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For Immediate Release  
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### **The Presbytery of San Jose calls the Rev. Dr. Neal Presa as Executive Presbyter**

The Presbytery of San Jose, a regional body of the Presbyterian Church (USA) voted on May 4, 2024 to call the Rev. Dr. Neal Presa to serve as its next Executive Presbyter. The Rev. Dr. Presa comes to the Bay Area from the Presbytery of San Diego with a wealth of experience. Presa has served two pastorates in New Jersey and Southern California and comes to the Executive Presbyter role after serving as Vice President of Student Affairs and Vocational Outreach and Associate Professor of Preaching and Worship at New Brunswick Theological Seminary.

“Neal brings organizational leadership, a vocation to teach and engage, a global perspective and a pastor’s heart for local churches and ministries”, said Search Committee Co-Chair David Watermulder. Fellow Co-Chair Anne McAnelly added, “When the committee gathered with Neal and Grace for dinner, it felt comfortable and relaxed. In a natural way, Neal merged baptismal liturgy with a visioning exercise, helping the committee discover new things about our Presbytery while being worshipful.”

With an expected start date of June 17<sup>th</sup>, Presa and his wife Grace will move from San Diego to Northern California to take on this new role. He writes, “It will be a privilege and blessing to support the more than 30 congregations and worshipping communities in Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Monterey counties, the ministers and laypersons who faithfully serve Christ in this region, as well as those who are discerning their vocation into ministry.”

Presa will attend the 226th PC(USA) General Assembly in Salt Lake City, Utah, as a newly minted Mid-Council leader, serving the church in a new way. He was the Moderator of the 220<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

Presa states, “As Executive Presbyter, I look forward to engaging the challenges and opportunities of what it means to live out the Christian faith grounded in the promise, power, and possibilities of God in Christ. Such a future is shaped and inspired by a robust, compelling vision which answers the prophetic call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.”

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