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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**

**3rd Sunday of Easter or the 58th Sunday of Covid**

**April 18, 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:  *Joyful Is the Dark; Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers;  
 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today; The Day of Resurrection!*

Our slideshow today is Easter parties past.

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

3 Lighting the Candles (2 Corinthians 5:17)

**So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!**

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4 Improvisational Prelude

**** 5 Call to Worship

Leader: You come to us when we ask for healing and restoration.

**People: You come to us when we seek to forgive.**

**All: For the Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!**

**** 6 Hymn 250: *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* (verses 2, 3)

**There’s a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;**

**There’s a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.**

**From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,**

**Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;**

**In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.**

**In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,**

**Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**** 7 Prayer of Confession:

**Lord God, you come to us in Jesus Christ speaking grace and love, but honestly, we do not extend that grace and love to others. We want to give up on people – the difficult ones, the awkward ones, and the demanding ones. We need your forgiveness. Drill it into our hearts so that we may build gracious loving lives.   
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 (Romans 8:33-34)

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

**People: Only Christ, and Christ died for us,**

Leader: Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us,

**People: Christ intercedes for us.**

**All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia!**

**** 9 Response: *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

**Jesus is the Lord of all the earth.**

**He is the King of creation.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

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10 The Passing of the Peace

11 Word with Children Jessica Parks

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.

****12 Prayer for Illumination

13 Scripture Lessons: Acts 6:1-6

Acts 6:15; 7:58-60

14 Sermon: “The Face of an Angel”

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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) ******(Ephesians 4:32–5:2)

**[B]e kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved usand gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.**

****16 Hymn 300: *We Are One in the Spirit* (verse 3)

**We will work with each other; we will work side by side;**

**We will work with each other; we will work side by side,**

**And we’ll guard human dignity and save human pride:**

**And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;**

**Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

****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

****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 547: *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*  (verse 2)

**“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.**

**Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.**

**Here you heard my dear Son’s story; here you touched him, saw his glory.**

**Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”**

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 Sue and Walt Briney, celebrating Walt’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](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. |
| 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.