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| We listen | We pass the peace | We read along | We give our offering of time, talent and treasure | We stand | We sing if we are at home | We pray | We respond | We participate  in the Word  with Children | We take com-munion |

(Kids – use your worship packet and the tools listed at the end of the bulletin to do all these things.)

**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**2nd Sunday of Advent or 39th Sunday of Covid19**

**December 6, 2020**

**9:30 a.m.**

Find the link for the service on one of these sites:

1) our Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/](about:blank)  
2) our web site: [https://www.southminsterpc.org/worship-videos](about:blank)  
3) our YouTube channel:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG\_wiA/videos](about:blank)

If the video feed is interrupted during the service, we will continue to record and then post the full video on Facebook and our web site as soon as possible.

***Please* *put your phones and computers in airplane mode anywhere in the building.***

**** 1 Gathering Music: *On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry* (#96), *Watchman, Tell Us of the   
 Night* (#97), *To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary* (#98), *My Soul Gives Glory to My God* (#99)

Today’s slide show consists of church Advent wreaths from around the PC(USA)..

2 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

**** 3 Improvisational Prelude

4 Lighting the Candles

**Come, Holy Spirit. May the fruit of the Spirit live in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.   
Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

**** 5 Call to Worship

Leader: Bring faith and doubt,

**People: Bring heart and soul,**

Leader: Bring mind and body;

**All: We bring all that we are to worship God.**

**** 6 Hymn 84: *Creator of the Stars of Night*  (verses 1, 2)

**Creator of the star of night, your people’s everlasting light,**

**O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call.**

**When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in splendor bright,**

**Not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, blameless mother mild.**

****7 Prayer of Confession:

**Patient God, we wish to love and trust you, but all too often we trip over ourselves. We are slow to pray, quick to judge, easily discouraged. We do not see your people at work amid our grief. Our eyes are closed to the good. Help us to grow in prayer, love, and trust that we may live graciously. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is both savior and Lord. Amen.**

(Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

****8 Declaration of the Grace of God/Assurance of Pardon (Psalm 103:8-12)

Leader: The Lord is compassionate and gracious;

**People: The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love.**

**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

9 Response 112: *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing*  (verse 3)

**When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place;**

**When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place;**

**Heaven and earth with joy may sing,**

**All for to see the newborn King.**



10 The Passing of the Peace

11 Word with Children: Lighting of the Advent Wreath (prerecorded)

Julie and Eric Story, Clementine St John, Rebecca DeCata

Reading: *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness* (verse 2) Hymnal #314

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us.

Make us your living voice.

**** All sing:

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.**

**Longing for hope, many despair.**

**Your word alone has power to save us.**

**Make us your living voice.**

**Christ be our light!**

**Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ be our light!**

**Shine in your church gathered today.**

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12 Prayer for Illumination

13 Scripture Lessons: Joel 2:12-13

Joel 2:28-29

14 Sermon: “Leaning into the Light: Joel”

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Children, as you listen to the sermon, you may want to choose an activity   
from the children’s packet that will help you think about what you hear in the sermon.

15 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison) ****

*The Apostles’ Creed* [Ecumenical]

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

****16 Hymn 104: *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* (verse 2)

**Love caused your incarnation; love brought you down to me;**

**Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.**

**O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace**

**In love, all loves excelling, our lost and fallen race.**

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

****17 Offertory: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (Hymnal 347)

****18 Response 144: *In the Bleak Midwinter* (verse 4)

**What can I give him, poor as I am?**

**If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;**

**If I were a wise man, I would do my part;**

**Yet what can I give him: give my heart.**

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19 Prayer of Dedication

Service of the Lord’s Supper

20 Invitation

[We extend an invitation to the Lord’s Supper to all who have been baptized. You do   
 not need to be a member of this congregation or a Presbyterian to share in this meal.   
 We remember that access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a   
 privilege given to believers who come in faith, repentance, and love.]

