**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**6th Sunday after Pentecost or the 69th Sunday of Covid**

**Independence Day**

**July 4, 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

Our slideshow today is “Independence Day.”

 Welcome and Announcements

 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!**

 Prelude: *I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord* Fillmore, arr. Hayes

 Call to Worship

 Leader: Let us worship the eternal God, the source of love and life.

 **People: Let us worship Jesus Christ, the Risen One, who lives among us.**

 Leader: Let us worship the Spirit, the Holy Fire, who renews us.

 **All: To the one true God be praise, in all times and places,
 through the grace of Jesus Christ.**

 Hymn 280: *Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us* (verses 1, 3)

**Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; come with Pentecostal power;**

**Give the church a stronger vision; help us face each crucial hour.**

**Built upon a firm foundation, Jesus Christ the Cornerstone;**

**Still the church is called to mission that God’s love shall be made known.**

**Come, O Spirit, dwell among us; give us words of fire and flame.**

**Help our feeble lips to praise you, glorify your holy name.**

**Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One: what mystery!**

**We would sing our loud hosannas now and through eternity.**

 Prayer of Confession:

**O God, whose very name is Love, we mean to do well, but our intentions are soon discarded. We try to be faithful, but we are diverted by so many things. We do not wish to harm anyone, but, for lack of consideration, we sometimes hurt those we love the most. We sympathize for those who suffer more often than we act with them. We refuse to accept the help of others because we are unwilling to admit our needs. We, too, can say with the one who came to you, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof.” We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of the Grace of God/Assurance of Pardon (Titus 3:4-6, NRSV, edited)

 Leader: Through the loving kindness of God our Savior, we are saved.

 **People: Not by our righteousness, but by God’s mercy.**

 Leader: The Holy Spirit has been poured on us through Jesus Christ.

 **People: We are forgiven!**

 **All: Thanks be to God!**

 Response 288: *Spirit of the Living God* (sing 2 times)

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.**

**Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.**

 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children Chris Kozich

 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 7:1-10

 Sermon: *“Just Say the Word”* The Rev. Delmar Meester

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)

from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

 Hymn 503: *Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation* (verse 1)

**Lord, we have come at your own invitation,**

**Chosen by you, to be counted your friends;**

**Yours is the strength that sustains dedication;**

**Ours, a commitment we know never ends.**

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

 Offertory: *This Land Is Your Land* Woody Guthrie

 \**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: *Taste and See* James E. Moore, Jr.

 Prayer after Communion

 Hymn 340: *This Is My Song*  (verse 1)

**This is my song, O God of all the nations,**

**A song of peace, for lands afar and mine.**

**This is my home, the country where my heart is;**

**Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;**

**But other heats in other lands are beating**

**With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

 Charge and Benediction (2 Timothy 1:14)

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

 Postlude: *America the Beautiful*  Ward, arr. Bober

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Guest preacher: Rev. Delmar Meester

Liturgist: Terry Kline

Worship Host: Lanny Russell

Musicians: Cindy Trowbridge; David Kozich; Virtual Choir: Wendy Boden, Lynn Ferino, Elise Henkels, Linda Jeziorski, Paul Jeziorski, Louanne Jordan, Victor King, Donna Marton, Lois Stevenson, and Jack Thorne

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Ron Birchall, Steve Henkels, Chris Kozich

The flowers today are given by Sue Knisely in memory of her mother, Evelyn Duell.

If you are present for worship, following the service you are invited by the deacons to gather for **in-person fellowship** of beverages and conversation out in front of the building. Please wait until you are outside to visit.

If you are online, join us for **Zoom fellowship** at 10:30 a.m. following the worship service. Heidi Shierry will host in July. Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87217989949?pwd=cVByMWtVaXhKZG9TR1dZZXFIOS9wQT09>
Meeting ID: 872 1798 9949
Passcode: 728773

You are invited to join us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>), where we have a live sharing of “**Heart to Heart**” at 4:16 p.m. During the first 3 weeks of July, Wendy will share “Heart to Heart” only on Wednesdays.

Even though we have returned to in-person worship, we will also continue to be live on **Sunday morning for worship** at 9:30 a.m. (slideshow beginning at 9:15)
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** will resume July 25, after Blair’s vacation.

**Slideshows help us feel connected! Please help us.**
Here are some of the ideas we have for upcoming slideshows. Start taking photos now (or go through ones you’ve already taken), and we’ll let you know later when and where to send them.
**For July 25: “Iowa Roots”** – pictures of Iowa and people who have a connection to Iowa. Deadline for photos is Wednesday, July 21. Please send your photos to David Kozich: kozichd1@gmail.com.
Other ideas:
Cross Town Rivalry: Sox and Cubs or Cubs and Sox
Sunflowers
Other state connections (Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana, Minnesota, Michigan?)
First Day of School

If you have skill with PowerPoint please connect with Wendy@southminsterpc.org.
She will connect with you after her vacation.

Reminder: this Wednesday, July 7, the **July Dialog** will go out.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Ed.:** Wendy and Blair will be in and out of town for the next few weeks. So our Adult Bible Study will be on hiatus until July 25th.

**Youth**: **Pizza and Games** next Sunday, 5:00-7:00 p.m.! Nalani and Kayla will be hosting while Blair is away, but he will help them plan. Come prepared to hear workcamp stories.

**Youth Mission Team** returned late Saturday night, June 26. The Team rolled into the church parking lot full of cheer, exhaustion, and satisfaction. Our workcamp was like no other, and we have lots of stories. So, be sure to check out our report in the coming *Dialog*, and ask a camper about our week on the Rosebud Reservation. Workcampers, mark Aug. 22 for our Camp Report in the worship service.

