**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**Palm/Passion Sunday or the 55th Sunday of Covid**

**March 28, 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.

 Gathering Music:  *O Blessed Spring; Hosanna, Hosanna;
 Clap Your Hands; Great Is the Lord;
 How Majestic Is Your Name; We Will Glorify the King of Kings*

Our slideshow today is photos of our congregation praising God.

 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

 Lighting the Candles (Psalm 118:19)

**Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.**

 Improvisational Prelude

 Call to Worship

 Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

 **All:** **Hosanna in the highest!**

 Hymn 196: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* (verse 1)

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,**

**To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!**

**Thou art the King of Israel, thou David’s royal Son,**

**Who in the Lord’s name comest, the King and blessed One.**

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,**

**To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!**

 Prayer of Confession:

**Lord God, you came to us in Jesus Christ, and we are grateful, but we have held back making you the cornerstone of our lives. Be first in our lives; be the foundation and rock of our lives. Knowing that anything we build without you will not last. In the name of Jesus Christ, who is both savior and Lord, we pray. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of the Grace of God/Assurance of Pardon (Psalm 103)

 Leader: Let us declare the good news of Jesus Christ!

 **People: As far as the East is from the West,
 so far does God remove our sins from us!**

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

 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.*)

 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children Deb Bohi

 For children worshiping in the sanctuary, please stay with your families during the Word
 with Children. When our Covid rules change, we will welcome you back up front.

 Prayer for Illumination

 Scripture Lesson: Luke 19:29-44

 Sermon: “Receive the King of Peace”

 Hymn 197: *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (verse 3)

**“Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing,**

**For Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King.**

**O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,**

**And in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.**

 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

Offertory: *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!*

 \**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.**

 Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison) (Luke 23:39-43)

**One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”**

 Hymn 209: *My Song Is Love Unknown*  (verse 1)

**My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me,**

**Love to the loveless shown that they might lovely be.**

**O who am I that for my sake
My Lord should take frail flesh, and die?**

 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.**

 Hymn 227: *Jesus, Remember Me*

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.**

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgists: Blair Nelson, Christine Olfelt

Musicians: Tom Anderson, David Kozich

Tech support: Steve Henkels, David Kozich, Chris Kozich

The flowers today are given by Sandy and Ned Lopata in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

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
Note that the Zoom fellowship link will change next Sunday. Watch for the new link in eNotes and next Sunday’s bulletin.

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.

This week is **Holy Week**. We will have special services (prerecorded) for **Maundy Thursday** and **Good Friday** that willbe available on Facebook and YouTube. We will send bulletins for those services by email on Thursday; the bulletins will tell you what time the videos will be posted, and give you direct links to the recordings.

Even though we have returned to in-person worship with limited attendance (50 max.), we will also continue to be live on **Sunday morning for worship** at 9:30 a.m.
at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>
*If for any reason the feed falters, rest assured that a recording will be posted to Facebook and You Tube as soon as possible.*

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:** 1 Peter was written to Christians having a hard time. Is that relevant to today? Do you really need an answer to that question? Join us through this Zoom link at 11:15 a.m. for wisdom from 1 Peter: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82920574961?pwd=dEwxU2NhaFM5VWhPSzBtYkZvUld2dz09>
Meeting ID: 829 2057 4961 Passcode: 537355

The **Sunday Evening Women’s Bible Study** meets most Sundays (though not next week - Easter Sunday) at 7:00 via Zoom. You can get the link to Zoom from Tricia Smith.

**Easter Saturday Celebration
April 3 - guests arriving between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.**
Southminster's Easter Saturday Celebration is fun for our families, and is also open to the community. It is Southminster's largest outreach program. Adjusting to pandemic conditions, this year's event will be outdoors, and socially distanced, with all participants age 2 and up wearing masks. No breakfast will be served this year.

The fun is just around the corner. Here's how you can still help:
1. **Spread the word!**

* Invite family and friends to arrive between 9:30 and 11:30 to walk through the Easter story, pick up crafts and an Easter story book to take home, and hunt for Easter eggs (for kids up to 5th grade).
* Share our Facebook notice, both to your own page, and also to neighborhood, village, school or family oriented Facebook groups. We have posted information about the event on Southminster's Facebook page, which you may “share”.

2. **Volunteer to help on April 3** - we need lots of helpers at church, starting at 8 a.m. Can you help with one of these tasks: setting-up, putting out Easter eggs, directing traffic, greeting, showing and handing out craft projects, helping with the egg hunt, and cleaning up? This year, please let Wendy know if you can help. (Please leave a voice mail message at the church office - 630/469-9149, or email wendy@southminsterpc.org.) We will be outdoors, wearing masks, and staying socially distant.
 **Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Youth**:  Last Sunday we flew kites. This Sunday is Palm Sunday. Shall we fly palms? Not sure what that means, but join us from 5:00-6:30 p.m., for fun and games. Bring your kite if it looks windy. Have your mask and remember that we are not serving a meal just yet.

The **Talent Show** is coming up soon! We know that you have talent, in song, recitation, humor, or doing that strange thing with a light and your hand that makes shadows of dogs, duck, and moose. Whatever your talent, spruce it up and record an act for our live-streamed, hybrid, super-awesome Talent Show and fundraiser coming Sunday, April 18. Please let Blair know by April 1 that you will be performing. Need help recording your act? Just ask Blair.

