**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**Baptism of the Lord or the 44th Sunday of Covid**

**January 10, 2021**

**9:30 a.m.**

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

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

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: *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* (Hymnal 8); *All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name* (263); *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* (275); *Be Thou My Vision* (450); *Morning Has Broken* (664)

Our winter slide show is curated from photos our member Carol McHaley took

on her walks in the Morton Arboretum. Read more in Bearing Fruit.

 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.**

 4 Improvisational Prelude

 5 Call to Worship (Psalm 43)

 Leader: Do not fear, for God has redeemed you;

 **People: God has summoned you by name.**

 **All: We belong to God.**

 Leader: When we pass through the waters,

 **People: God will be with us.**

 **All: We belong to God.**

 6 Hymn 649: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*  (verses 1, 2)

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,**

**That saved a wretch like me!**

**I once was lost, but now am found,**

**Was blind, but now I see.**

**‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,**

**And grace my fears relieved.**

**How precious did that grace appear**

**The hour I first believed!**

 7 Prayer of Confession:

**Lord God, we remember our baptism today and rededicate ourselves to you and your family. We claim the priceless gift of being called your beloved children. Forgive us when we demonize others. Make us more dedicated to look at our world and one another with your loving eyes. 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)

 Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious; slow to anger,
 and abounding in steadfast love,

 **People: For as the heaven is high above the earth,
 so great is God’s mercy and love.**

 Leader: As far as the east is from the west,

 **People: So far hath he removed our wrongdoings from us.**

 Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

 **All: Alleluia! Amen!**

 9 Response 582: *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,**

**And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,**

**And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

10 The Passing of the Peace

11 Word with Children Christine Olfelt

12 Prayer for Illumination

13 Scripture Lessons: Luke 3:7-14

 Luke 3:15-22

14 Sermon: “Pleasing God” Dr. Blair Nelson

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

 *The Heidelberg Catechism*, Lord’s Day 1, 4.001

**What is our only comfort in life and in death? That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul, in life and in death— to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

16 Hymn 408: *There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit* (verse 2)

**There are blessings you cannot receive**

**Till you know him in his fullness and believe;**

**You’re the one to profit when you say,**

**“I am going to walk with Jesus all the way.”**

Refrain:

**Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,**

**Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;**

**And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;**

**Without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived**

**When we shall leave this place.**

17 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.**

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

18 Offertory: *Down to the River to Pray*

19 \**Doxology* Hymnal #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Him all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

20 Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

21 Hymn 475: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*  (verses 1, 3)

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;**

**Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.**

**Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;**

**Praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it, mount of God’s unchanging love!**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I’m constrained to be!**

**Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.**

**Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;**

**Here’s my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

22 Charge and Benediction

 Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,

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

23 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgists: Christine Olfelt, Blair Nelson

Musicians: Tom Anderson; Lynn Ferino, Elise Henkels, Linda Wolf Jeziorski, Paul Jeziorski, Victor King

Tech support: Ron Birchall, David Kozich, Chris Kozich, Christine Olfelt

The flowers today are from Sue and Mike Ashpole in memory of their son, Mikeal.

Join us for **Zoom fellowship** at 10:30 a.m. following the worship service.
Join Zoom Meeting: https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73261558795?pwd=RnRtbUZzaWJZeEVnekR6SW50L1cxUT09
Meeting ID: 732 6155 8795
Passcode: mq3iAK

You are invited to join us on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/), where we have a live sharing of “**Heart to Heart**” Tuesday-Friday at 4:16 p.m.

We’re live on **Sunday morning for worship** at 9:30 a.m.
Find us at https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/

You can also find links to recordings of the weekday sessions and Sunday services posted on our web site: https://www.southminsterpc.org/worship-videos or by going to our YouTube channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG\_wiA/videos

**Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study:** The prophet Amos had lots to say about corruption and judgement, but the book ends with a ray of hope. Join us from 11:15-12:15 for our last class on Amos. Use this link to join us online:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82920574961?pwd=dEwxU2NhaFM5VWhPSzBtYkZvUld2dz09
Meeting ID: 829 2057 4961
Passcode: 537355
The **Easter Party Task Force** meets today, January 10, at 12:45 p.m. Watch for a link to the meeting.
The **Sunday Evening Women’s Bible Study** meets at 7:00 via Zoom. The current study is 1 Samuel. You can get the link to Zoom from Tricia Smith. **Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Youth**, the winter has been rather mild, so we are on track for another fire pit tonight.
But watch for texts or email from Blair about shifting to a Zoom event if there’s a change.

