**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**16th Sunday after Pentecost or the 79th Sunday of Covid**

**September 12, 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: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise; The Mighty God with Power Speaks;
 For the Beauty of the Earth; All Creatures of Our God and King;
 O That I Had a Thousand Voices; All Things Bright and Beautiful*

Our slideshow today is “Greetings from South Africa”

 Welcome, Announcements, Moment for Mission

 Lighting the Candles (Ephesians‬ 5:8-9‬ NRSV)

**For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children
of light— for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.**

 Improvisational Prelude

 Call to Worship (1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 27)

 Leader: There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

 **People: There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.**

 Leader: God works through each person in a unique way,
 but it is God’s purpose that is accomplished.

 **People: To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.**

 **All:** **Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.**

 Hymn 157:  *I Danced in the Morning (Lord of the Dance)*  (verse 1)

Verse 1

**I danced in the morning
When the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon
And the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven
And I danced on the earth.
At Bethlehem I had my birth.**

Chorus

**Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all,
Wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all
In the dance, said he.**

CCLI Song # 78529
Sydney Bertram Carter
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 Prayer of Confession:

**Mighty and merciful God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling. We have been timid and frightened disciples, forgetful of your powerful presence and the strength of your Spirit among us. We pray 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 (Psalm 103:8-12, edited)

 Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious;
     slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

 **People: He does not deal with us according to our sins,
     nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

 Leader: As far as the east is from the west,
     so far he removes our transgressions from us.

 **All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia!**

 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.**

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 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children Deb Bohi

 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: John 1:1-5

 Genesis 1:1-5

 Sermon: “The Light Shines in the Darkness.”

 Hymn 69: *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am, Lord)* (verse 1 + refrain)

Verse 1

**I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.**

**All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.**

**I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.**

**Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?**

Refrain

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?**

**I have heard you calling in the night.**

**I will go, Lord, if you lead me.**

**I will hold your people in my heart.**

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(Deacons to be ordained/installed, please meet in the back of the sanctuary during the hymn.)

 Ordination and Installation of Deacons

 Presentation

**To be Ordained and Installed as Deacon**

 Andrea Davidson, Class of 2024

**To be Installed as Deacons**

 Linda Ellinghausen, Class of 2023

 Lynn Ferino, Class of 2023

 Caroline Linde, Class of 2023

 Heidi Shierry, Class of 2023

 Louanne Jourdan, Class of 2024

 Nick Kaskovich, Class of 2024

 Angela Smith, Class of 2024

 Our Common Ministry

 Questions to Deacons

 Questions to the Congregation

 Leader: Do we, the members of the church, accept these people as deacons,
 chosen by God through the voice of this congregation
 to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

 **All: We do.**

 Leader: Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions,
 and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ
 who alone is head of the Church?

 **All: We do.**

 Prayer of Ordination

 Congregational Prayer (unison)

**Gracious God, pour out your Spirit of power and truth upon the whole church
that we may be for you a holy people, baptized to serve you in the world.
Sustain this congregation in ministry. Ground us in the gospel, secure our hope in Christ, strengthen our service to the outcast, and increase our love for one another.
Show us the transforming power of your grace in our life together, that we may be servants of the gospel, offering a compelling witness in the world to the good news
of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

 Welcome to Ministry

 Response: *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I Am, Lord)*

Refrain

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?**

**I have heard you calling in the night.**

**I will go, Lord, if you lead me.**

**I will hold your people in my heart.**

 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: *A Flower Remembered* John Rutter

 \**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 630: *Fairest Lord Jesus*  (verses 1, 4)

**Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,**

**O thou of God to earth come down,**

**Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,**

**Thou, my soul’s glory, joy, and crown.**

**Beautiful Savior, Ruler of the nations,**

**Son of God and Son of Man!**

**Glory and honor, praise, adoration,**

**Now and forevermore be thine!**

 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: Terry Kline

Musicians: Tom Anderson; the Southminster Singers

Worship Associate: David Kozich

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

The flowers today are given by Beth Bonde in memory of Sara Drennan, and by Lanny Russell in honor of the first responders on 9/11.

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 this week. 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**” 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 –** Blair is camping with the youth and their families this weekend, so there will be no Adult Ed. today.

**Slideshows help us feel connected! Please help us by sharing your photos.**Our pre worship slideshows are one way for our church family and friends to enrich our connections. Some slideshows don’t need any additional photos, but we can use your help with these upcoming slideshows:
**September 26**: “**Back to School**” (We’ll save “**Sunflowers**” for another time.) Send photos to Wendy@southminsterpc.org by September 15. (Yes, it’s an early deadline. Wendy’s sister, Karen, will be putting this one together.)
**October 3 (World Communion Sunday)**: people showing their **favorite breads** from home. Please send your photos to Lynn Ferino by September 30: lynnferino1188@comcast.net.
**October 10, 17, 24, and 31 have a single theme: “Now Thank We All Our God.**” Please send pictures of things you are thankful for to Chris Kozich: text 630/673-4286 or email kintonck@gmail.com.

