



January 2023 Newsletter

From Our Pastor

Dear Members and Friends of Second Presbyterian Church,

At this turning of the year from 2022 to 2023, may your hearts be blessed by what has been, and stirred by what is to come. I am so grateful to be beginning the New Year with you in a time of worship on the very first day of the year. Whether you are able to join in person or online, or if you are simply holding us in prayer, it will be a shared moment of reflection and anticipation for us all.

I began 2022 in prayer for you all and for what might come to pass as I prepared for our first worship service together. Since that Sunday in February, when you received me as your pastor, it has been a joy to share the beginning of this new chapter in your long, storied life as a congregation. I have learned so much about your generosity of spirit and deep sense of caring for one another and for the world. And, there is so much yet to learn, to explore, to discern, and to engage in together.

My prayer, as we enter 2023, is that God will reveal a path for the thriving of the ministry of Second Presbyterian Church in ways that will energize and inspire us as we point beyond ourselves to God's emerging way forward.

With gratitude, in the loving spirit of the One for whom all things are possible, I wish you peace, hope, joy, and love in your hearts and in your homes.

Pastor Thia

Epiphany Sunday Worship

January 8, 10:15 am

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

We'll gather at the Lord's Table for Communion next Sunday, January 8, which is also the first Sunday in Epiphany. Epiphany is the celebration of the coming of the magi and the recognition that Christ's coming reaches beyond any one community or group to touch all of humanity. Come to the table and receive God's gifts that know no bounds or borders.

Nominations for Session

If you would like to nominate someone, including yourself, to serve on Session, please let us know at info@secondpresbyteriannyc.org or by speaking with a member of the Nominating Committee: Maxine Soares, Patti Van Dyke, Elaine Steele.

Covid, RSV, and Flu Considerations

Covid cases are rising again in New York City. RSV is also highly contagious and particularly dangerous for young children. For these reasons, we encourage masks in worship and at any fellowship events. Masking is proven to slow transmission of airborne viruses. If not for your own sake, please consider masking to keep our vulnerable neighbors safer. We would also encourage those who are able to receive the bivalent Covid vaccine and flu shots to do so, as much for the greater health and welfare of the city as for ourselves.

Given the rise in Covid cases, **we'll have a fellowship event once a month on the last Sunday of each month.** These events will center around an activity, rather than around food. We'll separate the food and drink to create a more comfortable environment for those who want to minimize health risks.

Save the Date for Our Annual Congregational Meeting January 29

After worship on Sunday, January 29, we'll hold our Annual Congregational Meeting. All members are invited to attend, to hear about the life and ministry of the congregation over the past year and to chart a way forward for the year to come.

Choir: Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Choir rehearsals take place on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm and Sundays at 9:30 am. Lift your voice to God with the choir—all are welcome and you can schedule each week which rehearsal you'd like to attend.

In Our Prayers

Maxine and her family
Virginia and her sisters

Prayer group gathers online the last Wednesday of each month at noon. Send your prayer requests and feel free to join as you're able.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer ...and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. —Ephesians 6:18

