**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**3rd Sunday after Epiphany or the 98th Sunday of Covid**

**January 23, 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.

 Gathering Music: *O God, You Search Me;
 Come Down, O Love Divine; Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness;*

 *As the Wind Song; Loving Spirit*

Our slideshow today is “Meet Our Elders.”

 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

 Improvisational Prelude

 Lighting the Candles (John 1:14)

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

 Call to Worship (Ann Siddall, edited, based on John 3:14-21)

 Leader: Friends of God, believe this – God loved the world.

 **People: God loves the world; we are the beloved!**

 Leader: May the truth of this great love story shine through our worship today,

 **People: And renew our sense of calling.**

 **All:** **Friends of God, let us worship!**

 Hymn: *10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)*

Chorus

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.**

Verse 1

**The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the evening comes.**

Chorus

Verse 2

**You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your name is great and Your heart is kind;
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.**

Chorus

Verse 3

**And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and my time has come,
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.**

Chorus

CCLI Song # 6016351

Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

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 Prayer of Confession:

**Lord God, we come with our tiredness, frustration, and discouragements. We come with doubt, fears, and longings. Give us new hearts, and by your grace forgive us as we try to forgive others. Renew our sense of calling as your people, through in the power of the Holy Spirit alive within us. In the name of Jesus Christ, who is both savior and Lord of all, we pray. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of the Grace of God/Assurance of Pardon (John 1:9, 14, 17)

 Leader: The true light that gives light to everyone came into the world.

 **People: The Word became flesh and lived among us.
 We have seen his glory!**

 Leader: We have received grace and truth from Jesus Christ.
 Let us declare the good news.

 **All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.
 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 Melissa Hammer

 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: Ezekiel 36:25-27

 John 3:1-21

 Sermon: “A New Heart”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison) from *The Confession of 1967* (9.24)

**The new life finds its direction in the life of Jesus, his deeds and words, his struggles against temptation, his compassion, his anger, and his willingness to suffer death. The teaching of apostles and prophets guides men and women in living this life, and the Christian community nurtures and equips them for their ministries.**

 Hymn 39: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (verses 1, 3)

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

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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: *Peace of God* Guvna B

 \**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 353: *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* (verses 1, 2)

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**On Christ the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness seems to hide his face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil.**

**On Christ the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

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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**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgists: Blair Nelson

Musicians: Tom Anderson, Southminster Singers

Worship Associate: David Kozich

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

Flowers today are given by the Allens in honor of Craig’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** **until further notice**. Our deacons will explore other ways to stay connected.
 **Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study – 11:15 a.m. via Zoom.** We are still looking at
1 John – a message of love and light. Join us from 11:15-12:15 by following this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82920574961?pwd=dEwxU2NhaFM5VWhPSzBtYkZvUld2dz09>
Meeting ID: 829 2057 4961 Passcode: 537355

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.

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 23, 2022**

**Presbyterian Women: One way we love one another**

Our lives are not our own. We live in community and are connected to one another by the love of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ has not only asked us to love God and neighbor but also to love one another. One of the ways we love one another is through Southminster’s “Morning Circle,” a group of Presbyterian women. This group includes all women members and friends of Southminster Presbyterian Church. All women are invited to attend any or all of the various opportunities offered for learning, fellowship, friendship, and spreading God’s love. Circle meetings take place the third Friday of each month from September through May, usually at 9:30 a.m. That is until March 2020 when, like all of us, the women’s group had to deal with the pandemic. They have zoomed some meetings and recently held a Christmas box luncheon, eating 6 feet apart. On Friday they met in the narthex and had a presentation by Janet Birchall, “Thinking Outside the Box.” As we are slowly getting back in the groove, it is the women’s hope to have a **Purse Auction** in February.

The Purse Auction is always fun! This year’s purse auction will be held on Sunday, February 27, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. There will be many laughs, refreshments, and fellowship.

A box is in the coat room to collect purses and small (must fit inside of a purse) white elephant donations to enhance our sale. On the day of the auction, bid on a purse - and be surprised at what you’ll find inside!

