**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**15th Sunday after Pentecost**

**September 18, 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

Our PowerPoint today is “The Summer Landscape of Southminster.”

 Welcome and Announcements

  Prelude: *Come Share the Lord* Leech, arr. Bock

 Lighting the Candles (Romans 5:5)

**God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the gift
of the Holy Spirit.**

 Call to Worship (Psalm 36:7-9)

 Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

 **People: All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**

 Leader: For with you is the fountain of life;

 **People: In your light we see light.**

 **All:** **Let us worship God.**

 Hymn: *He Knows My Name*  (all) p. 16, blue supplement

 Prayer of Confession:

**Thank you, God, for not leaving us on our own to work out our problems and challenges, our shortfalls and errors. You are faithful in your love for us, and we rejoice in the grace you have given us in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of the Grace of God/Assurance of Pardon (Psalm 103:8-12)

 Leader: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger,
 abounding in love.

 **People: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,**

 Leader: So great is his love for those who fear him;

 **People: As far as the east is from the west,**  **so far has he removed our transgressions from us.**

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

 Response 581: *Glory Be to the Father*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,**

**And to the Holy Ghost.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,**

**World without end. Amen, amen.**

Public domain

 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children Chris Kozich

 Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

 *Jesus Loves Me*

**Jesus loves me! This I know,
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong.
They are weak, but he is strong.**

**Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

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 Prayer for Illumination

 Scripture Lessons: Romans 4:13-22 Pew Bible, p. 155 (N.T.)

 Genesis 12:1-9 Pew Bible, p. 10 (O.T.)

 Sermon: “Blessed to Be a Blessing”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)
 (from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA) 11.3)

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God’s image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator, ignoring God’s commandments. We violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God’s condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

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

 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

[The offering plate is at the back of the sanctuary. Please leave your gift or pledge
in the plate on your way into or out of worship.]

 Offertory: *Aria* Johann Kuhnau

 \**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.**

Public domain

 Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

 Hymn 14: *For the Beauty of the Earth* (verses 1, 4, 5)

 Charge and Benediction

 Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,

 **All: For we are blessed to be a blessing!
 Alleluia, amen!**

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgists: Lynn Ferino, Blair Nelson

Deacon at the Door/Fellowship: Angela Smith

Musicians: Tom Anderson, Paul Jeziorski, Southminster choir

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson, Alec Parks

Flowers today are given by Heidi Shierry in gratitude for Team Heidi.

If you are present for worship, following the service and the meeting, you are invited by the deacons to gather for **in-person fellowship** in the narthex. Coffee and bottled beverages will be served; masks and social distancing are at your discretion.

If you are online, we’re glad to have you! Note that we no longer offer Zoom fellowship.
 **Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study, 11:15 a.m.:** Join us by clicking this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82920574961?pwd=dEwxU2NhaFM5VWhPSzBtYkZvUld2dz09>
Meeting ID: 829 2057 4961 Passcode: 537355If you’re already at church, join Blair with his computer in the parlor.

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 4:20 p.m. most weeks 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>

**PowerPoint/slideshows help us feel connected!**PowerPoint/slideshows help us prepare for worship, connect with one another, and make sure that our at-home people get both sound and sight. No photos are needed for the PowerPoints for the next few weeks but watch for upcoming requests.

We welcome suggestions for PowerPoint subjects.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**

**Adult Education**: Click on the Zoom link below or join us in the Parlor at 11:15 a.m. We will be finishing our study of Haggai and maybe even going on to Matthew, Chapter three. Who knows how much ground we will cover?
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82920574961?pwd=dEwxU2NhaFM5VWhPSzBtYkZvUld2dz09>
Meeting ID: 829 2057 4961 Passcode: 537355

**Youth**:  Pizza and Games today, 4:00-6:00 p.m. Bring your smiling face (and the rest of you), a friend, $5 for the meal, and an inquiring mind (for the Deep Thoughts).

**Youth and Families**:  Please look at and reply to the email Blair sent about October events. It is time to make plans.

**Reminder to elders, moderators, and staff**: Session meets on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in the parlor/library. We wanted all reports, motions, and other items turned in by last Thursday. Did you forget? Send them in no later than tomorrow morning.

