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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**

**4th Sunday in Lent or the 53rd Sunday of Covid**

**March 14, 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:  *The Desert Shall Rejoice*; *Peoples, Clap Your Hands!;  
 Unless the Lord the House Shall Build*;  *Fight the Good Fight; Guide My Feet*

Our slideshow today is in honor of March Mission Madness.

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**** 2 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

3 Lighting the Candles (Colossians 3:12)

**As God’s chosen ones, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.**

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4 Improvisational Prelude

**** 5 Call to Worship (Psalm 25, edited)

Leader: O Lord, we lift up our hearts. God, we trust you.

**People: Make us to know your ways, O Lord;**

**All: Teach us your paths.**

**** 6 Hymn: *Hold Me Fast* (verse 4)

**God still calls us on, calls us up to heaven;**

**Sometimes I can see it shining, but I can’t yet hold it fast.**

**Christ Jesus, hold me fast; Christ Jesus hold my soul;**

**Christ Jesus hold my life; Christ Jesus bring me home.**

**** 7 Prayer of Confession:

**We are mindful of your mercy and of your steadfast love. Help us to live in that truth each and every day as we seek to do your will and make your love known to everyone with whom we interact. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

(Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

**** 8 Declaration of the Grace of God/Assurance of Pardon (Exodus 34:6-7; Romans 8:1)

Leader: God is slow to anger and full of compassion.

**People: He forgives all who humbly repent and trust in his Son   
 as Savior and Lord.**

Leader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

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

9 Response: *Kyrie*

**Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

**Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

**Christe, Christe eleison.**

**Christe, Christe eleison.**

**Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

**Kyrie, Kyrie eleison, eleison.**

(The words are Greek for *Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.*)

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10 The Passing of the Peace

11 Word with Children Christine Olfelt and Ellie

****12 Prayer for Illumination

13 Scripture Lesson: Luke 16:19-31

14 Sermon: “The Great Divide: Whose Word Do You Trust?”

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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) ******(Deuteronomy 15:7-11, edited)

**If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, “Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.”**

****16 Hymn Medley

Hymnal 458: *Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet*

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

**When I feel afraid, and I think I’ve lost my way,**

**Still, you’re there right beside me.**

**Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.**

**Please be near me to the end.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.**

Hymnal 459: *O Word of God Incarnate* (verse 1)

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,**

**O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:**

**We praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,**

**A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.**

****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.**

****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

****18 Offertory: *An Irish Blessing* Jack Noble White

****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 450: *Be Thou My Vision*  (verses 2, 3)

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;**

**I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;**

**Thou my soul’s shelter and thou my high tower;**

**Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;**

**Thou mine inheritance, now and always;**

**Thou and thou only, first in my heart,**

**High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.**

22 Charge and Benediction

**** Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,  
 **People: For we are blessed to be a blessing!**

Leader:  The cross, **All:  We shall take it.**  
  Leader:  The bread, **All:  We shall break it.**  
  Leader:  The pain, **All:  We shall bear it.**  
  Leader:  The joy, **All:  We shall share it.**  
  Leader:  The Gospel, **All:  We shall live it.**  Leader:  The love, **All:  We shall give it.**  
  Leader:  The light, **All:  We shall cherish it.**  Leader:  The darkness, **All:  God shall perish it.**  Leader:  For Jesus’ sake. **All:  Amen.**

****23 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgists: Blair Nelson, Christine Olfelt

Musicians: Tom Anderson, Blair Baldwin

Tech support: Ron Birchall, Steve Henkels, David Kozich, Chris Kozich

The flowers today are given by Craig and Sarah Allen, celebrating their 35th wedding anniversary.

**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](mailto:Christine@southminsterpc.org) 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. |

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| 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 for our Worship Symbols Guide 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>. Edited.

***Prayer Requests:***