*Due to ongoing concerns with the Omicron and Delta Covid variants, we realize not everyone is able to join in person. This year, we will also be live streaming the auction from our Facebook page! Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks.*

The purse auction is more than fun! It is a way for our women to contribute to missions that are important to the Morning Circle. In 2019, they made contributions during the year to the following: $75 to the Historical Society; $100 each to Kemmerer Village, Connection of Friends, Walk-In Ministries, Knitting Ministry, and Pastor's Discretionary Fund; $200 each to South Africa Christmas Dinner and Street Scapes and our Cuba Sister Church (Guanabacoa Day Care Program). The Thank Offering received in November raised $433.34 for the PCUSA Presbyterian Women’s program that helps fund projects for women and children in need here in our country and throughout the world. $26.19 was collected during the year for the Least Coin project, which is a prayer movement seeking peace, justice, and reconciliation. The offering is used for grants from special projects, evangelism, and relief and awareness building among women throughout the world.

Presbyterian Women understands that scripture asks us to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. As such, Presbyterian Women provides information about justice and peace and ministry to inform mission and community-building work. We not only love one another, we love our neighbors far and wide. This is one way that Southminster bears the fruit of God’s love.

**Slideshows help us feel connected!**Our pre worship slideshows are one way for our church family and friends to enrich our connections. Here’s an opportunity to share your photos:

**February 6**: “Ground Hogs: Outside Nature Photos”
 If you have nature photos (not just of ground hogs) or want to take some this month, send
 them by February 1 to David Kozich, who assembles the PowerPoints:
 kozichd1@gmail.com.

We are interested in your ideas for slideshows. Please connect with Sarah Allen at ridesrowdy@aol.com or with Pastor Wendy at wendy@southminsterpc.org. Please note that we try to confirm slideshow content a month in advance.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**

**Adult Education**: We are nearing the end of 1 John, but there is lots to learn even if you come in at the end. Soon we will move on to Nahum. Please join us! We meet for an hour via Zoom starting at 11:15 a.m.
Use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82920574961?pwd=dEwxU2NhaFM5VWhPSzBtYkZvUld2dz09>
Meeting ID: 829 2057 4961 Passcode: 537355

**Youth:** Come for **Pizzaless Games** this evening from 4:00 to 5:30. Wear a mask, smile with your eyes, and prepare for socially-distanced fun!!! Also, watch for an email from Blair with details about our Cascade Snow Tubing weekend coming Feb. 11-12.

**From the Mission Ministry**We will have **Luminaria Sunday** on February 27. This will be our 11th annual Luminaria Sunday, a service when we honor and remember those touched by cancer. Luminaria bags will light the sanctuary during the worship service. Names of those remembered and honored will be read and prayed for during the Prayers of the People.

Luminaria bags will be available for $10 for each person honored or remembered. Checks will be accepted starting next Sunday, January 30, through February 13. Please send your check, **made out to the American Cancer Society**, by February 13. Please print the name(s) of those you wish to honor (those living who have cancer or have had cancer) and those remembered (those who are deceased who had cancer). For each name, please indicate if the person is to be honored or remembered. Example: “John Jones, remembered, $10. Jane Smith, honored, $10. Total: $20.” Then mail your check and the names to Southminster Presbyterian Church, 680 S. Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137, or drop it off at church at your convenience by February 13.

**Cheers for the “Souper Bowl”!**The Christian Ed. Ministry is sponsoring the “**Souper Bowl**” collection of canned goods for the People’s Resource Center (PRC) on Super Bowl Sunday. We collect donations for the PRC throughout the year, but this is a special effort related to a nationwide food drive called “the Souper Bowl of Caring.” Donations of soup or other canned goods will be accepted at church between next Sunday, January 30, and Super Bowl Sunday, February 13. The donation container is in the entryway, right next to the box that’s always out for PRC contributions. Let’s fill them both!

 **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. There are only a few dates left in 2022! ***One date that was still available as of mid-week is next Sunday, January 30.*** Check the flower chart or speak to Sarah if you’d like to provide the flowers next Sunday.

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).

An invitation from and for our women of all ages:
**Come join us for a fun filled Purse Auction** on Sunday, February 27, 2:00-4:00 p.m. There will be many laughs, refreshments, and fellowship.