**Presbyterian Readers** will meet this Wednesday, September 21, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The book for September is *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng. It’s “a deep psychological mystery about the power of motherhood, the intensity of teenage love, and the danger of perfection. A riveting novel that traces the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the enigmatic mother and daughter who upend their lives.”

Bring suggestions for a Christmas/holiday themed book for the November meeting; we will NOT meet in December.

To join the book discussion, use the following link at 7:00 p.m. September 21:
[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86861724721?pwd=TE0yYXZGZUtUNkdvYWh4UEhaTFc0dz09) Meeting ID: 868 6172 4721 Passcode: 600865

**Women’s Circle Invites All:** Women’s Circle will resume this Friday, September 23, at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. ALL women are invited to attend. We will put the final touches on planning our year, so bring any ideas for programs that you may have. After our business meeting and refreshments, we will invite each attendee to share (briefly) something memorable from her summer. Come join us! (Note: Most months the Circle meets on the third Friday of the month; September is an exception.)

**Hot Dog** – it’s an after-worship **Hot Dog fellowship**! Plan to join us for hot dogs, chips, cookies, and games next Sunday, September 25, following the service. Your Stewardship Ministry will be hosting this event, in place of the annual pig roast (which had been scheduled for September 11th). The hot dogs will be provided by Glen Ellyn’s own Heavenly Hot Dogs; the Deacons will provide beverages.

We are **collecting clothes for Family Shelter Service** until Friday, September 30. There will be a collection box for the clothing donations inside the front entry (Door 1). The collection box will leave the building on September 30 about 5:30 p.m.! Family Shelter Services is a division of Metropolitan Family Services that operates a safe house for abused women and their children; they also operate a thrift shop to help raise funds in support of their work. Family Shelter/Metropolitan Family Services is also a mission that Southminster has supported for many years from our mission budget.

**Peace and Global Witness Offering:** We will collect this special denominational offering throughout September, with a dedication on World Communion Sunday, October 2. This offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord, and division, and embrace God’s mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world. A gift to the Peace and Global Witness Offering enables the entire church to collaborate in our proclamation of Christ’s peace.

Pastor Wendy issued this invitation: Consider joining me at the **Glen Ellyn Interfaith Prayer Breakfast** on Wednesday, October 26, from 7:00-9:00 a.m. at the Abbington (Rt. 53 and Butterfield Road). The featured speaker will be April Redzic, Executive Director of PADS. I am sponsoring a table at the Prayer Breakfast and looking forward to having Southminster members join me. Please let me know no later than October 15 if you are interested in attending.

**Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):
Thanks to all who order Jubilee Bucks! To date, this has earned us $1,139.23 in “free” money for Southminster. The next opportunity to order will be October 2. **Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
This week saw an incredibly large donation of food, personal products, and cleaning products to People’s Resource Center. It is amazing how much has been donated since the beginning of the pandemic! All is greatly appreciated! The need is great! Donations can be left in the front entry at church or on the Freys’ front porch – no contribution is too small.

 **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 email or leave a message on our answering machine at 630-469-9149 if you won’t be present to fill out a prayer request slip.