 **Notes from Christine Olfelt:**
**Thursday evening Bible study:** We will take a break on March 29th for participating in the Maundy Thursday service online and will plan to resume after Easter. Watch for links to the new discussion series.
 **Presbyterian Women’s Circle:** Between **March 23rd and 31st** be sure to shop at *Alla Moda Boutique,* at 524 Duane Street in Glen Ellyn. The proprietor, Amie Cantarella is offering a 20% donation on any purchase to our PW funds! Maybe someone needs a spring sweater, a pair of leather gloves, or a piece of jewelry in their Easter basket? You may shop in person or online. Amie is willing to set up an appointment to open her boutique to you exclusively if that is important to you in these times of COVID. You can visit or call her at (630) 547-4020. You must mention Southminster Presbyterian Women when you make your purchase so she knows to designate the 20% to us.

On **April 16th** at 9:30 a.m. we will be privileged to have a classical piano concert given by Cade Braynen. Stay tuned for details.
 **Notes from the Mission Ministry
 -** **March Mission Madness** is in progress! We have 48 brackets entered, more than a few broken hearts and busted brackets, and the final results won’t be known until the championship game is played on Monday, April 5. (Tom Frey has a request: if your screen or bracket name doesn’t clearly identify you, please let him know who you are when you send in your check or by email if you’ve already mailed your check: FreyTF@aol.com. As an example, ESPNFAN doesn’t help him connect a bracket with a person.)

 **- One Great Hour of Sharing**is a shared Presbyterian ministry that makes a difference in the world through three programs: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; Presbyterian Hunger Program; and Self-Development of People. Please give generously to this ministry that responds to the needs God has called us to fill. We will dedicate the OGHS Offering on Easter Sunday. Information about OGHS and an offering envelope were in the Lenten bags that the deacons distributed; if you don’t have an envelope, you may contribute by writing a check to Southminster with OGHS noted on the memo line.
 **Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):Thanks to all who have ordered last week. We now have earned $494.94 of “free money” for Southminster so far this year! The next opportunity to order will be April 11.

**Donations for PRC** (also from Bobbi Frey):
For one year we have made weekly trips of donations to PRC. The support shown by members has been incredible and greatly appreciated. The donation box is out 24/7 on the front porch at 2S033 Taylor Rd., Glen Ellyn.

**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 are not all meeting together, 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:** - Flowers today: from Sandy and Ned Lopata, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last weekend
  - Dan Bohi, who is receiving a new treatment
 - Art Fournier, recovering from another successful heart procedure
 - concerns for violence in our nation, including the recent incidents in Atlanta and Boulder
  - We pray for wisdom for the leaders and the citizens of the United States.
 - for our sisters and brothers experiencing unrest in their countries, especially in Haiti,
 Myanmar, and India
**We pray for those who mourn.** - Pastor Daniel Diss on the death of his uncle, after also losing both his parents since
last fall **We pray for all who are infected with and/or affected by COVID:**  - Chris Vanderford, still recovering from Covid
  - Donna Marton’s brother, Richard, in a nursing home recovering from Covid
  - prayers for parents, guardians, teachers, students, and all who are trying to navigate school and sports during this pandemic
 - prayers for those who want vaccinations but are unable to find appointments
 - those facing unforeseen consequences from the pandemic
**We pray for all who are dealing with mental or physical health challenges.** - Grace is recovering from surgery on her broken hip. She is recovering at Oak Brook Care: Grace Van Beveren, c/o Oak Brook Care, 2013 Midwest Road, Oak Brook, IL 60523-1312.
  - Kylie, a 6th grader who is a member of Wendy’s mother’s church, recovering from open heart surgery
 - people struggling with difficult family concerns
 - Marc, who has heart issues in addition to kidney failure
  - Nancy Wolfe, effects of concussion
 - a friend in chronic pain
 - Pat Wiedner’s brother, Terry, recovering from surgery
  - those who are having medical procedures or undergoing tests
 - all those our country who are still recovering from the effects of extreme weather.
**We pray for all who are affected by cancer:** - Betsy’s friend, Heidi, and her niece, Jess, both fighting cancer
  - Lisa B undergoing treatment for Stage 4 colon cancer that has metastasized to her lungs
 - DeShaune, who has thyroid cancer. She is the sister of Wendy’s friend, Tiffany.
 - Devin Leftwich, who has cancer
 - the Joel Jupp family – his wife’s cancer has returned
 - Tracy, a friend of the Schmidts, recovering from cancer surgery
 - Kurt Parent and his wife, Marla. Kurt is recovering from extensive surgery for
 esophageal cancer.
  - Haley Jablonski, whose cancer has returned
  - Lanny’s friend, Tony Bednarz, diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukemia
  - the Bohis’ friend, Teri, with recurring breast cancer
  - Sandy Lopata’s friend, Rebecca Moeckler, who has pancreatic cancer
**We pray for those who are far from home:** - the many unaccompanied children who are arriving at the U.S.-Mexican border

**We continue to pray for our friends and family in the health fields**:
Nurses:
Andee 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: taking a new job as Assistant Director for the Boston Environmental Health Department
Sammie Dearing: phlebotomy technician (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 varied pressures of Covid. Some have been vaccinated, some have not. There are frustrations around vaccinations. There is concern about new variations of the virus. There are more than health concerns; there are economic, emotional, and spiritual concerns as well throughout our nation and the world. There is also understandable unrest in our nation around the world issues of race, justice, and disparities of many kinds. 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. Hold the world in your hands and offer the world to God as we trust in God’s grace and mercy.

**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 March or April, call Deacon Angela Smith (630-235-1376). 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:***