**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

**December 4, 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: *Let the Whole Creation Cry;* *O God the Creator;* *O God of Love, O God of Peace;
 O Day of Peace; All Creatures of Our God and King*

Our Photo Story today is “Advent Light.”

 Welcome and Announcements

 Prelude

 Lighting the Advent Wreath (Isaiah 11:6)

 Leader: As the Lord has promised in days to come,
 the wolf shall dwell with the lamb.

 **All: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.**

 Call to Worship (Isaiah 11:6)

 Leader: The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
 the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
 the calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together,
 and a little child shall lead them.

 **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 377: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* (verses 1, 3)

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us and empower us by your Holy Spirit to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 The Good News of Jesus Christ (Isaiah 40:4-5)

 Leader: Every valley is lifted up; every mountain made low.
 Now the glory of the Lord is revealed,
 for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

 **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

 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.**

Public domain

 Prayer for Illumination

 Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 11:1-5 Pew Bible, p. 640 (O.T.)

 Isaiah 11:6-9 Pew Bible, p. 641 (O.T.)

 Sermon: “Going Home”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)
 *The Apostles’ Creed* [Ecumenical]

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

 Hymn 506: *Look Who Gathers at Christ’s Table*  (verse 1: choir; verses 2-4, all)

Offering of Ourselves and Our Gifts

 Offertory Anthem:  *Who Would Think That What Was Needed*  (Hymnal 138)

 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 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 Anthem: *Advent Grace* Ruth Elaine Schram

 *We will receive communion by intinction. Our usher will invite you to come forward
 by pew, beginning from the back. With Christian love we serve gluten-free
 communion bread and alcohol-free grape juice.*

 Prayer after Communion

 Hymn 129: *Lo, How a Rose E’re Blooming* (all 3 verses)

 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

Liturgist: Andrea Schmidt

Deacon Greeter/Fellowship: Nick Kaskovich

Musicians: Tom Anderson, Southminster Choir

Advent Wreath: the Schmidt family

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are given by Francine Long in memory of her mother, Rose.

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.:** We’ve switched from using Zoom to meeting via Google Meet. Join us here: [https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye](https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)If you’re already at church, join Blair with his computer in the library.

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 these dates:
 **December 11: “Christmas Lights”** Please send us your photos by this Thursday, Dec. 8.
 **December 18: “Christmas Trees”** Send us your photos by Thursday, Dec. 15.
 **December 25: “Nativity Scenes”** Send photos by Thursday, Dec. 22.
 **January 1, 2023: “Winter Nature Scenes”** Send photos by Thursday, Dec. 29.
**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**: Our study of the Sermon on the Mount continues today at 11:15 a.m. on Google Meet. Join us online here: [https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye](https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) or if you’re here in person for worship, enjoy some fellowship time and then join me in the library.

**Youth: Pizza and Games** returns this Sunday, December 4, 4:00-6:00 p.m. Bring a smile, a friend, and $5 for the meal.
Also, be sure to contact Blair if you would like to be a reader for our Christmas Program during worship on Sunday, 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) no later than today, 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.)
- And it doesn’t happen often, but this year ***Christmas Day*** is a Sunday, so you won’t want to miss Christmas Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. on December 25. It will be casual – wear your Christmas sweaters or pjs!

**All women invited: First Wednesday Women’s Breakfast** this Wednesday, December 7, at Danby’s Station at 8:30 a.m. Call, text, or email Gretchen Fleming—(630) 517-0926; gretchen\_fleming@yahoo.com—if you have any questions.

**Elders, staff, and ministry moderators**: Session is meeting a week earlier than usual this month: Tuesday, December 13. That means ***we need all reports, motions, and information items for the docket by this Thursday, December 8, at noon***.

**From the Mission Ministry**
**Special Christmas Offerings**: Don’t forget that this is the time of year for our two special Christmas offerings. One is our *Southminster Local Mission Offering* with the funds going to the Mission Ministry to be used to help the missions Southminster supports and the other, the *Christmas Joy Offering*, goes to the Presbyterian Church (USA) to help current and retired clergy in need and to support students of color in Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. You’ll find more information in the December *Dialog* and will receive the envelopes for these offerings in your December statement. These offerings will be dedicated on Christmas Eve.

**Collection of items for our sister church in Cuba**: A team of five people from our church will be visiting our sister church in Guanabacoa Cuba, from January 4-11, 2023. Pastor Wendy’s Bearing Fruit (at the end of this bulletin) lists the items that we are collecting to take to our Cuban sisters and brothers in Christ. This list will also be included in the December *Dialog*.