21 Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

**** Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People**: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

22 *The minister gives thanks…*

23 The congregation responds:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heav’n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

24 *The minister continues the Thanksgiving…*

**** **Dying you destroyed our death,**

**Rising you restored our life.**

**Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

*The minister continues with Intercessions for the Church and the World  
and Prayers of the People…*

**** Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

**People**: **hear our prayers.**

Our 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.**

****Children, draw or write something you would like to say to God in prayer this morning.   
If you want to share it with the church, you may also leave a message   
on the church phone line.

Words of Institution

**** Communion

25 Communion Music: *For Everyone Born* (Hymnal 769)

26 Prayer

****27 Hymn 93: *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*  (verse 3)

**Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.**

**Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.**

****28 Charge and Benediction

Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,

**All**: **For we are blessed to be a blessing! Alleluia! Amen!**

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29 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgists: Christine Olfelt, Blair Nelson

Musicians: Tom Anderson, David Kozich

Tech support: Ron Birchall, David Kozich, Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are from Jim and April Messmore celebrating Rachel’s birthday.

**Good Morning to our Children:**

To complete all the activities in this worship folder you will need:

* ears to hear
* a mouth to sing
* hands to fold
* eyes to read
* a brain to think
* a worship kit including:
  + something to color with – crayons, markers or colored pencils
  + something to write with, like a pen or pencil
  + something to write on, like a table or a clipboard
  + scissors and tape

If you would like a worship kit for your child, please contact [Christine@southminsterpc.org](about:blank) and one will come to you!

**A Guide to Our Worship Symbols**

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| Ear | **We listen**: “Basically, the sermon is God’s dynamic, eternal Word spoken to us in such a way that we might hear what God has to say to us and be encouraged to follow the Lord  in faith. |
| Dove | **We pass the peace**: “…We greet one another with the peace of Christ as common forgiven sinners. As we are forgiven, so we forgive. This is also a good time to reconcile with those family members who drove us crazy trying to get to church on time, church members with whom we have tensions, or people we're not so happy to see.” |
| Open book | **We read along**: “God’s Word comes to us in many ways—through scripture, special music, sermons. Listen for God's eternal Word addressing you with good news about the Lord’s love for you and all people.” |
|  | **We give our offering of time, talent, and treasure**: “This is the time when we give ourselves, all that we are, and all that we have, to God’s service. As a symbol of what is of value to us, we make an offering… to promote the gospel.” |
| Man with kid | **We stand**: “We stand as a way of saying, “This is where I stand,” and as a way of standing in continuity with the people of God of ages past…” |
| Music notes | **We sing**: “…We sing praise with hearts and minds (even if that's a little out of tune), just enjoying God for who God is. As we open up the pathways of breath to sing praise, we make space for the Spirit breath to fill us.” Even if we simply listen and read the words, we are praising God. |
|  | **We pray**: The first thing we do is pray—for our world, the church, other people, and ourselves. The prayer is our prayer as a church. One person may pray for us, but we are all praying together as one in our hearts, continuing Christ’s ministry of prayer for the world.” |
| Pencil | **We respond**: Responding by writing or drawing helps us remember what we are hearing and is a chance to express our beliefs. |
| Children | **We participate in the Word with Children**: It is called the Word WITH Children because the whole church is invited to listen with the fresh, faith-filled ears of children to the proclaimed message. |

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|  | **We share communion.** The Lord’s Supper not only nourishes, it also teaches, and we learn about communion by participating in it. Even very young children can sense that the Lord’s Supper is a special meal to be received with respect, and they can share a deep sense of belonging to the forgiving, accepting, loving community of the church. Parents or guardians may decide when their children have reached this point and are ready to celebrate communion. |

Quotations are taken from OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP by Teresa Lockhart Stricklen, Associate for Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA), found at [https://www.pcusa.org/site\_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/order\_of\_worship\_brochure\_dec\_2008.pdf](about:blank). Edited.