**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**12th Sunday after Pentecost or the 75th Sunday of Covid**

**August 15, 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: *Who Is My Mother, Who Is My Brother?;
 Bind Us Together; O Look and Wonder;
 I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say; Help Us Accept Each Other*

Our slideshow today is “Mission Starfish Haiti”

 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 (Psalm 25, edited)

 Leader: To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls.

 **People: The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him.**

 **All:** **Let us worship God.**

 Hymn:   *Shout to the Lord*  Darlene Zschech

**My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you;**

**All of my days I want to praise the wonders of Your mighty love.**

**My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength;**

**Let ev’ry breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You.**

**Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing.**

**Power and majesty, praise to the King.**

**Mountains bow down and the seas will roar**

**At the sound of Your name.**

**I sing for joy at the work of Your hands,**

**Forever I’ll love You, forever I’ll stand,**

**Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.**

 Prayer of Confession:

**Lord God, you came to us in the Son, Jesus Christ, and taught us to love one another. Even so, we struggle to love. You asked us to befriend strangers, because love is from God. It is written that perfect love casts out fear, and yet we are afraid. Forgive us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the grace of Jesus Christ, open our hearts so that your love is perfected in us and offered to the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord, we pray. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of the Grace of God/Assurance of Pardon

 Leader: Friends, the good news is this:

 **People: Love is from God, and we are loved by God.**

 Leader: God sent Christ into the world, and in him we are forgiven.

 **All: Alleluia, amen.**

 Response 582: *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,**

**And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,**

**And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children Silentor Thomas Esthil-Henderson

 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: Exodus 33:7-11

 John 15:12-17

 Sermon: Friendship! An Idea of Biblical Proportions

 Rev. Wendy Boden and Silentor Thomas Esthil-Henderson

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison) (3 John 1:5-6)

**Beloved, you do faithfully whatever you do for the friends, even though they are strangers to you;they have testified to your love before the church. You will do well to send them on in a manner worthy of God.**

 Hymn 286: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

**Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life anew,**

**That I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,**

**Until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,**

**Until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,**

**But live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.**

 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: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* Joseph M. Sciven

 \**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 14: *For the Beauty of the Earth*  (verses 1, 4, 5)

**For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,**

**For the love which from our birth over and around us lies:**

**Lord of all to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,**

**Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:**

**Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;**

**For that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:**

**Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.**

 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, Silentor Thomas Esthil-Henderson

Liturgists: Linda Wolf Jeziorski, Blair Nelson

Musicians: Tom Anderson, Paul Jeziorski

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Ron Birchall, Steve Henkels, Chris Kozich

The flowers today are given in loving appreciation of Floyd and Betsy Rogers and their generous donation of the proceeds from their garage sale to Southminster’s Mission Ministry.

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. Paul Jeziorski is hosting this week. Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4927264659>
No ID or password needed.

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 – 11:15 a.m. via Zoom.** We have resumed our study of Micah, and then in a few weeks we move on to 1st John. Join us at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82920574961?pwd=dEwxU2NhaFM5VWhPSzBtYkZvUld2dz09>
Meeting ID: 829 2057 4961 Passcode: 537355

**Slideshows help us feel connected! Please help us by sharing your photos and your ideas.** Here are some ideas we’ve had, but what else can you suggest? Sunflowers, Crosstown Rivalry, State Connections (we’ve had Iowa and have Ohio scheduled), First Day of School… what else would you like to see?

You can help with these upcoming slideshows:
**August 22: Rosebud – our Youth Mission Trip**. If you have any photos that you haven’t already sent to Blair, please send them by this Wednesday, August 18: blair@southminsterpc.org.
**August 29: Ohio Buckeye Connections**. Send photos to Sue Knisely by August 25: sueknisely@gmail.com

If you have skill with PowerPoint, please connect with Wendy at Wendy@southminsterpc.org.

**Elders and staff: Session meets this Tuesday**, August 17, at 7:30 p.m. via Google Meet. All reports, motions, and other items for the docket are due no later than noon tomorrow.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**

**Youth: Pizza & Games** today, 5:00-7:00 p.m.! Parents and friends, if you’d like to join us to meet and talk with Silentor, call Blair (so there will be enough pizza for everyone).

Next Sunday, August 22, brings our annual **Fox River Naval Battle**—a leisurely 6-mile paddle down the Fox River with the added excitement of water guns. We need a head count to be sure we have booked enough canoes, so please let Blair know who is coming!

Also coming up: our **Family Camp Out** at Devil’s Lake in Wisconsin on Sept. 11th and 12th. It is going to be great!