**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.

**Jubilee Bucks and Share the Spirit** (from Bobbi Frey): **Order today!**
Plan ahead for Christmas by ordering Jubilee Bucks. They make great presents and are also a good way to pay for food and gifts you purchase! Orders are due today by 9:00 p.m. Email bobbifrey@aol.com with your order. Include merchant, value of card, number wanted, and total value of order. Cards will be available either the following Tuesday or Wednesday. Payment can be made when you receive the cards.
Next date to order will be January 8.

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 Francine Long in memory of her mother, Rose.  **We celebrate joys**:
  - those who were able to celebrate Thanksgiving with family or friends
  - the many blessings we expressed through the Thank Offering; we collected $503.
  - The Bohi family was happy to celebrate Dan’s birthday.
**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
 -The people of Cuba and our Cuba church as they face severe shortages.
 - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation: we lift up all the communities where people have lost lives to gun violence.
  - 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:** - Sandy Lopata requests prayers for Margaret Rolando
  - Tracey J., having treatment to cancerous lung tumor, and also for her husband, Paul, and mother, Ida
  - 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 Wendy Boden, 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:** - Robert, the father of Louanne Jourdan’s children, had heart surgery last week. Pray for his well-being.
  - 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 December, 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, 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
**Monday, December 5 – Pastor’s Sabbath
Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.
**Tuesday, December 6**
 **Mission Ministry** at 7:30 p.m. in the Library
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, December 7**
 **The December *Dialog* goes out.**  **Thursday, December 8
Session docket deadline at noon (Yes, it is a week earlier than usual because
 Session is meeting on Tuesday, December 13!)
 Choir rehearsal** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary **Friday, December 9** A.A. at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  **Next** **Sunday, December 11 – Third 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** 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 – December 4, 2022
Christmas in Cuba**

Dear Friends,

As a Christian community we bear the fruit of God’s love together, not just as individuals. When our mission team members visit our sister church, they visit on our behalf and share our love for them.

As most of you know, a team of five people from our church will be visiting our sister church in Guanabacoa, Cuba, from January 4-11, 2023. The pastor of our sister church has requested that we bring the following items, which are sorely lacking in Cuba, to the extent that we can:

**Items for collection for our sister church in Cuba**

**For children’s activities**:

Paste—glue sticks, or school glues

Scotch tape—single sided, in different widths

Colored paper

Christian themed and other types of stickers

**Over-the-counter medicines—large bottles when possible (which will be doled out in small bags) \***

Acetaminophen (e.g., Tylenol) 500 mg. tablets *(containers of 200 or more pills when possible)*

Ibuprofen (e.g., Advil, Motrin) 200 mg. tablets *(containers of 200 or more pills when possible)*

Naproxen Sodium (e.g., Alleve) 220 mg. tablets *(containers of 300 or more pills when possible)*

Antifungal creams (e.g., Clotrimazole) 2 oz. or 60 gm tube

Triple antibiotic ointment 1 oz. or 28-gram tube

Hydrocortisone cream 1 oz or 28 gm or 2 oz. or 60 gm. tube

Medicines for stomach (e.g., Omeprazole, Famotidine or Zantac) 20 mg. tablets

**Vitamins—large bottles when possible (which will be doled out in small bags) \***

Complete Multivitamins for adults and seniors

Complete Multivitamins for children –chewable (not gummies)

Vitamin C 500 milligram tablets *(large containers whenever possible)*

**Bed and bath items needed (should be new):**

Flat sheets for single beds *(not fitted because they may not fit the mattresses used)*

Sets of sheets for queen-sized bed

Bath Towels (**bath towels in Cuba should be thin: plush towels do not dry out)**

**Small toys for children for Epiphany (like our Christmas gifts) –** *there are over 50 children being served in a childcare program and 50 to 60 in Sunday school and church*

Inexpensive toys for children 3 - 5 years old (small toys under $10)

Inexpensive toys/items for children over 5 up to 13 years old (e.g., little book, toy, game, bracelet, etc.— under $10)

\***For the over-the-counter medicines and vitamins, save your money and the space needed to pack them by purchasing the larger bottles whenever possible. Also purchase the generic or house brands when you can because they are much more economical. The most reasonable places to purchase medications and vitamins are usually Walmart, Target, and Amazon.**

*You may contact Gretchen Fleming if you have questions about items to donate: 630-858-9377 or* *gretchen\_fleming@yahoo.com**.*

In Cuba January 6, Epiphany, is the time when people receive Christmas presents. Our members will be brining your Christmas wishes for health, wellness, and joy in a time that has been very difficult of late. Our kindred in Christ have suffered greatly as a result of the economics and distribution issues plaguing the world. Together we bear the fruit of God’s love.