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| We listen | We pass the peace | We read along | We give our offering of time, talent and treasure | We stand | We sing if we are at home | We pray | We respond | We participate  in the Word  with Children | We take com-munion |

(Kids – use your worship packet and the tools listed at the end of the bulletin to do all these things.)

**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**2nd Sunday of Advent or the 91st Sunday of Covid**

**December 5, 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.

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.

**** 1 Gathering Music: *Spirit of God; Where the Spirit of the Lord Is;   
 O Holy Spirit, Root of Life;* *She Comes Sailing on the Wind;  
 Spirit, Now Live in Me; O God, Who Gives Life;  
 God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian; Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*

**** Our slideshow today is “Fall Season” – photos by Carol McHaley.

2 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

**** 3a Improvisational Prelude

**** 3b Lighting the Advent Wreath

Lighters: We light this candle as a sign of the light of Christ.   
 Advent means coming.

**All:** **Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

**** 4 Response (sung to the tune *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*)

**Candles glowing, promise showing   
Holy peace so still and bright.**

**New tomorrow, free from sorrow -**

**Living in Christ’s Holy Light.**

**Shunning violence, loving neighbor,**

**Joy of silence, trust our savior -**

**Living in Christ’s Holy Light,**

**Living in Christ’s Holy Light.**

Tune: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*, public domain

Lyrics: Rev. Elana Keppel Levy, used with permission

**** 5 Call to Worship (Isaiah 35:1)

Leader: Let us prepare for the days

**People: When the wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,**

Leader: The desert shall rejoice and blossom;

**People: Like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly**

**All: And rejoice with joy and singing.**

**** 6 Hymn 82: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* (both verses)

**Come, though long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;**

**From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;**

**Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,**

**Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;**

**By thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.**

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**** 7 Prayer of Confession: (unison) (edited Jamie Bames)

**Lord God, we praise you for sending light into the world. Yet we confess that we live as though the light did not defeat the darkness. We ignore the Savior you sent to be among us and the Spirit which lives within us. We’ve kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season. Help us yearn for his coming each moment in our waiting hearts. Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus. Prepare us for His return. Help us rejoice in the light that illumines the darkened places in our hearts. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is both savior and Lord. Amen.**

(Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

**** 8 Declaration of the Grace of God/Assurance of Pardon (Jer. 33:14a, 15; Rom. 13:11)

Leader: The days are surely coming, says the Lord,   
 when I will fulfill the promise.

**People: Salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed;**

Leader: The night is far gone, the day is near.

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

**** 9 Response 314: *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness* (refrain)

**Christ, be our light!**

**Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.**

**Christ be our light!**

**Shine in your church gathered today.**

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10 The Passing of the Peace



11 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.

****

12 Prayer for Illumination

13 Scripture Lessons: Ezekiel 37:1, 3-4, 7-14

John 14:16-18

14 Sermon: “A Word from the Lord: Ezekiel”

****

Children, as you listen to the sermon, you may want to choose an activity   
from the children’s packet that will help you think about what you hear in the sermon.

15 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!”**

****16 Hymn 102: *Savior of the Nations, Come*  (verses 1, 4)

**Savior of the nations, come;**

**Virgin’s son, make here your home.**

**Marvel now, O heaven and earth,**

**That the Lord chose such a birth,**

**Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,**

**Virgin’s son, incarnate Word!**

**To the holy Trinity**

**Praise we sing eternally.**

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Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

****17 Offertory: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

****18 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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19 Prayer of Dedication

Service of the Lord’s Supper

20 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.]

21 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.**

22 *The minister gives thanks…*

23 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.**

*Music: A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, © 1971, 1977, GIA Publications, Inc.  
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24 *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.**

****Children, draw or write something you would like to say to God in prayer this morning.   
If you want to share it with the church, you may also leave a message   
on the church phone line.

