**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**7th Sunday of Easter or the 62nd Sunday of Covid**

**May 16, 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: *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak; Called as Partners
 in Christ’s Service; Lord, You Give the Great Commission; Go to the World!*

Our slideshow today is Gifts Grow.

 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 (Genesis 15)

 Leader: Abram believed the Lord,

 **People: And the Lord credited it to Abram as righteousness.**

 **All:** **Let us worship God!**

 Hymn 405: *Praise God for This Holy Ground* (verses 1, 3, 4)

**Praise God for this holy ground,**

**Place and people, sight and sound.**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**God’s goodness is eternal.**

**Praise God who through Christ makes known**

**All are loved and called God’s own.**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**God’s goodness is eternal.**

**Praise God’s Spirit who befriends,**

**Raises, humbles, breaks, and mends.**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**God’s goodness is eternal.**

 Prayer of Confession:

**Gracious, loving God, source of all life, we ask for your healing touch of faith. Heal our relationships. Heal us of our fear, pride, anger, and apathy. Heal our world. We ask so that we may be free to serve, to love, and to catch the vision of your Kingdom. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. 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 Meredith Darbyshire

 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 Lessons: Galatians 3:1-9

 Galatians 3:27-29

 Sermon: “Faith”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)
 from the Second Helvetic Confession (5.110, edited)

**We are made truly righteous by faith in Christ purely by the grace of God.**

 Hymn 27: *Sacred the Body* (verses 1, 4)

**Sacred the body God has created,**

**Temple of Spirit that dwells deep inside.**

**Cherish each person; nurture relation.**

**Treat flesh as holy, that love may abide.**

**Holy of holies, God ever loving,**

**Make us your temples; indwell all we do.**

**May we be careful, tender and caring,**

**So may our bodies give honor to you.**

 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: *In Christ Alone* Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

 \**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

 Hymn 838: *Standing on the Promises*  (verse 1)

**Standing on the promises of Christ my king,**

**Through eternal ages let his praises ring;**

**Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,**

**Standing on the promises of God.**

**Standing, standing,**

**Standing on the promises of God my Savior;**

**Standing, standing,**

**Standing on the promises of God.**

 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.**

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgist: Sarah Allen

Musicians: Tom Anderson, Suzanne Tennyson

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Ron Birchall, Steve Henkels, Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

Flowers today are given by Sue Knisely in honor of the 5th birthday of her grandson,
Benji Doss.

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 return to the book of Jonah this Sunday. Last time we got him out of the fish; what will happen next? Join us this Sunday from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. via this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82920574961?pwd=dEwxU2NhaFM5VWhPSzBtYkZvUld2dz09>
Meeting ID: 829 2057 4961 Passcode: 537355

**Slideshows help us feel connected! Please help us.**
May 23 is Pentecost. Please take a selfie of you holding a light (match, candle,
 sunshine, etc.) and send it to lynnferino1188@comcast.net.
May 30 is Memorial Day. Please take a BBQ, grilling, or campfire cooking photo, or a
 picnic or outdoor dining photo (but no restaurant dining) and send it to Chris Kozich
 at kintonck@gmail.com.
We try to be kind to our volunteers, so we would like them to receive the photos  ***by Thursday evening before they are to appear*** (so May 20 for Pentecost, and May 27
 for Memorial Day). Thanks!
If you have the magic skill of PowerPoint please connect with
 Wendy@southminsterpc.org.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Youth Mission Team**:  We have a meeting today, May 16th, at 4:00 p.m. (right before Pizzaless Games). There will be information, and we need to make some decisions. It is important that you let Blair know whether or not you can make that meeting!
**Youth**:  Pizzaless Games today from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Bring your mask, your smile (use your eyes), and prepare for fun, fellowship, and deep thoughts.

**Rummage Sale Details**:  Our fabulous Rummage Sale returns June 5-6 (or 12-13, if it rains). Think about it as you do your spring cleaning and decide what to donate. **No electronics, please**. (They do not sell, and we must pay to recycle them). Price your donations, please, it saves us a ton of work. You do not need to price books or clothes—we have flat rates for those items. Price stickers are available on the counter in the main entry hall near the name tags, or use masking tape. You can begin dropping off donations no earlier than after church on May 30.

 **Notes from the Mission Ministry:
In May, it’s time to watch your *Gifts Grow***
For just four weeks in May, you have an opportunity to give a donation to your favorite Southminster-sponsored mission organization and have your mission dollars matched. Please take advantage of this opportunity to help others.

Write a check to Southminster Presbyterian Church and write on the memo line or an accompanying note the name(s) of the mission(s) you wish to support and the amount donated to each mission.