***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 Heidi Shierry with gratitude for Team Heidi.
**We celebrate joys**.
**We pray for the whole world and our nation**.
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation.
  - flooding in so many parts of the world; record heat and drought in others
  - our sister church and the Cuban people. The huge fire of oil storage tanks has caused major problems for their fuel, electricity, water and air quality.
  - Ukraine, the Holy Land, Pakistan
**We pray for those who mourn. Please lift up grieving families and friends:**
 - Pastor Abel (former pastor of our sister church in Cuba) and his family on the death of his mother, Magdalena, on Monday
  - Former member John Wallace died September 1. Please remember Frasia and family and John’s many friends as they mourn him. There will be a memorial service at a later date. If you’d like to send a card, contact the office for Frasia’s address.
  - We pray for the people of Great Britain on the loss of their sovereign, her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II.
**We lift up those who are affected by cancer, as well as their support systems**.
  - Jim Rundquist, partner of Angela Smith’s longtime friend Carolyn Hudson, who has colon cancer that has spread to his lungs
  - Meagan Nielson, a young mother and friend of the Nelsons
  - Please also remember Rod Boehmer, Dan Bohi, Karin Formento, Tammy Grey, Shelayne Larson, Jan Mazur, Kurt Parent, Connie Vernon, Beverly Webb, and others we name in our hearts.
**We pray for all who are infected with and/or affected by COVID**.
**We pray for all who are dealing with mental or physical health challenges**.
 - Heidi Shierry, dealing with continuing health concerns, and Steve, as he supports and cares for her
  - Rita Zapel is asking prayers for her brother, John, for a successful outcome as he prepares for his second surgery.
  - continued prayers for healing for Victor King and Blair Baldwin
  - those who have chronic or progressive illnesses
  - people receiving new treatments
  - people giving up addictions
  - people struggling with difficult family concerns
  - prayers for personal peace
  - the many people who struggle with depression
**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 (which now has been renamed Nourishing Hope), Glen Ellyn Food Pantry, and our members who serve them
**Local government bodies/boards**: Prayers for the DuPage County Board, the Village of Glen Ellyn Board, the Village of Glen Ellyn Task Force on Affordable Housing, 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) in September, call Caroline Linde (630-469-9482). 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.

**Office Schedule:** Barb’s regular schedule is to be in the office Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays full days (approx. 8:45 a.m.-3:15 p.m.) while her son attends his day program full time on those days. Mondays and Wednesdays she works 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. Online giving through Vanco is also now an option – see the June Dialog for details or contact Ron Birchall. ***(Note that when signing up at Vanco, the correct church phone number to enter is 630-469-9149.)***

**Dates to remember this week:**
**Sunday, September 18** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **In-person Fellowship** will be in the narthex following worship
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom or by joining Blair at his computer in the parlor/library **Youth: Pizza & Games** from 4:00-6:00 p.m. downstairs **Monday, September 19 – Pastor’s Sabbath
Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.
**Tuesday, September 20** **Session** meets at 7:30 p.m. in the parlor/library
 A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, September 21
 eNotes go out
 Presbyterian Readers** meet at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom **Friday, September 23
 Women’s Circle** meets at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor/library
 A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Next Sunday, September 25** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **In-person Fellowship** – **Hot Dog Fellowship at 10:45 a.m.!** If the weather permits, it will be outdoors. (If not, then in the Narthex.) Enjoy hot dogs, chips, cookies, beverages, games!
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. via Zoom or by joining Blair at his computer in the parlor/library **Youth: Pizza & Games** from 4:00-6:00 p.m. downstairs

**Bearing Fruit – September 18, 2022**

Jesus Christ has given us a tall order! We are to love one another, love neighbor, even love our enemies, and, of course, love God. The Presbyterian Peacemaking and Global Witness program is a way that we love all four: God, one another, neighbor, and even enemies.

Each September Southminster collects the Presbyterian Peace and Global Witness Offering in support of the PCUSA’s *Commitment to Peacemaking*. The theme of this year’s offering is from Isaiah 55:12: “You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace.”

The need for a season of peace is reflected in a number of national and global events that have occurred in the past year, according to the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program. They include the war in Ukraine, the escalation of gun violence and mass shooting events, and continued racialized violence and racial division, all during a time when people are grappling with more frequent natural disasters and the ongoing Covid pandemic.

25% of the Peace and Global Witness Offering stays with local congregations and 25% with presbyteries and synods to unite congregations to support peacemaking in their regions. The remaining 50% is remitted to the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

We will dedicate the Peace and Global Witness Offering on World Communion Sunday, October 2. Please prayerfully consider giving to this special offering, knowing that this is one of the ways we bear the fruit of God’s love.

This Sunday we once again welcome Cindy Trowbridge as our accompanist while our Music Director is at a family reunion. Cindy performs as a collaborative pianist in recitals and competitions throughout the Chicago area. A member of the piano faculty at the College of DuPage, she teaches private and class piano and serves as staff accompanist. Cindy also does extensive work as an accompanist for vocal and instrumental studios and recitals at Wheaton College. She is the principal pianist for the Credo Flute Summer Festival and has been the pianist for DuPage Opera Theater and music director for Wheaton College’s Opera Music Theater program. Welcome, and thank you, Cindy!