Morrison Stults

*Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Trey Haddon

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Ending with the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Trey Haddon

***HYMN**

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples No. 434

Congregational Singing

BENEDICTION

Rev. Trey Haddon

POSTLUDE

Be Not Afraid Felix Mendelssohn/arr. Arthur Boyse

Dr. Dennis Gotkowski

**Please stand*

UPCOMING at SECONDPRES

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Lenten class led by Rev. Trey Haddon is a contemplative class, centered around discussion, prayer, and music, walking each participant through this wilderness experience together. It can be joined at anytime and takes place in the chapel after our Sunday worship service. For more information, contact Scott Hamilton.

THEOLOGY ON TAP: APRIL 3

The next Theology on Tap will be Thursday, April 3 at 6:00 p.m. at the Paxton Building! Dinner can be purchased for \$5 cash, as well as drinks. No childcare will be available.

EASTER LILY DONATIONS DUE BY 4/7

The Deacons are providing Easter lilies for our members in nursing homes and retirement communities, and homebound. To honor a loved one, fill out a card with Kim Pare by Monday, April 7. Suggested donation: \$20. Names will be in the Easter bulletin.

GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE

This year's Good Friday Ecumenical Service will be held on Friday, April 18 at 12:00 NOON at the Mennonite Church of Normal, 805 S Cottage Ave. Normal, IL.

WEEKLY AT SECOND PRES

EVERY SUNDAY

8:45 am: Sunday Morning Brunch
9:00 am: Worship Service
10:15 am: ACE (Adult Christian Education)
10:15 am: High School Brunch
3:00 pm: Lego League Robotics (*Grades 4-8*)

EVERY TUESDAY

7:00 pm: Scouts Troops 903 and 9903
6-8:00 pm: First Tech Challenge (FTC) Robotics (*Grades 7-12*)

EVERY WEDNESDAY

6-7:30 pm: K-5th KidsMin (90 min.)
6-7:30 pm: 6-8th YOUthMin (90 min.)
6:30-8:00 pm: Chapel Choir Rehearsal

EVERY THURSDAY

11:30 am: Thursday Prayer Lunch

JOY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM THURSDAY, APRIL 10

Marie Millan, retired Unit 5 teacher will present a program about her trip to Egypt last year, "Come Explore With Us The Secrets and Mysteries of Ancient Egypt," on Thursday, April 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the chapel. This will focus on history and culture.

WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT GOOD FRIDAY? ART SHOW

Don't miss the 16th annual What's So Good About Good Friday Art Show! Artwork will be displayed April 10-20, and to the public April 17-19. The community reception will be held April 18, 5-6:30 PM, before Good Friday service.

GOD'S WORD: A SECOND PRES SPECIAL COLLECTION

Heritage invites you to explore what has been found in the nooks and crannies of Second Pres! The collection includes items such as contents from the 1865 cornerstone, bibles in 7 languages, sanctuary bibles, Dr. Martin's seminary textbooks, personalized bibles, and presentation bibles! The collection can be viewed in the south entrance display cases.

Please check in using your pew pad (located in each pew) or via the Second Pres church app.

LENT WITH SECOND PRES:

4/13: Palm Sunday Service - 9 am
4/17: Maundy Thursday Service - 7 pm
4/17- WSGAGF Art Show - Times Vary
4/19
4/18: Art Show Reception - 5-6:30 pm
4/19: Easter Vigil - 7 pm
4/20: Sunrise Service (Funks Grove) - 6:30 am
Easter at Second Pres - 9 a.m.

BIBLE STUDIES

EVERY TUESDAY

8:30 am: Morning Men's Bible Study (Wylie)

EVERY OTHER TUESDAY

11:30 am: Bible Study (Jones)

EVERY WEDNESDAY

6-7:45 p.m.: The Gathering (Jennings)

For more information on Bible studies
visit: secondpres.com/biblestudy

In **Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18**, God makes a covenant with Abram. Abram, dwelling in a tent in the land to which God had called him, hears God's promise: Abram will have descendants as numerous as the stars, and they will inherit the land God has set apart for them. In response, God instructs Abram to prepare a covenant ceremony. Yet, before Abram can take part, God causes Abram to fall into a deep sleep. While Abram sleeps, God alone completes the covenant ceremony.

This moment is one of the most profound displays of God's faithfulness. In ancient covenant rituals, both parties would walk between the divided animal sacrifices, symbolizing their mutual obligation to uphold the agreement—if either failed, they would share the fate of the animals. But here, only **God**, appearing as a smoking firepot and a flaming torch, passes through. God is declaring that God's promise does not depend on Abram's ability to uphold it; it rests solely on **God's unchanging character**. If God were ever to break God's word, God would cease to be God—but God will never fail.

God alone is the **Promise Maker** and the **Promise Keeper**. God does not require finite, fallible humans to make promises they cannot keep. This is **hesed (חֶסֶד)**—the steadfast, covenant love of the Lord. It is a love that never wavers, never falters, never fails.

In the wilderness, **Abram's faith was restored**. Abram's hope was rekindled. Abram's promise remained secure—not because of Abram's own strength, but because of God's unwavering faithfulness.

When we find ourselves in the wilderness—lost, weary, uncertain—we can take refuge in God's steadfast love. Even in our darkest, lowest, and most fearful places, we are not abandoned. **The Lord our God is faithful in love, rich in mercy, and abundant in grace**. When we lean into God, we, too, can be restored.

For the Promise Maker is the Promise Keeper. Always.