**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**9th Sunday after Pentecost or the 72nd Sunday of Covid**

**July 25, 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

Our slideshow today is “Iowa Roots.”

 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

 Call to Worship (Neel, edited)

 Leader: We gather to worship the One who calls us,

 **People: The One who equips us,**

 Leader: The One who loves us without end.

 **All:** **With joyful hearts, we worship Jesus Christ.**

 Hymn:  *We Have Come to Join in Worship*  (verses 1, 3)

**We have come to join in worship and adore the Lord our God.**

**Let us come in prayer, expecting God to speak his mighty Word.**

**All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down.**

**Christians, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.**

**Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too.**

**Let us care for all his people till our God makes all things new.**

**Christ will call us home to heaven; at his banquet we’ll sit down;**

**Christ himself will rise and serve us living manna all around.**

 Prayer of Confession:

**Forgive us, Lord, for the times that we have not given any effort to truly hear the pain or fear of others. Forgive us for downplaying the struggles of life that others face by only focusing on our own struggles. You have called us to a way of life that is honest with pain and generous in comfort. We ask this in the name of 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 (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: *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 Pastor Wendy

 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: Romans 8:18-23

 2 Corinthians 4:7-12

 Sermon: Misunderstandings of Biblical Proportions: “You just need more faith.”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)
 from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

 Hymn: *Be Still, My Soul* (verse 1)

**Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side!**

**Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;**

**Leave to your God to order and provide**

**In every change he faithful will remain.**

**Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend**

**Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

 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: *Give Me Jesus*

 \**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: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*  (verses 1, 3)

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,**

**There is no shadow of turning with thee;**

**Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;**

**As thou has been thou forever wilt be.**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;**

**All I have needed thy hand hath provided;**

**Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,**

**Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;**

**Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,**

**Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;**

**All I have needed thy hand hath provided;**

**Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

 Charge and Benediction

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

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgist: Blair Nelson

Guest Musicians: Karen Archbold, Tim Archbold

Liturgical Dance: Eleanor Archbold

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Ron Birchall, Steve Henkels, Chris Kozich

The flowers today are given by Beth Bonde in memory of Al and Isabelle Bonde.

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. Lynn Ferino is hosting today. Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73261558795?pwd=RnRtbUZzaWJZeEVnekR6SW50L1cxUT09>
Meeting ID: 732 6155 8795 Passcode: mq3iAK
Lynn says you should just be able to click on the link without needing the ID or passcode.

You are invited to join us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>), where we have a live sharing of “**Heart to Heart**” with Pastor Wendy Boden Tuesday through Friday at 4:16 p.m..

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** at 11:15 a.m. 11:15 a.m. We’ll resume our class this Sunday, July 25, when we start our study of Micah. Use 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.**
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 August 1**: **“What I Did on My Summer Vacation.”**Please send photos to Blair Nelson by this Wednesday, July 28. Blair@southminsterpc.org
Other ideas for slideshows:
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.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**

**Youth**: **Pizza & Games** **tonight** (Sunday, July 25) 5:00-7:00 p.m. Bring your smile, a mask, and $5 for the food.
Also, mark your calendars for our annual **Fox River Naval Battle** on Aug. 22.

**Youth Mission Team**: We will give our **Mission Trip report** during the worship service on August 22 (and then head out to the Fox River). Watch for details coming soon on both the Mission Trip report during worship and the FRNB (Fox River Naval Battle).
 **From the Worship Ministry
Hymn Sing**! Save the date: Thursday, August 5, at 7:00 p.m. Tom Anderson will lead us in singing outdoors on the church grounds. Details to come.

We have an opening on August 15 for anyone who would like to **donate flowers** for worship. Sign up on the flower chart in the narthex or contact the church office or Sarah Allen (630-988-8231 or ridesrowdy@aol.com).

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)
Every 3 years **Presbyterian Women have a National Gathering Event**. This is the year, and this year it’s virtual, so anyone (even men!) can attend.

Wednesday, August 4 (All times listed here are CDT.)

 Noon-2:00 p.m. Business meeting only - you can observe to see what the business is,
 but only delegates can vote.

Thursday, August 5

 Noon-2:00 p.m. Conclusion of the business portion

 3:00-5:00 p.m. “Rejoice in Hope” - Worship, speakers, rejoicing, and renewal!

You can use these links:

Information: [www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering](http://www.presbyterianwomen.org/gathering)

Watch on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenpcusa>

An additional invitation has been issued by the women of First Presbyterian-Wheaton: come to their church and watch in community. The church is at 715 N. Carlton Avenue, Wheaton. Park in the church lot - the building is handicap accessible. There will be communion during the worship service, and the church will provide the elements. Women from other area churches are invited, so even though it’s not the national/international group that will be present, it will be women worshiping and rejoicing together. All are invited! No log-in or registration is required, either for the online connection or for attendance at Wheaton First.

 **From the Mission Ministry**
**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):The next opportunity to order is August 1, just in time for school supplies and back-to-school clothes for kids and grandchildren.

After that, our next order date will be August 22, we’ll skip Labor Day weekend, and then we’ll order again on September 12. These are 3-week intervals instead of the normal 2-week intervals, so plan ahead. Bobbi will continue to deliver cards to you the Tuesday or Wednesday after the order date.

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
The collection box is now in the entryway at church. Food, paper products, personal care items are always welcome! The PRC is also collecting **items for their Back-to-School program**. Items needed are pencils, pens, erasers, loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks, 2-pocket folders, glue, glue sticks, crayons, colored pencils, kids’ scissors, highlighters, rulers. Any school items can also be put in the donation box. School supplies need to be brought in no later than Sunday, August 1, so Bobbi can deliver them on August 2. Or, if you go to the PRC’s website and click on Back to School Drive, there are links for buying requested school supplies at Amazon, Target, and Walmart, and your purchases will be delivered directly to PRC. Find PRC [here](https://www.peoplesrc.org/).

**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**
  - Prayers of thanksgiving for Mary, hospitalized 3 months due to Covid. This week, insurance approved a very costly inhaler intended to help get Mary off oxygen, so that she can go home soon.
 - continued healing for Barb following hand surgery this past week and for her son-in-law, Josh, who had foot surgery Friday
 - Continued prayers for Parveen Werner, who has completed 3 of 5 rounds of chemo. Doctors want to shrink her pancreatic cancer in the hope that she can then qualify for surgery. Parveen is a loving mother of four and sister-in-law of Chris Kozich’s brother.
 - all who are affected by wildfires raging in the western U.S. and Canada
 - We pray for our sister church in Cuba and for the Cuban people in this time of political protest and very difficult economic conditions in that country. In addition, they are experiencing a surge in COVID cases and cannot obtain enough syringes to vaccinate people rapidly.
 - Linda Meester is home now after a long hospitalization
 - Bob Carlson has been moved to Memory Care
 - Marie was hospitalized for tests
  - Jan Kaskovich is asking prayers for improved health for her mother, who has a heart condition
  - Bill Curry is home. 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 Haiti, Colombia, Myanmar, India, Israel, Palestine, Brazil
  - We continue to pray for peace in the Holy Land.
**We pray for those who mourn:** - Longtime former member Betsy Hess let us know that her husband, Bill, died 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. His obituary is here: <https://obituaries.crossville-chronicle.com/obituary/william-hess-1082643559>
  - prayers for Bette, a friend of Bill and Gretchen, who was recently widowed  **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 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.**
  - 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). 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 when she is in the office.) You may also **call your deacon** if you need help from the church.

Barb is back in the office most Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings (8:45-11:00 most days) now that her son has resumed part-time 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***