**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**2nd Sunday of Christmas or the 95th Sunday of Covid**

**January 2, 2022**

**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: *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy;
 Listen, God Is Calling;* *I Come with Joy;
 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

 Our slideshow today is “Meet Grayson Van Camp.”

 Welcome and Announcements

 Improvisational Prelude

 Lighting the Candles (John 1:14)

 **The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.**

 Call to Worship (Isaiah 60:1-6)

 Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come,
        and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

 **People: For darkness shall cover the earth,
        and thick darkness the peoples;
   but the LORD will arise upon you,
        and his glory will appear over you.**

 Leader: Nations shall come to your light,
        and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

 **People: Lift up your eyes and look around;
        they all gather together, they come to you;
   your sons shall come from far away,
        and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses’ arms.**

 Leader: Then you shall see and be radiant;
        your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
   because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
        the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

 **People: A multitude of camels shall cover you,
        the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
        all those from Sheba shall come.
   They shall bring gold and frankincense,
        and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.**

 Hymn 109: *Blest Be the God of Israel* (verses 1, 3)

**Blest be the God of Israel,
who comes to set us free;
who visits redeems us.
who grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy,
of freedom and release
God shall fulfill that promise
and bring the people peace.**

**On those who sit in darkness
the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness
upon the sinner's eyes.
God guides the feet of pilgrims
Along the paths of peace.
O bless our God and Savior
with songs that never cease.**

CCLI Song # 860627

Hal H. Hopson | Michael Perry

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Music: 1983 Hope Publishing Company

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 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Forgive us, O God, when we limit you –
When we remake you in our image,
When we claim our causes as your own,
When we box you in,
And explain you away,
And in our attempts at understanding, whittle away all mystery.
Forgive us for our human impulses, and change us:
Awaken us to your blinding glory,
Confound us by your love,
Shower us with grace so that we will be made new,
Recreated in your image,
Grateful for all that we cannot know.
In the name of Christ, who brought us closer to you, we pray. Amen.**

 (Confession written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, “Hold Fast to What Is Good.” Used with permission.)

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of the Grace of God/Assurance of Pardon

 Leader: Friends, let us proclaim the Good News:.

 **People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

 Leader: Let us go out into the world as people made new by God.

 **All: Alleluia! Amen.**

(Confession written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, “Hold Fast to What Is Good.” Used with permission.)

 Response 134: *Joy to the World* (verse 3)

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

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 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children Rev. Grayson Van Camp

 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: Hebrews 2:10-18

 John 1:35-51

 Sermon: “So Now What?”

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

**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 130: *Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

**Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light,
And usher in the morning,
You shepherds, shudder not with fright,
But hear the angel's warning.
This child, now weak in infancy,
Our confidence and joy shall be,
The power of Satan breaking,
Our peace eternal making.**

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Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

 Offertory: *See Amid the Winter’s Snow* Edward Caswell (1858), John Goss (1871)

 Offering Response 123: *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* (verse 5)

**For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,**

**When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,**

**When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,**

**And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.**

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 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 singing 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.**

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 *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 Music: *New Year’s Carol*  Traditional

 *The music during communion gives us time to reflect on God's love and grace found
 in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. When the music is finished, our pastor will invite
 everyone to partake by saying, “Take, eat, and drink, all of you.”*

 Prayer after Communion

 Hymn 152: *What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright*  (verses 1, 4)

**What star is this, with beams so bright,
More lovely than the noonday light?
'Tis sent to announce a newborn king,
Glad tidings of our God to bring.**

**O Jesus, while the star of grace
Impels us on to seek your face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse
The guidance of your light to use.**

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 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**

Guest preacher: Rev. Grayson Van Camp

Liturgist: Lynn Ferino

Worship Host: Lanny Russell

Musicians: Tom Anderson; James Van Camp

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Ron Birchall, Steve Henkels, Chris Kozich

The flowers today are given by Lanny Russell in celebration of Johnny’s birthday.

If you are present for worship, following the service you are invited by the deacons to gather for **in-person fellowship** in the narthex. No food or beverages will be served at this time; everyone must remain masked and try to keep social distancing in mind.

If you are online, we’re glad to have you! Note that **we will not offer Zoom fellowship** for the next two Sundays (today and January 9). Watch for more information after next Sunday.
 **Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study** will not meet this week. Join us again on January 9.

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 at 4:16 p.m. each week Tuesday through Friday. Wendy will be away all this week but will resume Heart to Heart on Tuesday, January 11.

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>

**Bearing Fruit – January 2, 2022
It’s still Christmas! Welcome, Van Camps!**

Our pastor is on vacation this Sunday but wishes everyone not only a Happy New Year but a Merry Christmas. It’s still Christmas till January 6.