**Notes from Christine Olfelt:**
New Year, new start, still gathering and growing virtually, and everyone is welcome, whether or not you’ve participated in the past!
Our Thursday evening Bible study will resume this Thursday, January 14, as we begin an examination of the Character of God via the videos at https://bibleproject.com/explore/category/character-of-god-series.
Please join at 7pm at meet.google.com/pjt-houd-eqd  or join by phone: +1 520-485-7653 (PIN: 912344563)
January 14th https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/character-of-god-exodus
based on Exodus 34:6-7 – God’s self-description

Looking ahead: Would you be willing to give the **Word with Children**? You can record it at home, or come in and we’ll pre-record it safely here.
Our February texts are:
~~February 7 Raising the Centurion’s Servant Luke 7 1-17 (Psalm 119 105-107)~~ taken by Wendy Boden
February 14 Transfiguration Luke 9 28-45 (Psalm 36 5-10)
February 21 Good Samaritan Luke 10 25-42 (Psalm 15)
February 28 Lament over Jerusalem Luke 13 1-9, 31-35 (a great text for someone who has experience raising chickens!)

**Presbyterian Women’s Circle** will have an online guest speaker from the Alzheimer’s Foundation this Friday, January 15 (the third Friday in January), at 9:30 a.m. Save the date and watch for more information (and the link) in eNotes on Wednesday.

**From the Mission Ministry:**
**Luminaria Sunday:** We will be holding Luminaria Sunday on February 14, 2021. This will be our 10th annual Luminaria Sunday when we honor and remember those touched by cancer. Luminaria bags will light the sanctuary during the worship service. Names of those remembered and those honored will be read and prayed for during the Prayers of the People.
Luminaria bags will be available for $10 for each name read. Please send your check, made out to the American Cancer Society, to the church by Friday, February 5. Please print the name(s) of those you wish to honor (living who have cancer or have had cancer) and those remembered (those who are deceased who had cancer).
For each name, please indicate if the person is to be honored or remembered. Example: John Jones, remembered. $10.
Then mail your check and the names to Southminster Presbyterian Church, 680 S. Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137.

 **From the Worship Ministry:**

**Sanctuary Flowers in 2021**We have donors for Sunday flowers for the next 3 months with the exception of February 28. If you’d like to donate flowers for February 28 or any date in April or beyond, be sure to email Sarah Allen – the slots are filling up fast.

To sign up for a particular Sunday in 2021, please email the date and dedication information to ridesrowdy@aol.com (Sarah Allen, Worship Moderator). She will respond confirming that date is available. Flowers remain at $30 each. Thank you so much for your continued support of the Flower Ministry. Hopefully, we will soon be back to in-person worship, where flowers can more easily be taken home.

We are looking for people who would like to **assist in our worship services:** liturgists, musicians, offering the Word with Children. You may choose to pre-record your part in the sanctuary. Please let Wendy know if you are willing to participate.
Sarah Allen, Worship Moderator
 **Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):Our first order of 2021 netted $41.26 in free money for Southminster. The next time to order is Sunday, January 17. If you have questions on available gift cards, you can check the form on the web site or attached to the email with the bulletin or contact me at bobbifrey@aol.com. Thanks to all who have ordered!

**Donations for PRC** (also from Bobbi Frey):
It is incredible how people have rallied to support those in need through their donations to People’s Resource Center during the Pandemic. 41 weekly car loads of donations have been delivered. This week’s delivery was so big, a neighbor helped with the delivery. It is greatly appreciated! Each week new clients show up for services as their lives experience changes. Thanks to all! The donation drop box is on the porch (2S033 Taylor, GE) 24/7, and deliveries are made to PRC on Mondays.

**Care Notes:**“In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” -Philippians 4:6
Generally, we share our prayer requests at worship services on blue slips, but since we haven’t been meeting, we’re missing our blue slips! We are still collecting prayer requests! Please leave a message on our answering machine at 630-469-9149.