Words of Institution

**** Communion

25 Communion Music: *Abide with Me*    
 Matt Maher, Matt Redman, Jason Ingram, and David Crowder

CCLI Song # 7038447

David Crowder | Jason Ingram | Matt Maher | Matt Redman© Inot Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)/

Said And Done Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)/sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)/

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**** *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.”*

26 Prayer after Communion

****27 Hymn 107: *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*  (verses 3, 4)

**In darkest night his coming shall be,When all the world is despairing, As morning light so quiet and free,So warm and gentle and caring.Then shall the mute break forth in song,The lame shall leap in wonder,The weak be raised above the strong,And weapons be broken asunder.**

**Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night. Though dark the winter and cheerless,The rising sun shall crown you with light;Be strong and loving and fearless.Love be our song and love our prayer,And love, our endless story;May God fill every day we shareAnd bring us at last into glory.**

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****28 Charge and Benediction

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

****29 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgists: Terry Kline, Blair Nelson

Musicians: Tom Anderson; Paul Jeziorski; Elise Henkels

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Ron Birchall, Steve Henkels, Chris Kozich

The flowers today are given by the Perkinsons “for love and joy of our blended family.”.

**Good Morning to our Children:**

To complete all the activities in this worship folder you will need:

* ears to hear
* a mouth to sing
* hands to fold
* eyes to read
* a brain to think
* a worship kit including:
  + something to color with – crayons, markers or colored pencils
  + something to write with, like a pen or pencil
  + something to write on, like a table or a clipboard
  + scissors and tape

If you would like a worship kit for your child, please contact Pastor Wendy ([wendy@southminsterpc.org](mailto:wendy@southminsterpc.org)) and one will come to you!

**A Guide to Our Worship Symbols**

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| Ear | **We listen**: “Basically, the sermon is God’s dynamic, eternal Word spoken to us in such a way that we might hear what God has to say to us and be encouraged to follow the Lord  in faith. | |
| Dove | **We pass the peace**: “…We greet one another with the peace of Christ as common forgiven sinners. As we are forgiven, so we forgive. This is also a good time to reconcile with those family members who drove us crazy trying to get to church on time, church members with whom we have tensions, or people we're not so happy to see.” | |
| Open book | **We read along**: “God’s Word comes to us in many ways—through scripture, special music, sermons. Listen for God's eternal Word addressing you with good news about the Lord’s love for you and all people.” | |
|  | **We give our offering of time, talent, and treasure**: “This is the time when we give ourselves, all that we are, and all that we have, to God’s service. As a symbol of what is of value to us, we make an offering… to promote the gospel.” | |
| Man with kid | **We stand**: “We stand as a way of saying, “This is where I stand,” and as a way of standing in continuity with the people of God of ages past…” | |
| Music notes | **We sing**: “…We sing praise with hearts and minds (even if that's a little out of tune), just enjoying God for who God is. As we open up the pathways of breath to sing praise, we make space for the Spirit breath to fill us.” Even if we simply listen and read the words, we are praising God. | |
|  | | **We pray**: The first thing we do is pray—for our world, the church, other people, and ourselves. The prayer is our prayer as a church. One person may pray for us, but we are all praying together as one in our hearts, continuing Christ’s ministry of prayer for the world.” |
| Pencil | | **We respond**: Responding by writing or drawing helps us remember what we are hearing and is a chance to express our beliefs. |
| Children | | **We participate in the Word with Children**: It is called the Word WITH Children because the whole church is invited to listen with the fresh, faith-filled ears of children to the proclaimed message. |
|  | | **We share communion.** The Lord’s Supper not only nourishes, it also teaches, and we learn about communion by participating in it. Even very young children can sense that the Lord’s Supper is a special meal to be received with respect, and they can share a deep sense of belonging to the forgiving, accepting, loving community of the church. Parents or guardians may decide when their children have reached this point and are ready to celebrate communion. |

Quotations for our Worship Symbols Guide are taken from *Our Order of Worship* by Teresa Lockhart Stricklen, Associate for Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA), found at <https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/order_of_worship_brochure_dec_2008.pdf>. Edited.