We welcome the Van Camps to our worship today. The Rev. Grayson Van Camp is in the pulpit today. She is a parish associate at the Presbyterian Church of Western Springs (PCWS) and the ecumenical representative for the Presbytery of Chicago and its ecumenical liaison with the PCUSA. An alumna of McCormick Theological Seminary, she served there for ten years as the director of continuing education and alumni/ae relations. Grayson also served the Presbytery of Chicago for three years as an interim associate executive presbyter. She holds the distinction of being the first Anglo woman ordained to serve a Korean American congregation and served for six years as pastor of English Ministries at Hanmee Presbyterian Church in Itasca, Ilinois.

Grayson’s husband, James Van Camp, will contribute our special music today, providing both the offertory and the communion music. James is a chemist, water treatment specialist, and marketer by trade, but music of all kinds has been a lifelong companion. Since his retirement, James has been using his gifts to help non-profits. In fact, this Friday, January 7, he’s doing a fundraiser for Glen Ellyn Youth and Family Counseling Services. All are welcome!”

Grayson and James live in Glen Ellyn and are the proud parents of two grown children, Emily and Myles.

Today’s slideshow is a visual introduction to Grayson.

**Slideshows help us feel connected!**Our pre worship slideshows are one way for our church family and friends to enrich our connections. Watch for upcoming opportunities to share your photos.
We are interested in your ideas for slideshows. Please connect with Sarah Allen at ridesrowdy@aol.com (or with Pastor Wendy… after her vacation). Please note that we try to confirm slideshow content a month in advance.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**

**Adult Education**: We are taking a holiday break and will resume our study of 1 John on January 9. Happy New Year, all.

**Youth and families:** Our next event is a rebranding of the Charlie Brown Christmas Party. Now it will be our first ever **Winter Lock-In**, coming Jan. 14-15. Put that on your calendar and plan junk food to share, games to play, and a movie to see (church appropriate, of course). Happy New Year and stay safe.

The **January 5 eNotes/Dialog** goes out this Wednesday. If you have any kind of announcement that you want included or a meeting/event for the calendar, it needs to be in the church email by 9:00 tomorrow morning!

**From the Finance Ministry**The **2021 Church Financial Records** must be closed promptly. Any deposits, donations or pledges that need to be recorded in calendar year 2021 or bills to be paid from the 2021 budget must be in the church office no later than 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 4. If you have any questions, please contact Treasurer Tom Frey. (Barb will be in the office on Tuesday between 8:45 and 11:00 a.m., if you need to come in. Otherwise you will need to drop whatever paperwork you have through the mail slot to the right of the main door.)
 **From the Worship Ministry**The **flower chart for 2022** is now posted in the narthex. Sign up to provide flowers in memory or in honor of someone, a special occasion, or simply in thanks for God’s grace.
If you’re not at church to sign up, contact Sarah Allen (630-988-8231 or ridesrowdy@aol.com) and let her know the date(s) you want and who/what you wish to honor. Earlier this week there were still some January dates available… check the chart or talk to Sarah.

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).

The **Task Force planning the Easter Saturday Celebration** will meet next Sunday at 11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

**Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):
Start out the new year by ordering Jubilee Bucks. They can pay for your groceries, sale items, and so much more! Orders are due by 9:00 p.m. today (Sunday, January 2). Email bobbifrey@aol.com and let her know merchant, number and denomination of card(s), and total amount of your order. Delivery will be made to your house mid-week. Payment can be made at that time. Next date to order is January 16.

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
Weekly donations of food, personal items, paper goods, etc. will start up again tomorrow, January 3. No donation is too small! Everything is greatly appreciated and put to good use. The collection box is in the entryway of the church. Donations can also be dropped off on the Freys’ front porch.