A box is in the coat room to collect purses and small (must fit inside of a purse) white elephant donations to enhance our sale. On the day of the auction, bid on a purse - and be surprised at what you’ll find inside!

This is truly a wonderful way to spend an afternoon. Please come join us and bring some friends - all ages are welcome.

*Due to ongoing concerns with the Omicron and Delta Covid variants, we realize not everyone is able to join in person. This year, we will also be live streaming the auction from our Facebook page! Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks.*

**Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey)**: Note: Change in ordering schedule!**Thanks to all who have ordered in January, we have earned $93.32 for Southminster. For the next few months, we will be taking orders for gift cards *only on the first Sunday of the month*. The next opportunity to order is February 6 (just in time for Valentine’s Day!), followed by March 6.

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
We continue to make weekly deliveries of donated food, personal items, paper goods, etc. to PRC. 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
Even though we aren’t all together for worship, 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 the Allens in honor of Craig’s birthday.
**We celebrate joys:**  - Grace Van Beveren, who was in isolation with Covid is now doing much better
  - Ethan Moon, friend of Angela Smith, is also now doing much better **We pray for the whole world and our nation:** -The Jewish congregations in our nation as they respond to the hostage situation at a synagogue in Texas this past week.
  - all who are affected by natural disasters: tornadoes, fires, earthquakes, hurricanes, tropical storms, volcanos, tsunamis…
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation.
  - Prayers for the people of Ukraine, 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:**
  - We continue to remember the Jablonski family on the loss of Haley
**We pray for all who are affected by cancer:**
  - Dan Bohi
  - Barb’s Aunt Ruth, doing well after breast cancer surgery on Thursday
 - Karin Formento, wife of Mike Formento, a friend of Wendy’s
  - Connie Vernon, a friend of Angela Smith, 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:**
 - Chris Yoos, Heidi Shierry’s cousin, who has been hospitalized on a ventilator from Covid (in addition to MS). So far he is tolerating being gradually weaned from the ventilator.
  - 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.**
 - Jan Kaskovich’s mother, Norma, who is having health problems
 - Heidi Shierry, being treated for an upper respiratory inflammation
 - Bill Curry and Gretchen Fleming, who is caring for him
  - Ed Koska and for his wife, Joan, as she cares for him.
  - A joy that Barb’s daughter, Becky, does not have Covid but is fighting an upper respiratory virus and severe sinus infection. She is limited as to what medications she can take due to her pregnancy.
  - Dan, a friend of Barb’s, hospitalized with complications but doing better following a massive infection. He’s still in Kentucky, where he was visiting when he first became ill in early December, but he and his wife are hopeful that he can come home to Aurora soon.
  - Judith, a friend of the Ellsworths, who has continuing health and financial issues
  - 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.

A public service announcement: Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 **free at-⁠home COVID-⁠19 tests**. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days. Order your tests now so you have them when you need them. Use this link to make your request: <https://www.covidtests.gov/>
 **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 in January 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 in the office most Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings (8:45-11:00 most days) while her son attends his day program part-time. (Additional changes to her office hours may be made based on the scheduling at the day program. When she is not in the office, she’s working from home.)

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:**
**Sunday, January 23**
 **Order Jubilee Bucks** by emailing bobbifrey@aol.com by 9:00 p.m.
 **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** is canceled until further notice. **Adult Ed. Bible Study** meets at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom
 **Youth: Pizzaless Games** in Fellowship Hall from 4:00-5:30 p.m.
**Monday, January 24 – Pastor’s Sabbath**
**Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** live on Facebook at 4:16 p.m. **Tuesday, January 25**
 **Nominating** meets at 7:30 p.m. in the parlor (Ron will let participants know if this meeting is switched to virtual.)
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, January 26** **eNotes** go out ***but it is also the deadline for the February 2 Dialog***
**Friday, January 28** A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Next Sunday, January 30
First day luminaria bags will be available in honor or in memory of someone who has had cancer
Also first day collecting soup and other canned goods for “Souper Bowl”** **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** is canceled until further notice. **Adult Ed. Bible Study** meets at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom
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