**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**18th Sunday after Pentecost or the 81st Sunday of Covid**

**September 26, 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: *Open My Eyes, That I May See; Listen to the Word That God Has Spoken;
 Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet; My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Our slideshow today is “Sunflowers and Students: Farewell summer, welcome autumn.”

 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 (Psalm 139)

 Leader: O Lord, you have searched us and known us. Where can we go from your spirit?

 **People: Or where can we flee from your presence?**

 Leader: In your book were written all the days that were formed for us,

 **All:** **We come to the end—we are still with you. Let us worship God.**

 Hymn:  *He Knows My Name*

Verse 1

**I have a Maker
He formed my heart
Before even time began
My life was in His hand**

Chorus

**He knows my name
He knows my every thought
He sees each tear that falls
And hears me when I call**

Verse 2

**I have a Father
He calls me His own
He'll never leave me
No matter where I go**

CCLI Song # 2151368

Tommy Walker

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 Prayer of Confession:

**Lord God, you are from everlasting to everlasting, yet there are times when we fail to acknowledge or recognize you. We have allowed fear, shame, guilt, and self-reliance to blind us to your presence. Forgive us. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to love sincerely. 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 (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 Janey Sarther

 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: Genesis 28:10-17

 John 1:50-51

 Sermon: “Dreaming in the Dark”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)

(2 Corinthians 5:17-18 NRSV)

**So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation[.]**

 Hymn 686: *God of Our Life* (verses 2, 3)

**God of the past, our times are in your hand. With us abide.**

**Lead us by faith to hope’s true promised land. Be thou our guide.**

**With thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,**

**And faith’s fair vision changes into sight.**

**God of the coming years, through paths unknown we follow thee.**

**When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone. Our refuge be.**

**Be thou for us in life our daily bread.**

**Our heart’s true home when all our years have sped.**

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 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: *Wayfaring Stranger*

 \**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 65: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*  (verses 1, 2)

**Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.**

**I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.**

**Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;**

**Feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now thy crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.**

**Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.**

**Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield;**

**Be thou still my strength and shield.**

 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

Liturgists: Andrea Davidson, Blair Nelson

Musicians: Tom Anderson, Paul Jeziorski

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Ron Birchall, Steve Henkels, Chris Kozich

The flowers today are given by Julie Storey, celebrating Clementine St. John’s birthday, and by the Ellinghausens in honor of their great-granddaughter, Amelia, being baptized today in Texas.

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** – 11:15 a.m. via Zoom. Our study of Micah continues today. Join us for edifying study, good conversation, and fine fellowship: <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.**Our pre worship slideshows are one way for our church family and friends to enrich our connections. We can use your help with these upcoming slideshows:
**October 3 (World Communion Sunday)**: people showing their **favorite breads** from home. Please send your photos to Lynn Ferino by this Thursday, 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:**

**Youth**: **Pizza & Games**… meeting or not? Check with Blair!

**Act now to participate in Morning Circle’s October meeting!**
Morning Circle will meet Friday, October 15, at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.
The program will be **Fall Flower Arranging**. If you would like to join in and make your own floral arrangement, please contact Linda Ellinghausen by this Thursday, September 30! (She needs time to order the flowers.) Call her at 630-469-9039 and leave a message. The price will be $12 paid to Linda on or before the meeting. On the 15th, bring clippers or scissors and gloves, if you need them.

**From the Mission Ministry**
**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
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 **October 24 and 31**. Sign up on the flower chart in the narthex 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 (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 (Sunday, September 26) is your opportunity to order Jubilee Bucks. You can order for yourself, gifts for others, donations to pastor’s discretionary fund or donations to PRC. To place your order, email bobbifrey@aol.com no later than 9:00 p.m. on Sunday with merchant, denomination, and number of cards. Also include the total of your order. If questions, email Bobbi. Next time to order will be October 10 and 24. To date, we have earned $1,359.84 for Southminster this year with the purchase of gift cards. Thanks, everyone!

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
For 79 consecutive weeks deliveries of food, household products, cleaning supplies, toiletries have been delivered to PRC. The support from the members of this church has been amazing! Donations can be left in the box in the entryway of church on the Freys’ front porch. Thanks for all your support!

**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 by Julie Storey, celebrating her granddaughter, Clementine St. John’s, birthday, and by the Ellinghausens in honor of their great-granddaughter, Amelia, being baptized today in Texas.

**We pray for the whole world and our nation:**- 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.
  - those who have lost family and friends in Afghanistan
  - those who have lost family and friends to natural disasters **We pray for all who are affected by cancer:**
  - Dan Bohi
  - Prayers for Parveen Werner, mother of four, suffering from pancreatic cancer, for relief of pain and for comfort, as she faces difficult test results. She is a relative of Chris Kozich.
  - Shelayne Larson, a friend of Angela Smith, diagnosed with lung cancer
 - Katie Boehmer’s father, Rod Boehmer
**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.** - Dave Zink, who is in a rehab center. Send mail to Dave at Kindred Hospital, 225 Edward St., #134, Sycamore, IL 60178
 - Hal Ellinghausen, who is hospitalized
  - Linda Meester, awaiting additional test results
  - Kathy and Steve Sanders request prayers for Liz Kuziak Dawson, who is on the mend. She is the wife of Kathy’s brother, Dan.
  - Judith, a friend of the Ellsworths, who has continuing health and financial issues
 - people who struggle with depression
  - 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
 - the Galles as they make their way to a new home
  - 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!

**Dates to remember this week:**
**Sunday, September 26 – Last day to donate shoes!**
 **Order Jubilee Bucks** by 9:00 pm. Email bobbifrey@aol.com
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **Outdoor Fellowship** following the service for those who worship in person
  **Online** **Fellowship** at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom
 **Adult Ed**. **Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom
 **Youth P&G?** Look for info from Blair.
**Monday, September 27 – Pastor’s Sabbath
Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** live on Facebook at 4:16 p.m.
**Tuesday, September 28
 Deadline** for Wednesday’s eNotes
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, September 29**
 **eNotes** will go out, but it’s also the **deadline for next week’s *Dialog***!
**Friday, October 1**
 A.A**.** at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall **Next Sunday, October 3 – *World Communion Sunday, Dedication of
 the Peace and Global Witness Offering*** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **Outdoor Fellowship** following the service for those who worship in person
  **Online** **Fellowship** at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom
 **Adult Ed**. **Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom
 **Youth P&G?** Watch for info from Blair