**Joys and Concerns:** - Prayers of gratitude that Anna Sundquist came through her unexpected appendectomy on Monday. She is resting at home and looks free from infection. Let us continue in prayer for the Sundquists and all parents who are facing the challenges of this time of Covid.
  - Luke Anderson, deployed with the Army, Luke’s email is the best way to get in touch with him: ssj3rocks@gmail.com
  - a joy that Heidi Shierry’s recent medical issues have significantly improved
  - blessings on Jessica Parks’ new private practice
We pray for all who mourn.
We pray for all who are infected with and/or affected by COVID:
  - Donna Marton’s brother, Richard, in ICU with Covid pneumonia
  - Barb’s daughter, Becky, who is positive for Covid and having to isolate from her husband and toddler son
  - Chris Vanderford with Covid complications
  - Kathy Davidson’s friend, Dorothy Hess, who has come home from the hospital but is struggling to regain her strength after having had Covid; she still needs oxygen at night. Her husband, Jim, has recovered from Covid and is able to care for her.
  - Paul, the son of Marlene, a friend of the Danby Station choir table, has COVID
  - prayers for parents, guardians, teachers, students, and all who are trying to navigate school and sports during this pandemic
  - Dustin Crews, son-in-law of McHaleys, recovering from heart surgery. Between the procedure and medication, he is hoping for great improvement. He and the whole family are grateful for our prayers.
  - Carol (mother of Barb’s friend), recovering from heart surgery and stroke
  - Katie, who is struggling to recover from two major strokes
  - Bonnie, a new widow, who has health issues. She is a neighbor and friend of Jim and Tricia Smith and Lynn Ferino.
  - all who are dealing with mental health challenges
  - Judith Le Fevere, a friend of the Ellsworths, with ongoing health and financial issues
  - Melissa Heard, a coworker of Rita Zapel’s, who has ongoing health issues
  - those who are having medical procedures
We pray for all who are affected by cancer:
  - Hayley Jablonski, whose cancer has returned
  - Lanny’s friend, Tony Bednarz, diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukemia
  - the Bohis’ nephew, Joe, diagnosed with esophageal cancer
  - the Bohis’ friend, Teri, with recurring breast cancer
  - Harriet Byers, longtime friend of Steve and Heidi Shierry, currently in hospice care with stage 4 pancreatic cancer. Her prognosis is 4-6 weeks.
  - Sandy Lopata’s friend Rebecca Moeckler, who has pancreatic cancer
  - Marji S., undergoing treatment for cancer
  - Christine’s brother-in-law, Jim, who appears to be cancer-free following surgery for pancreatic cancer
  - Scott B., who has dementia and cancer
  - Paul Yoos, brother of Heidi Shierry, getting divorced
  - our country, in the transition of leadership
  - the 628 children who were separated from their parents at the U.S.-Mexican
border and whose parents now cannot be found

We continue to pray for our friends and family in the health fields:
Nurses:
Andie Benson and Nikki Mendoza, both children of Pete and Pam Petersen
Rachel Kralicek: Heather’s daughter
Lindsey Ellinghausen: granddaughter of Ellinghausens
Sara Russell Humes: Lanny’s daughter
Samantha Linde, granddaughter of Ralph and Caroline, Critical Care/ICU nurse
Kaitlyn Harper: niece of the Smiths, once again caring for COVID patients

Doctors:
Nathan and Erin Allen (Allens’ son & daughter in law)
Francine Long (a longtime friend of our church community)
Otis Miller and Jon Thomas (Janey Sarther’s brother and brother in law)
Jessica McIntyre (a friend of our church community)
Will Perkinson (member and on call)
Claudia Adja (Affiliate member in Ghana)

Other health workers:
Roland Lankah: Health worker at Cook County Jail
Sammy Dearing: new tech (Birchalls’ granddaughter)
David Zoby: Radiologist (Wendy’s step brother)
Laura P. (neighbor of Barb D.), hospital phlebotomist

Food Pantries: Glen Ellyn Food Pantry, People’s Resource Center, Lakeview Food Pantry, and our members Bobbi Frey & Anna Nelson, who work with them

**A Special Request for Prayer**We are all feeling the pressure of additional restrictions due to Covid19. There is also understandable unrest in our nation around issues of race, justice, disparities of many kinds, and election results. We remember in prayer all those who have been affected by our country’s economic slowdown, especially those who have lost their jobs or have faced greatly reduced income. Please be on your knees daily lifting up our nation.

**Caring for you!**Our **Congregational Care Committee** is ready to assist in time of need. If you need assistance from the Congregational Care Ministry or Helping Hands during January, you may call Joy Ellsworth (630-858-7449). You may **call Pastor Wendy Boden** on her cell or home phone (if she has shared the numbers with you) or leave a message for her at the church office: 630-469-9149. Email Wendy at wendy@southminsterpc.org. (Please note that she can only read email in the office, and she’s only in her office a short time every day, at least while the church is not open for worship. You may also **call your deacon** if you need help from the church.

Remember that we love God and neighbor. Our address is 680 South Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 if you would like to set up an online account with your bank or mail in your pledge. Grace and peace to you!

***Prayer Requests:***