**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**5th Sunday of Easter or the 60th Sunday of Covid**

**May 2, 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.

For those who are in the sanctuary, please put your phone in airplane mode.

Today we are having communion. Those at home may want to gather the elements (“bread” and “wine” or whatever you have) before the service begins.

 Gathering Music: *Help Us Accept Each Other; O God of Every Nation;
 Called as Partners in Christ’s Service; Together We Serve*

Our slideshow today is Spring Clean-Up Day.

 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

 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!**

 Improvisational Prelude

 Call to Worship (Psalm 87)

 Leader: God will make Israel a light for the nations.

 **People: Christ will illumine them until the Lord’s salvation
 reaches to the ends of the earth.**

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

 Hymn 15: *All Creatures of Our God and King* (verses 1, 6)

**All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam,**

**Sing praises! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**O sisters, brothers take your part, and worship God with humble heart.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**All creatures, bless the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One!**

**Sing praises! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

 Prayer of Confession:

**Lord God, we confess that we deem certain people not quite up to our own standards. We judge them harshly. We exclude them from our circles. We imagine hurts and slights as deliberate and intentional. We do not step into their shoes. We claim the comfort of your love and grace but withhold it in our hearts when it comes to certain people. This is not your way. Forgive us and help us, through the power of your Holy Spirit alive in us, to trust in the grace won for us by Jesus Christ, who is both savior and Lord. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 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!**

 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.**

 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children: Blair Nelson

 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: Acts 15:1-18

 Sermon: “Certain People”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)

 *The Apostles’ Creed* [Ecumenical]

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

 Hymn 537: *When at This Table* (verses 1, 4, 5)

**When at this table I receive a blessing,**

**The broken bread, the wine of life for me,**

**Then let me share the peace with you, my neighbor,**

**And let the Spirit set our spirits free.**

**If at this table I make dedication**

**To give my life to serving what is good,**

**Then let my center be where God invites me,**

**And show the words of Jesus understood.**

**What faith I have, I bring to join this table**

**What hope I hold, in Christ is taught and true;**

**With brothers, sisters, I will share the blessing,**

**The feast where God is making all things new.**

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

 Offertory: *The Never-ending Ocean of Identity* Quinn Mason

 \**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 Dedication

 Service of the Lord’s Supper

 Invitation

 [We extend an invitation to the Lord’s Supper to all who have been baptized. You do
 not need to be a member of this congregation or a Presbyterian to share in this meal.
 We remember that access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a
 privilege given to believers who come in faith, repentance, and love.]

 Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

 Leader: The Lord be with you.

 **People**: **And also with you.**

 Leader: Lift up your hearts.

 **People: We lift them to the Lord.**

 Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

 **People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

 *The minister gives thanks…*

 The congregation responds by reading together:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heav’n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

 *The minister continues the Thanksgiving…*

 **According to Christ’s commandment**

 **We remember his death,**

 **We proclaim his resurrection,**

 **We await his coming in glory.**

*The minister continues with Intercessions for the Church and the World
and Prayers of the People…*

 Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

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

 Our 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.**

 Words of Institution

 Communion

 Communion Anthem: *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* Jay Althouse

 Prayer after Communion

 Hymn 80: *You Shall Go Out with Joy*  (sing twice)

**You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;**

**The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;**

**There’ll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field**

**Will clap, will clap their hands.**

**And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;**

**The trees of the field will clap their hands;**

**The trees of the field will clap their hands**

**While you go out with joy.**

 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 the Lord is risen! **All: He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgist: Blair Nelson

Musicians: Tom Anderson; Cade Braynen; Virtual choir: Wendy Boden, Lynn Ferino, Elise Henkels, Linda Wolf Jeziorski, Paul Jeziorski, Victor King, Donna Marton, Lois Stevenson, Jack Thorne

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

The flowers today are given by Beth Bonde in memory of Jim.

Join us for **Zoom fellowship** at 10:30 a.m. following the worship service.
Lynn Ferino is hosting the fellowship in May. Join Zoom gathering:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7762411838?pwd=UWNIeFUrOVMrTFBFU25ScGRUWFAxQT09>
(Meeting ID: 776 241 1838 Passcode: 2e0tYT Lynn says clicking the link should be all you need.)

You are invited to join us on Facebook ([https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/](https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)), where we have a live sharing of “**Heart to Heart**” Tuesday-Friday at 4:16 p.m.

