**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**1st Sunday of Advent**

**November 27, 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: *All Things Bright and Beautiful;*  *Many and Great, O God, Are Thy Things;
 God Folds the Mountains Out of Rock;
 O God of Every Nation; Psalm 24*

Our Photo Story today is “Mission: Presbyterian Giving Catalog.”

 Welcome and Announcements

  Prelude

 Lighting the Advent Wreath

 **We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.**

 Call to Worship (Romans 13:11-12)

 Leader: Awake from your sleep: salvation is near!
 People: **The night is far gone; the day is at hand.**

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

 Hymn 314:  *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness* (verses 1, 2)

 *(Christ, Be Our Light)*

 Hymn: *Here I Am to Worship* (all) pg. 18, blue supplement

 Hymn 377: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* (verses 1, 2)

 Prayer of Confession: (unison) (PCUSA *Book of Common Worship*)

**Lord of All and Eternal King, your faithfulness and love endure forever; even so, our gratitude can be small. For failing to see and acknowledge your blessings, please forgive us. Open our eyes to see all that your hand has provided. It is with grateful hearts that we pray. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 The Good News of Jesus Christ (Isaiah 35:1, 10)

 Leader: The wilderness will rejoice; the dry land will blossom.
 The people of God will return with joy and singing.

 **All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
 Thanks be to God.**

 Response 84: *Creator of the Stars of Night* (verse 1)

**Creator of the stars of night,
Your people’s everlasting light,
O Christ, redeemer of us all,
We pray you, hear us when we call.
Amen.**

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 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children Blair Baldwin

 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: Isaiah 6:1-5  Pew Bible, p. 635, (O.T.)

 Isaiah 2:1-5 Pew Bible, p. 631 (O.T.)

 Sermon: “The Best View”

 Sung Affirmation of Faith
 Hymn 77: *Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old* (both verses)

 Hymn 100: *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout* (all 4 verses)

 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: *Advent Hymn* Christy Nockels

 Response: *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness* Hymnal #314, verse 5

**Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.
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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 Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

 Hymn 105: *People, Look East* (verses 1, 2)

 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**

Pastor Wendy Boden
Liturgist: Gretchen Fleming
Greeter/Fellowship: Sue Knisely
Musicians: Tom Anderson, Southminster Choir
Advent Wreath: the Parks family
Worship Associate: David Kozich
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

Flowers today are from Deb Bohi in celebration of Dan’s birthday.

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 is not meeting today.**

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>

**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us feel connected!**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us prepare for worship, connect with one another, and make sure that our at-home people get both sound and sight. You’re invited to share your photos for this date:
 **December 4: “Advent Wreaths/Candles”** Please send us your photos by Thursday,
 December 1.
**Send photos to our new dedicated email address, just for photos:** **PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org****.** *Please include the date and Photo Story/PowerPoint title for which your photos are to be used.*

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**

**Adult Education** will not meet today. Our study of the Sermon on the Mount will continue next Sunday at 11:15 a.m. on Google Meet. See you then!

**Youth:** We don’t have an event this weekend, but **Pizza and Games** will return next Sunday, December 4. Also, be sure to contact Blair if you would like to be a reader for our Christmas Program on Dec. 18th. Ho, ho, ho!

**From the Worship Ministry: Poinsettias!**If you are interested in ordering one of the large poinsettias that will grace the sanctuary at Christmas, sign up on the flower board in the narthex or contact Sarah Allen by phone or text (630-988-823) by next Sunday, December 4. Cost is $40 each.
**Add to your calendars: *Our Christmas program*** during worship on Sunday, December 18 ***Longest Night Service*** on Wednesday, December 21, at 7:30 p.m.
***Christmas Eve service*** Saturday, December 24, ***will be at 4:30 p.m. this year!***(The earlier time has been set to accommodate families gathering later that evening.)

**Presbyterian Women’s Christmas Luncheon is Sunday, December 18**
ALL Southminster women are invited to bring a salad and join in enjoying Christmas music at our annual **Christmas Salad Luncheon** on Sunday, December 18, at 11:30 a.m. (We moved it to a Sunday hoping that more women can attend.) The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex just outside of the parlor. Karen Archbold and her daughters will once again be sharing wonderful music with us.

**From the Stewardship Ministry**: Thank you to everyone who has already turned in their **pledges for 2023**. If you have not already done so, it is not too late to declare your financial pledge for next year’s budget. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge soon, if you are able to do so. You may make a pledge by turning in a pledge card, or by contacting Stewardship ministry chair Chris Kozich directly – her email is kintonck@gmail.com.

**Jubilee Bucks and Share the Spirit** (from Bobbi Frey):
Your next opportunity to order Jubilee Bucks is next Sunday, December 4. This will be in time for you to plan for the Christmas holiday shopping or for gifts! Plan ahead! The next order date will not be until after the holiday season - January 8.
On November 13 our members and friends purchased 86 gift cards through Jubilee Bucks to donate to the People’s Resource Center’s Share the Spirit holiday assistance program! That’s a contribution of $2,150 to help our neighbors in need have a happier holiday for their families. Thank you for your generosity.