 **From the Worship Ministry**Worship is seeking **liturgists** over the summer. If you have never done so, take a leap of faith and try it! Wendy and seasoned liturgists will train/assist you. The sanctuary congregation is **very** small, **very** friendly, and after seeing how easy it is—hopefully, you will feel comfortable to keep on, even with a fuller congregation. It is a truly wonderful way to serve Him! Contact Sarah Allen, if you might be interested. (Sarah Allen: 630-988-8231 or ridesrowdy@aol.com)

Worship is also seeking **ushers** comfortable being back in the sanctuary. If interested, please contact Lanny Russell. (630-738-3600 or lansonrussell@aol.com)

**Musical talents** are also sought for summer worship. We need you! If you can serve Him in this capacity, please contact Tom Anderson, Music Director. (651-246-5029 or tomanderson101@gmail.com)

**From the Mission Ministry**
**Gifts Grow:** Thank you so much for your generous gifts to Gifts Grow totaling $4,600. The various missions we support are always so grateful when they receive a check in support of their work. We will have the totals of all gifts for each mission in the July 7 eNotes/Dialog.
 **Recycle** your old shoes, your used gift cards, and your bread tags!
Mission will be collecting used shoes September 5-26. Start setting aside your gently-worn shoes now; please bundle each pair with a rubber band. All kinds of shoes are welcome, including children’s, men’s, women’s, sandals, and boots. More information will follow in August.

Used gift cards are turned into guitar picks, and bread tags help purchase a wheelchair. You can bring these items to church at any time; there are jars for them on the shelf opposite the office.

 **Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):Our year-to-date total of “free money” from Jubilee Bucks is $880.93.
The next time to order will be Sunday, July 11. Remember to put merchant, amount of card, number of cards wanted, and total for your order. Cards will be delivered to you the following Tuesday or Wednesday.

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
The donation box has now been relocated to the entryway at church. Donations are greatly appreciated! As the box fills, the donations will be taken to PRC.

**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**
 - flowers in memory of Sue Knisely’s mother, Evelyn Duell
 - Marie is in the hospital having tests
 - Longtime former member Betsy Hess let us know this week that her husband, Bill, died on June 11. A memorial service will be held for him on July 31 in Crossville, Tennessee, which is where they moved when they left Glen Ellyn.
 - Dashel, who has a sprained ankle
  - a good week of service and safe travels home for the Youth Mission Team
  - Prayers for healing, and to qualify for surgery for Parveen Werner, newly diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Parveen is a loving mother of four and sister-in-law of Chris Kozich’s brother.
  - Jan Kaskovich is asking prayers for improved health for her mother, who has a heart condition
  - Bill Curry is home now. Gretchen has an aide from 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
  - ongoing concerns for the Rogers and the water damage done to their home
 - Pray for volunteers for when the DuPage County Care Center reopens for worship.
  - Pray for an end to gun violence in our nation.
  - prayers for Colombia, Haiti, Myanmar, India, Israel, Palestine, Brazil
  - We continue to pray for peace in the Holy Land.
**We pray for those who mourn:**  - prayers for Bette, a friend of Bill and Gretchen, who was recently widowed with no children
 - the family and many friends of Maurlea Babb Marteja and Bob Cowsert, lifelong church friends of Barb’s **We pray for all who are infected with and/or affected by COVID:**
 - Paul Anderson’s nephew, Adam, who is hospitalized with Covid
  - Prayers for healing and the ability to return home for Mary, a Western Springs resident with Down syndrome, recovering in the hospital from COVID-19, finally off her ventilator but dealing with lung damage.
  - Donna Marton’s brother, Richard, in a nursing home recovering from Covid
  - Prayers for all who are trying to navigate reopening activities, and all those who are still feeling vulnerable.
  - those facing unforeseen consequences from the pandemic
**We pray for all who are dealing with mental or physical health challenges.**

  - prayers for Linda Meester, who is at Rush Copley Hospital with multiple issues.
  - Grace is living at Oak Brook Care: Grace Van Beveren, c/o Oak Brook Care, 2013 Midwest Road, Oak Brook, IL 60523-1312. You may visit but must call a day in advance: 630-495-0220.
  - Betsy Rogers, health concerns
  - Judith, a friend of the Ellsworths, who has continuing health and financial issues
  - people struggling with difficult family concerns
  - Tom Freeman, a friend of Lanny’s
**We pray for all who are affected by cancer:**
 - Kathe Rickel, a friend of Wendy and Karen Boden, who is starting cancer treatment
  - Dan Bohi
  - Haley Jablonski
  - 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
  - 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:**
 - Luke
  - for the reunion of children and parents 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

**Local government bodies/boards**: Prayers for the DuPage County Board, the Village of Glen Ellyn Board, and the boards of the local school districts: 41, 87, 89, 200, COD

**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 July call Deacon Angela Smith (630-235-1376).

Pastor Wendy Boden and Minister of Youth and Young Adults Blair Nelson will be on vacation until July 24. In an emergency, you may call Wendy on her cell or home phone (if she has shared the numbers with you); through today, if you can’t reach her cell phone, call 608-935-5708.
If you need **pastoral care** while Wendy is away, you may call Rev. Debbie Paton of St. Luke Presbyterian Church, Downers Grove. Phone: 630-886-6785. You may also **call your deacon** if you need help from the church.

Beginning July 6, Barb will be back in the office most Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings when her son resumes attendance at his day program.

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***