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, special services, and Sunday worship 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:** We studied a whole book of the Bible last Sunday. (OK, it was a very short one - Obadiah.) This Sunday at 11:15 a.m. we will begin our study of Jonah. Gotta good fish story? Then join us at 11:15 via this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82920574961?pwd=dEwxU2NhaFM5VWhPSzBtYkZvUld2dz09>
Meeting ID: 829 2057 4961 Passcode: 537355

The **Sunday Evening Women’s Bible Study** is taking a break. Watch for the group to resume in the fall.

**This Wednesday (May 5) we will send out the eNotes/Dialog. Please, if you have anything you want publicized, turn it in now!**

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Youth**: **Pizzaless Games** this evening from 5:00-6:30. Hopefully we can be outside! Bring your mask, bring your friends, and we will enjoy ourselves while keeping our distance.

**Rummage Sale**:  Our Talent Show was revived this year, and so will be our annual Rummage Sale. Like the Talent Show, it is a fundraiser for the Youth Mission Team, who will be going to Mission, S.D., for a week of workcamp, fixing and painting homes of folks who need the help. The sale will be June 5-6, with the following weekend as a rain date. As you do your spring cleaning, please consider keeping items to donate for the sale. **Items can be dropped off in Fellowship Hall beginning after worship on May 30.** It is a huge help if you could price your donated items. Stickers will be available in on the name-tag counter just inside the main entry for the church. You can use masking tape, instead, if that is more convenient.

 **Notes from Christine Olfelt:**
Dear congregation,
Thank you for the lovely send-off you gave me (and Ellie!) last Sunday. I have grown to love you deeply and wish you all God's blessings as you journey together.

Christine Olfelt
P.S. sign up for Word with Children in June!
 **Notes from the Mission Ministry
Coming in May… Gifts Grow,** a special opportunity to double the impact of your Mission giving! Watch for details in next Wednesday’s eNotes/Dialog. **Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):Order Jubilee Bucks today - just in time for Mother’s Day! Email bobbifrey@aol.com by 9:00 p.m. with your order including merchant, amount of gift card and number wanted, total of order. Gift cards will be delivered to you Tuesday or Wednesday and payment made at that time. Order forms are available on the church web site and are also included every weekend in the email with the Sunday worship bulletin.
Next chance to order: May 16

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
For over a year we have supported PRC with weekly donations of foods, toiletries, cleaning products, etc. It has been very much appreciated! In the month of April, 2,780 food boxes were given out! Donations may be left 24/7 in the box on the porch at 2S033 Taylor, GE.

**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.

***Friends, with our new communication style the eNotes Joys and Concerns (sent most Wednesdays) will include new information and members’ ongoing concerns. For the eNotes/Dialog (sent on the first Wednesday of the month) and Sunday bulletins our list will be full and complete.*

Joys and Concerns**
 - Gretchen is asking prayers for Bill, who is in the hospital
 - ongoing concerns for the Rogers and the water damage to their home
 - destruction by wildfire of the University of Cape Town’s library
  - 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.**

**We pray for all who are infected with and/or affected by 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.
 - Betsy Rogers, health concerns
  - Nancy Wolfe, effects of concussion
  - people struggling with difficult family concerns
  - Pat Wiedner’s brother, Terry, recovering in a nursing facility
**We pray for all who are affected by cancer:** - Dan Bohi
 - Haley Jablonski, whose cancer has returned. She is choosing to stay home and do her college studies remotely.
 - Lynn Smith, the sister of Steve Sanders and mother of Traci Smith, who has a return of cancer growth
  - Betsy’s friend, Heidi, and her niece, Jess, both fighting cancer
 - We rejoice for Lanny’s friend, Tony Bednarz, who got a super report on his bone marrow biopsy. We continue to pray for his good health.
  - 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, friend of Wendy’s – his wife’s cancer has returned
  - Tracy, a friend of the Schmidts, recovering from cancer surgery and has had recent good news
  - Kurt Parent and his wife, Marla. Kurt is recovering from extensive surgery for esophageal cancer. He is doing well and is trying to gain weight.
  - the Bohis’ friend, Teri, who is recovering and doing well from her breast cancer surgery
  - Sandy Lopata’s friend, Rebecca Moeckler, who has pancreatic cancer and is struggling with chemo
**We pray for those who are far from home:**

  - the many children who were separated from their parents at the U.S.-Mexican border
and whose parents still haven’t been found. Praise God there have been some reunions!
  - the unaccompanied children 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 daughters 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 and 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:**Health Department workers
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 and 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 May, call Donna Marton (630-790-3574). 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:***