**Youth Mission Team:** The Mission to Mission is over, but on Aug. 22nd we get to tell our church family about it. So, please be in worship on Aug. 22nd, and we will be talking about how to tell our story.

 **From the Worship Ministry
Flowers for worship:** Do you have a person or an occasion you would like to honor with a flower arrangement for a worship service? We have openings coming up on September 12 and 19. Sign up on the flower chart in the narthex, reply to this message, or contact Sarah Allen: 630-988-8231 or ridesrowdy@aol.com

Worship is seeking **liturgists**. 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 (phone and email listed in the paragraph above) or Pastor Wendy.

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

If you have **musical talent,** we need you! If you can serve Him in this capacity, please contact Tom Anderson, Music Director. (651-246-5029 or tomanderson101@gmail.com).

**Presbyterian Readers** meet at 7:00 p.m. this Wednesday, August 18 to discuss *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. To join the book discussion, use the following link:

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86861724721?pwd=TE0yYXZGZUtUNkdvYWh4UEhaTFc0dz09)

Meeting ID: 868 6172 4721 Passcode: 600865

The same Zoom link is good for the entire year.

**From the Mission Ministry**
**Save your gently-worn shoes**! In September Mission will be collecting used shoes of all kinds – children’s, men’s, women’s, sandals, and boots. Beginning the first Sunday of September there will be a collection box in the entryway of our church. You’ll also find rubber bands there; please band together each pair of shoes before putting them in the box. The shoe collection will continue September 5-26.

**Jubilee Bucks gift cards for PRC**: If you do not want to actually go shopping and drop off food at church for PRC, you can buy Jubilee Bucks and indicate that the gift card will go to PRC. Any $25 gas cards are welcome. $25 gift cards to Walmart, Target, Walgreens, and

CVS are most appreciated; if they so choose, clients can use these gift cards for prescriptions or over-the-counter medications. See Jubilee Bucks info below.

 **Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):Thanks to all who order gift cards! To date the church has received $1,039.69 in “free money” this calendar year! Our next time to order is next Sunday, August 22. Orders can be emailed to Bobbi at any time but for sure by 9:00 p.m. on an order date: bobbifrey@aol.com. Order forms are always available at church, on the church website, and attached weekly to the emails with the bulletins.

The Mission Notes above suggest purchasing Jubilee Bucks gift cards for PRC. If you would like to do that, please let Bobbi know when ordering which cards are to be so designated, and she will set those aside to go directly to PRC.

After 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.

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
It is very impressive how people have donated to PRC since the beginning of the pandemic! Your donations have really been appreciated! The last 3 weeks of July you also dropped off school supplies for their Back-to-School event that provides filled backpacks for 1000 children! The school supply drive is completed, but food and paper products are still a constant need. The box is now in the entry way at church.

The Mission Notes above also suggest donating gift cards to PRC, which you can order through Jubilee Bucks.

**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 today are in loving appreciation of Floyd and Betsy Rogers and their generous donation of the profits from their garage sale last weekend to Southminster’s Mission Ministry.
 - Prayers for the Lerch and Parks families: the moms (Julie Lerch and Jessica Parks) have Covid and are quarantining; so far, the dads and kids are negative.
 - Prayers of thanksgiving for Mary, who has finally returned home after her 3-1/2 month hospital stay from Covid. Also, prayers for Mary’s caregiver mother, Eufelia.
 - Prayers for Parveen Werner, who is being tested Monday to determine whether her pancreatic cancer is now operable after five weeks of chemotherapy.
 - We celebrate with the Koskas, whose 63rd wedding anniversary was August 8.
 - Marie, who is continuing in care
  - Bill and Gretchen, and Gretchen’s niece, Kate
  - ongoing concerns for the Rogers’ health and the water damage done to their home
 - Pray for volunteers for when the DuPage County Care Center reopens for worship.
 - all who are affected by wildfires raging in the western U.S. and Canada
  - Pray for an end to gun violence in our nation.
 - 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.
  - 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.** - Doug Carlson and Jenifer Merritt on the death of Bob Carlson, who died in his sleep Friday, August 6 **We pray for all who are infected with and/or affected by 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.**
  - Betsy Rogers, health concerns
  - Judith, a friend of the Ellsworths, who has continuing health and financial issues
  - people struggling with difficult family concerns
**We pray for all who are affected by cancer:**
  - Dan Bohi
  - Haley Jablonski
**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, doctors, and all other health care workers.**
**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

**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 August 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***