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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 |

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

**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**1st Sunday of Christmas**

**December 27, 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.

**** 1 Gathering Music

****Today’s slide show is our Southminster Star Search.

2 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

**** 3 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-discipline.   
Come, Holy Spirit, come.**

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4 Prelude: *O Holy Night*

**** 5 Call to Worship

Leader: O, that our voices sounded like the heavenly choir,

**People: And our feet were young enough to dance through the night.**

Leader: O, that our knees were strong enough to kneel forever in wonder,

**People: And our hearts could forever ponder the joy and share the love.**

Leader: Holy God, take who we are and what we have to offer,

**People: And raise us this day to sing, along with the choir of angels,**

**in exultation and joy!**

**** 6 Hymn 133: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*  (verses 1, 2)

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant:**

**O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!**

**Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!**

**O come, let us adore him; O come let us adore him;**

**O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**True God from true God, Light from light eternal,**

**Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;**

**Very God, begotten not created!**

**O come, let us adore him; O come let us adore him;**

**O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**** 7 Prayer of Confession: (2 Corinthians 3:18)

**Lord God, it is in admitting the truth of our lives that we make the first step toward wholeness and healing. Forgive the wrong that we have done, and bless the good we have accomplished. We ask 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

Leader: What you are longing and hoping for is nearer than you know.

**People: Jesus Christ is Emmanuel, God with us.**

Leader: People of God, believe the promise. Believe the good news. Rejoice!

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made new.**

9 Response 134: *Joy to the World* (verse 3)

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,**

**Nor thorns infest the ground;**

**He comes to make his blessings flow**

**Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,**

**Far as, far as the curse is found.**

10 The Passing of the Peace

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11 Prayer for Illumination

12 Sermon: “The Stories Behind the Carols”

****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.

Scripture Lesson: Luke 2:13-14

**** Carol: *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* (verse 1)

**I heard the bells on Christmas day  
Their old familiar carols play  
And mild and sweet their songs repeat  
Of peace on earth good will to men.**

**** Carol: *I Wonder As I Wander* (verse 1)

**I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
That Jesus my Savior did come for to die.  
For poor on'ry people like you and like I  
I wonder as I wander out under the sky.**

Carol: *Do You Hear What I Hear?*

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13 Scripture Lesson: Luke 2:15

**** Carol 121: *O Little Town of Bethlehem* (verse 1)

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!**

**Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.**

**Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;**

**The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

Carol 122: *Silent Night, Holy Night!* (verse 1)

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright**

**‘Round yon virgin mother and child!**

**Holy Infant, so tender and mild,**

**Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

Carol: *O Holy Night*

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14 Scripture Lesson: Luke 2:19

**** Carol 115: *Away in a Manger* (verse 1)

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,**

**The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.**

**The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,**

**The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.**

Carol 114: *Away in a Manger* (verse 2)

**The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,**

**But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.**

**I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,**

**And stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

Carol 133: *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Carol 119: *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* (verse 1)

**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king.**

**Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”**

**Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;**

**With angelic hos proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”**

**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”**

Carol 143: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* (verse 1)

**Angels, from the realms of glory,**

**Wing your flight o’er all the earth;**

**You, who sang creation’s story,**

**Now proclaim Messiah’s birth:**

**Come and worship, come and worship,**

**Worship Christ, the newborn king!**

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

Carol 132 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (verse 2)

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;**

**Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!**

**He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest forevermore.**

**Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

****16 Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

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

**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.**

****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.

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

****17 Offertory: *Gesu Bambino* Pietro Yon

****18 Response 144: *In the Bleak Midwinter* (verses 1, 4)

**In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan;**

**Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;**

**Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,**

**In the bleak midwinter, long ago.**

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

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19 Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

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20 Charge and Benediction

Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,

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

****21 Postlude: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

*Medley of Christmas Songs*

A slide show of scenes from past Christmas programs

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgists: Christine Olfelt, Blair Nelson

Musicians: Eileen Thorpe, piano; David Kozich, trumpet; Linnea Olfelt, flute and vocal

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

The flowers today are from the Bohi family celebrating Deb’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. |

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.