Southminster-supported mission include:

Bridge Communities People’s Resource Center

Cuba Sister Church Ministry Rebuilding Together Aurora

DuPage PADS Walk-In Ministry

Metropolitan Family Services World Relief

 (formerly Family Shelter Service) Youth Mission Trip

When you donate a gift of $15 to any one of these missions, Southminster will contribute an additional gift of $15 to the same mission; a $50 gift is matched with $50, and so on. Please take advantage of this opportunity to watch your Mission “Gifts Grow.”

Program restrictions:

Gifts must be received by May 31, 2021

You must designate your gift to a mission already supported by Southminster Church.

If we receive more than $5,000 in total gifts, we will have to adjust the percentage matched.

Only gifts up to $300 per family will be matched.

Only $1,000 will be matched to any one mission.

The Mission Ministry reserves the right to designate use within a given fund.

March Mission Madness will not be doubled.

 Watch for the “Gifts Grow” display that will be on our church website. It is amazing what your gifts can do!

**Presbyterian Readers** meet this Wednesday, May 19, at 7:00 p.m. The book for discussion this month is a classic: *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith.

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86861724721?pwd=TE0yYXZGZUtUNkdvYWh4UEhaTFc0dz09)
Meeting ID: 868 6172 4721 Passcode: 600865
Or join by phone. Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kd5Cv8caaj>

This same link is good for each meeting until the end of 2022.

**Women’s Circle plans May luncheon!** This month the Circle will meet for a luncheon this coming Friday, May 21, at Reserve 22 (Village Links) at 11:30 a.m. We hope to eat outside, weather permitting. By Wednesday, May 19, please RSVP for the luncheon to Louanne at 630-793-9338 so we can get a count for our reservation. Looking forward to being together again and planning for next year. Please bring thoughts and ideas.

 **A Message about Pledges**Southminster Church is not just a building but a very special faith community. The past year has been very challenging. For the most part, we have not been able to physically gather for worship. Pastor Wendy is providing a daily message and virtual services on Sunday. Elders are attending to the critical business of the church, Deacons are caring for their flock, and Christian Education is providing children at-home educational activities.

However, because we are not all meeting for Sunday worship, we are unable to pass the collection plate. While the congregation has been extraordinarily supportive over the past year, pledge receipts are noticeably down this year. While church income has dropped, expenses continue. Personnel costs represent two thirds of our budget and much of the other third is fixed for items like insurance, mortgage payments, and utilities. While we are hopeful that the end is in sight for the Covid pandemic, these are still difficult financial times for most everyone, including Southminister. Session kindly requests, if you are able, that you consider mailing your pledges and contributions to the church office at 680 S. Park Blvd, Glen Ellyn 60137. Give as you are able. Together, as a faith community, we can get through these unprecedented times. Thanks for your support. **Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):Order Jubilee Bucks today, May 16! 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: June 6

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
Every Monday for 59 weeks we have delivered your donations of food, toiletries, and household products to the PRC. The majority of the clients who are receiving food are working families whose income doesn’t cover their basic needs. A box for donations is out 24/7 on the front porch at 2S033 Taylor Rd, GE. Your support has been greatly appreciated!!!

**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** - Congratulations to Daniel Kozich, graduating from the University of Illinois, and Billy Petersen, graduating from Texas Christian University!
 - Linda Wolf Jeziorski, in need of healing for her badly sprained ankle
 - Mary, who is on a ventilator due to Covid
 - a joy for Marie Shepherd, whose granddaughters are both gymnasts: Lanie has made the National Junior Olympics, and Mia did very well, also.
 - Bill Curry is back at Oak Brook Care, but Gretchen cannot see him.
  - We rejoice in the birth of Nia Elizabeth Gaynair. The whole family is doing well!
  - prayers for Linda Meester, who is at Rush Copley Hospital with multiple issues
 - ongoing concerns for the Rogers and the water damage done to their home
  - for our sisters and brothers experiencing unrest in their countries, especially in Colombia, Haiti, Myanmar, and India
 - There have been deeply held resentments in the Holy Land, as well as bad actors, for a long time. Yesterday a synagogue was burned in Lod, Israel. Meanwhile shelling continues in Gaza. We pray for an end to the hostilities, honest conversations between the two parties, and the support of the world community for peace.
**We pray for those who mourn:** - Floyd and Betsy and family after the death of Jess Wood, wife of nephew James Wood, who died of cancer on Monday at age 35
 - Wendy and Blair after the Zoom memorial service for Wendy’s Aunt Annette
 - Lanny and other friends and family of Bob Kapusta, who died last Sunday of cancer
 - Heidi Shierry, on the death of her uncle Jerry Cunningham **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
  - 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
  - Deshaun, who has thyroid cancer. She is the sister of Wendy’s friend, Tiffany.
  - Devin Leftwich, who has cancer
  - 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:***