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

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**

**Adult Education**: Our Sunday morning Bible study is skipping this weekend. Our study of Micah will resume next Sunday, September 19.

**Youth**: Our annual (except that it has not happened for a few years) **Family Campout** is this weekend. We are worshiping together in Wisconsin this morning.

**YAT**: remember that we meet this Tuesday, Sept. 14, at 7:45 in the Youth/CE office.

**Presbyterian Readers** meet at 7:00 p.m. this Wednesday, September 15, to discuss *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley. 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.

**Women’s Circle** will meet in the Memorial Garden this Friday, September 17, at 9:30 a.m. All women of the church are invited. We are hoping for good weather, but stay posted if the weather changes. We want to meet outside, but still, please bring your mask. We will put the final touches on planning our year so all the blanks are filled in. Angela Smith will be our program. Angela works at Olive & Vinnie’s and will present an olive oil and vinegar tasting program for us. Should be fun! (The tasting will be brief.)
See you at Circle!

**From the Mission Ministry**
**Bring in your gently-worn shoes**! From now through September 26, Mission is collecting used shoes of all kinds – children’s, men’s, women’s, sandals, and boots. There is a collection box in the entryway of our church plus rubber bands; please band together each pair of shoes before putting them in the box.
**The Peace and Global Witness Offering**: Our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (USA), works for peace and reconciliation, supported by gifts to the Peace and Global Witness Offering, which we will collect during the month of September. The theme this year is “Peace at all times in all ways.” 25% of our offering goes to a local mission; this year it will be World Relief. Please write “Peace & Global Witness” on the memo line of your check when you mail it in or bring it to church. There will be a few envelopes available at the area where you get a name tag if you are attending worship, although an envelope is not necessary. This offering will be dedicated on October 3, World Communion Sunday.

**From the Worship Ministry**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 (630-988-8231 or ridesrowdy@aol.com) 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).

 **Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):
Today, September 12, is your opportunity to order Jubilee Bucks! Email bobbifrey@aol.com by 9:00 p.m. with the amount of your order. Include merchant, amount of card, and the number of cards desired, along with order total. Payment can be made when your order is dropped off on the following Tuesday or Wednesday. Also, you can order cards to support PRC. Gas cards ($25) or cards to Target, CVS, or Target ($25) for prescriptions can also be ordered. Looking ahead, we will go back to ordering cards every two weeks. Future order dates are Sept. 26, Oct. 10 & 24, Nov. 7 and 21.

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
This week marks the 77th weekly delivery of food, paper goods, and toiletries to PRC. Any size donation is welcome. No donation is too small. The support of our church to people in need is amazing! Items can be dropped off at the box in the entry way of the church or else at the Freys’ front porch. Our deliveries to PRC usually take place on Mondays.

**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**
 - The flowers today are from Beth Bonde in memory of Sara Drennan, and from Lanny Russell, honoring and remembering the first responders of 9/11
 - Linda Meester
 - Kathy and Steve Sanders request prayers for Liz Kuziak Dawson, who is in the hospital with a severe abdominal infection. She is the wife of Kathy’s brother, Dan.
  - those who are in danger in Afghanistan and those who are fleeing after the takeover by the Taliban
  - all who are affected by natural disasters: wildfires raging in the western U.S., Canada, and Greece; those in the path of hurricanes and tropical storms
  - 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, Afghanistan, Colombia, Myanmar, India, Palestine, Brazil, and Greece
  - We continue to pray for peace in the Holy Land.

**We pray for those who mourn.**  - the Jablonski family – Heather, Dave, and Max – and their extended family and friends, especially the young adults who were Haley’s friends, following Haley’s death. Her funeral was held at Southminster on Thursday. To send cards: The Jablonski Family, 1930 Keim Drive, Wheaton, IL 60189
 - the family and friends of Jane Fleming Lincoln, Gretchen’s sister-in-law
  - the family and friends of Scott Bromann, who died Monday
  - the family and friends of Steve Nichols, who died this past week
 - the family and friends of Ryan Holdway, a friend of Angela Smith’s family
 - those who have lost family and friends in Afghanistan
 - those who have lost family and friends to Hurricane Ida
**We pray for all who are affected by cancer:**
  - Dan Bohi
  - Continuing prayers for Parveen Werner, who is home now but still in need of prayer support as she awaits her next procedure.
 - Shelayne Larson, a friend of Angela Smith, diagnosed with lung cancer
**We pray for all who are infected with and/or affected by COVID:**
  - Prayers for all who are trying to navigate reopening of school and other 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.**
  - those who struggle with depression
  - Judith, a friend of the Ellsworths, who has continuing health and financial issues
 - people struggling with difficult family concerns
 - Marie Shepherd, who is continuing in care
  - Bill Curry and Gretchen Fleming, and Gretchen’s niece, Kate
  - Betsy Rogers’s health
 - Lynn Smith, sister of Steve Sanders and mother of Traci Smith, who has health concerns
**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, 44, 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 September call Deacon Heidi Shierry (630-853-6836). 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***