Remember, Southminster receives as a rebate a small percentage of the value of every gift card purchased. We call that “free” money. So far this year, we have made $1,551.63 in “free” money with our orders. **Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):
Our weekly donations are greatly appreciated by PRC! They have seen an increase of clients since the pandemic began. It is still on the rise! They are presently serving over 500 clients each week. Our donations of food, personal care items, and cleaning products are very greatly appreciated! 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.
 **Joys and Concerns**
**The flowers today** are from Deb Bohi to celebrate Dan’s birthday.  **We celebrate joys**:
 - those who were able to celebrate Thanksgiving with family or friends, and traveling mercies for all who are on the move following this holiday
 - the many blessings we expressed through the Thank Offering last Sunday; we collected $503.
 - Tricia and Jim Smith are grateful for the thoughtfulness of our church fellowship in their most recent illness, and also for the memory of Tricia’s mother, Mary Jackson.
**We pray to the Lord of the Harvest for a harvest and workers for the harvest.
We pray for the Jeremiah 29 discernment task force as they seek God’s will for Southminster in the 21st century.**

**We pray for the whole world and our nation:**
  - All those people and places affected by natural disasters – earthquakes, hurricanes, flooding, drought
  - The people of Ukraine, the Holy Land, Pakistan, and Iran as they face war, civil unrest, and the fight for civil rights
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation: we lift up the communities of Chesapeake, Virginia, and Colorado Springs, Colorado, where shootings took lives this past week.
 - We weep with the Jewish community in Waukegan in the desecration of graves at the Am Echod cemetery.
  - We pray for Hope Presbyterian in Wheaton in their search process for an interim pastor.
**We pray for those who mourn. Please lift up grieving families and friends.**
 **We pray for those who are near death and their families and caregivers:**
  - Nan-c Hilpert, Wendy’s cousin
**We lift up those who are affected by cancer, as well as their support systems:**
  - Linda Wolf Jeziorski, Dan Bohi, Peggy, Najla Brannin, Tracy Nelson, Rod Boehmer,  Tammy Grey, Jan Mazur, Meagan Nielson, Charlene Simpson, Jim Sundquist, Connie Vernon, Beverly Webb, and others we name in our hearts.
  - We rejoice that Shelayne Larson, Kurt Parent, and Rita Zapel’s brother, John, have had good reports!
**We pray for all who are infected with and/or affected by Covid.**
**We pray for all who are recovering or dealing with mental or physical health or other challenges:** - Gail Johnston, now in hospice care
 - Deb Bohi’s brother, Tom, hospitalized with a serious infection
 - Susie Salins, Jan Kaskovich, Margaret Fournier, Sandy Phee, Kathy Davidson, Barb’s Aunt Ruth, Bob Welsh, Cathy Hoffman, Linda H., Vicki, the Kevorkian family, Linda M., Bill L.
  - Edem, one of our past COD students who lives in Ghana – financial hardship
  - Those who have chronic or progressive illnesses
  - People receiving new treatments
  - People waiting for surgery
  - People giving up addictions
  - People struggling with difficult family concerns/marital circumstances
  - 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, 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 November, call Louanne Jourdan (home: 630-793-9338 or cell: 630-244-6866); in December (and through January), call Angela Smith (630-235-1376). 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.-3:00 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, November 27 – First Sunday of Advent** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following worship.
 **Staff meeting** in the Sanctuary 11:00-11:15 a.m.
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study** and **Youth** will not meet today
**Monday, November 28 – Pastor’s Sabbath
Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.
**Tuesday, November 29**
 **Organ tuning** at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, November 30**
 **eNotes** go out but it is also the deadline for the December *Dialog* (going out
 December 7) **Thursday, December 1
 Choir rehearsal** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary **Friday, December 2** A.A. at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  **Next** **Sunday, December 4 – Second Sunday of Advent
Order Jubilee Bucks gift cards** by emailing bobbifrey@aol.com before 9:00 p.m.
 **Worship with communion** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following worship.
 **Staff meeting** in the Sanctuary 11:00-11:15 a.m.
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. via Google Meet or by joining Blair at his
 computer in the Library
 **Youth**: **Pizza & Games** from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

**Bearing Fruit – November 27, 2022
Light of the World**

What will you do this season to get ready for Christmas?

The question is about preparing your soul, or your mind and heart. At Southminster we will pause in worship to light Advent candles. Traditionally people use four light blue or purple candles with one white candle, five candles together – four for each Sunday in Advent and one for Christmas day. On Sundays when you watch the service from home, you may want to gather candles before the service so you can light them along with us.

Whether you worship online or in the sanctuary, you may want to have an Advent wreath as part of your home decorations so you can light a candle each day leading up to Christmas. The colors of the candles or even what words you use when lighting them are not as important as pausing and reflecting on the true meaning of Christmas: God comes to us in Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world. Pausing, acknowledging our need, and knowing that God met our need in Jesus Christ is the most important way for us to prepare for Christmas. Preparation will enable us to better bear the fruit of God’s love in the world.