**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 were given by Lanny Russell celebrating the birthday of his grandson, Johnny. **We celebrate a joy:** - Lizzy Davidson successfully defended her thesis and will receive her master’s degree in analytical chemistry! **We pray for the whole world and our nation:**  - all who are affected by natural disasters: earthquakes, hurricanes, and tropical storms, and especially all those in Illinois and Kentucky who were affected by the massive tornado that destroyed so many communities and left many people dead and the thousands affected by wildfires this week in Colorado.
  - Pray for an end to gun violence in our nation.
  - Prayers for the people of Haiti, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Colombia, Myanmar, India, Palestine, and Brazil.
  - We continue to pray for peace in the Holy Land.
**We pray for those who mourn:**
 - Linda Wolf Jeziorski and family following the death of her mother, Janey Wolf, on Wednesday
 - the family of Linda Meester, who died Tuesday, December 21. No date has been chosen for a service, but it will be at First Presbyterian Church of Chicago Heights, where Del, her husband, and she ministered for many years.
 - Roma Moye and family on the death of her brother
 - the family of Carolyn Yoos (Heidi Shierry’s mother), who died on December 16
 - the family of Stormy A., a friend of Heidi and Steve Shierry, who died on December 12.
 - the family and friends of longtime member Art Fournier, whose service was held at Southminster last Thursday. You can send cards to Margaret at 514 Robert Daniel Dr., Apt. 248, Daniel Island, SC 29492.
  - In this special season we remember the family and friends of other members who have died this year: Sue Hume, Haley Jablonski, Hal Ellinghausen, Dave Zink, Marie Shepherd, and Betsy Rogers.
 - our friend the Rev. Don Register and family on the death of his wife, Dolores (“Dee”), who died earlier this month
**We pray for all who are affected by cancer:**
  - Dan Bohi
 - Barb’s Aunt Ruth, who will soon undergo surgery for breast cancer
 - Connie Vernon, a friend of Angela Smith, was just diagnosed with breast cancer
  - Katha, a friend of Paul Jeziorski, as she faces cancer and a broken back
  - Beverly Webb, Bill Curry's sister, who had previously undergone treatment for ovarian cancer but now expects additional treatment after a scan showed cancer in some lymph nodes.
  - Shelayne Larson, a friend of Angela Smith, recovering from a very painful surgery, but they believe they got 100% of the cancer. She is very grateful for her prayer shawl and wears it every day.
  - Katie Boehmer’s father, Rod Boehmer
  - Harlene Sperling, a friend of the Boden-Nelson family. She is also very grateful for her prayer shawl.
**We pray for all who are infected with and/or affected by COVID:**
  - Prayers for all who are trying to navigate school, travel, work, 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.**
  - Ed Koska and for his wife, Joan, as she cares for him.
  - Jack Harris, Louanne Jourdan’s friend, is home from the hospital
  - Dan, a friend of Barb’s, who is in a rehab center in Kentucky while being treated for a massive infection. He may need to be there for a month but still hopes to be able to be transferred closer to home (Aurora) sooner rather than later.
  - prayers for healing for Sharon Eckert, a retired Briar Glen teacher, who is recovering from emergency surgery
  - Jeremy, who is struggling right now
  - Judith, a friend of the Ellsworths, who has continuing health and financial issues
  - Bill Curry and Gretchen Fleming who is caring for him.
  - the many people who struggle with depression
  - people struggling with difficult family concerns
**We pray for those who are far from home:**
**We continue to pray for our friends and family who work 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, the boards of the local school districts: 41, 44, 87, 89, 200, COD, and our library boards.

**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 through this Wednesday, call Deacon Angela Smith (630-235-1376). See the Dialog on Wednesday for coverage through the rest of January.

Pastor Wendy Boden will be on vacation through January 7. She will not be checking her cell phone while she is on vacation, but in an emergency you may call her husband, Blair, at 630-917-6035. Wendy will check his phone daily at 9:00 p.m.

If you need pastoral care while Wendy is away, call the Rev. Jay Moses of Hope Presbyterian Church in Wheaton. His phone number is 630-258-9172.
You may also **call your deacon** if you need help from the church.

Barb is in the office most Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings (8:45-11:00 most days) while her son attends his day program part-time. (Note the change from Thursday to Wednesday; additional changes may be made based on the scheduling at the day program.)

Grace and peace to you! 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.

**Dates to remember this week:**
**Through January 7 – Pastor Wendy Boden will be on vacation.** See the information above under “Caring for You” for emergencies and pastoral care coverage.No Heart to Heart this week. **Sunday, January 2, 2022** **Order Jubilee Bucks** by emailing bobbifrey@aol.com before 9:00 p.m.
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook. Guest preacher: Rev. Grayson Van Camp
 **In-person Fellowship** following the service. During winter fellowship gatherings will be in the narthex, masked and distanced, no food or drinks served.
 **Online Fellowship** and **Adult Ed. Bible Study** will not meet today.
 **Send** **articles and information for the January *Dialog*** to the church office email (admin@southminsterpc.org)
**Tuesday, January 4**
 All **financial transactions** (deposits, contributions, bills to be paid) that need to be included in the 2021 records are due on this date. Barb will be in the office from 8:45-11:00 a.m.
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, January 5
 eNotes/Dialog goes out**
**Friday, January 7**
 A.A. at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Next Sunday, January 9** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook.
 **In-person Fellowship** following the service. During winter fellowship gatherings will be in the narthex, masked and distanced, no food or drinks served.
 **Online Fellowship** and **Youth** will not meet today. **Adult Ed. Bible Study** meets at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom
 The **Easter Saturday Celebration Task Force** meets at 11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall