**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

**April 23, 2023**

**9:30 a.m.**

Find the link for the service on one of these sites:

1) on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>   
2) our YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

3) our web site: <https://www.southminsterpc.org/>

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 Photo Story today is “Talent Show.”

Welcome and Announcements

Improvisational Prelude

Lighting the Candles and Remembering Our Baptism (Revelation 7:17)

**…for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,   
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,   
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.**

Hymn 406: *We Are Standing on Holy Ground*  (sing 3 times)

Hymn 413: *Come into God’s Presence*  (all)

Call to Worship  (Galatians 3:27-28)

Leader: All who have been baptized into Christ   
 have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**People: We are neither Jew nor Gentile,**

Leader: Neither slave nor free,

**People: Nor male and female,**

**All:** **For we are all one in Christ Jesus.**

Hymn 401: *Here in This Place (Gather Us In)*  (verses 1, 2, 3)

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Lord God, for the dividing walls that we have set up, forgive us. For the times we have been exclusive rather than inclusive, forgive us. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, create within us a true vision of what you call us to do and be in the world – one people, your followers of Jesus Christ, who is both savior and Lord. Amen.**

(Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

The Good News of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:33-34)

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

**People: Only Christ and Christ died for us;**

Leader: Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us,

**People: Christ intercedes for us.**

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia!**

Response 240: *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* (verse 1)

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

**Jesus is the Lord of all the earth.**

**He is the King of creation.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

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The Passing of the Peace

Word with Children: God Welcomes All 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:  Acts 10:1-17 Pew Bible, p. 128, (N.T.)

Act 10:34-38 Pew Bible, p. 129, (N.T.)

Sermon: “Everyone Is Invited”

Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (responsive)

from *The Confession of Belhar* (PCUSA) [10.1-10.2](Revelation 21:6-7; Matthew 28:19-20)

**We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.   
We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family.**

Hymn 301: *Let Us Build a House (All Are Welcome)* (all)

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 Anthem: *Shine, Jesus, Shine*  Kendrick, arr. Hayes

\**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.**

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Hymn 239: *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!* (all verses)

Charge and Benediction

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

Leader:  The cross, **All:  We shall take it.**  
  Leader:  The bread, **All:  We shall break it.**  
  Leader:  The pain, **All:  We shall bear it.**  
  Leader:  The joy, **All:  We shall share it.**  
  Leader:  The Gospel, **All:  We shall live it.**  Leader:  The love, **All:  We shall give it.**  
  Leader:  The light, **All:  We shall cherish it.**  Leader:  The darkness, **All:  God shall perish it.**  Leader:  For Jesus’ sake. **All:  Amen.**

Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden   
Liturgist: Francine Long  
Greeter/Fellowship: Caroline Linde  
Musicians: Tom Anderson, Southminster Choir   
Worship Associate: David Kozich  
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are given in appreciation for our Worship Arts Team that beautifies our sanctuary all year long.

If you are present for worship, following the service you are invited by the deacons to gather for **in-person fellowship** in the narthex. Coffee and canned 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 using this link: <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>. If you’re already at church and wish to join us, find Blair at his computer in the McHenry Parlor/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) on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>

If you are watching from home on Facebook, please check in and say hello so we can see that you have joined us. This is one way to make worship less “remote” and strengthen community at Southminster.

*The live video will appear about 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.*

*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/> 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. Watch here for future opportunities to share your photos.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**   
**Adult Education**: So, the Jewish people got beat up by the Babylonians, and a bunch of them got taken off to Babylon for a while, and now they are back. What is next? Join us at 11:15 a.m. today in the Parlor or online via this link: <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>.  
We will see what the prophet Zechariah has to say about starting over after hard times—a timely topic, don’t ya think?  
  
**Youth**:  No event this weekend. Rest up from the Talent Show. Stay tuned for upcoming events in April and May.  
  
The **Talent Show** was too much fun! Thanks to all who performed and all who were entertained. Special thanks to those who donated toward the Youth Mission Trip. The event raised $496.00. Wait! Did you say that you wanted to donate but couldn’t make the event? That is OK, you can still donate in support of our youth’s service at workcamp this summer. Just be sure that your donation is designated to the youth mission trip. You can do it online at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z56R/campaign/C-12HJZ>.  
  
  
**Note the deadline! This Wednesday, April 26, the eNotes will go out, but it is also the deadline for the May *Dialog*!**  
  
  
**From the Worship Ministry**   
**The flower chart** for the rest of 2023 is now posted in the Narthex. If you have a person or occasion you’d like to honor with Sunday morning flowers, please sign up in person or email Sarah Allen ([ridesrowdy@aol.com](mailto:ridesrowdy@aol.com)) with your choice of flower dates and honorees. Flower arrangements are $35.00 each.  
  
 **From the Mission Ministry:**The **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** offering was dedicated on Easter Sunday. The total contributed so far is $2,450. (More may still come in.) Donations to OGHS support programs that provide relief to those affected by natural or manmade disasters, food for the hungry, and resources to communities working to cast of the bonds of poverty and oppression.

**From the Property Ministry**  
**Valet Parkers Needed:** We are starting up the Valet Parking service again for Sunday morning services. Duties consist of arriving 20 minutes before the service begins, putting out the Valet Parking sign, and if requested, parking a person’s car and returning keys to the driver. In addition, the valet will assist those who need help by opening the front doors. At 9:30 when the service begins, you put away the sign and you are free to attend the service. After the service, retrieve the car for anyone who requests it. In practice the valet rarely has to park a car, but assisting worshippers by opening the front door and helping those who are dropped off at the entrance is also a service that is needed and greatly appreciated. If interested in being a valet, contact Steve Kozich ([skozich@yahoo.com](mailto:skozich@yahoo.com)). We already have some volunteers, and we would like to have a few more so each will need to valet once a month or less.

**From the Christian Ed. Ministry**

**Connect with Our Kids!**

Southminster is looking for volunteers to be available on Sunday mornings in the event we need nursery + Sunday School services! Hopefully, we’ll have some new chicks hatching this spring, which means we need YOU! Yes, you – the adults of the church – to step up and nurture our future generations. If you are willing to be on an “on call” list of volunteers, please contact Blair Baldwin at [blairbaldwin@southminsterpc.org](mailto:blairbaldwin@southminsterpc.org). This is not a weekly commitment but rather an attempt to gain a list of folks who can potentially help out if we need additional adults.

**Jubilee Bucks** (from Bobbi Frey):  
Thanks to all who ordered in April! This year to date we have earned $452.37 in “free” money for Southminster! The next opportunity to order will be May 7. **Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)** (also from Bobbi Frey):   
The number of clients at the PRC keeps rising, which means the need continues to be great. If you are looking for ideas to donate, rice, dry pasta, and peanut butter are always in need, as are personal care items like toothpaste, bar soap, and diapers size 5-7. All donations are appreciated! Collection bins continue to be inside the main entryway of the church.

**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 given in appreciation for the Worship Arts Team that beautifies our sanctuary all year long.**We give thanks to God for joys:** - The Talent Show last Sunday **We pray for the whole world and our nation:**   
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation and in particular for those affected by mass shootings this past week in Georgia, Mississippi, Maryland, and Maine in which 4 people died and 16 were injured. So far in 2023, there have been more mass shootings than there are days in the year. Click on [data from the Gun Violence Archive](https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/reports/mass-shooting) to see the current statistics.  
  - We pray for all the communities in our country that have been devastated by recent tornadoes and flooding.  - We continue to pray for peace in the world Ukraine, the Holy Land, Sudan, and everywhere that people face war, civil unrest, and the fight for civil rights.  
**Blessed are those who mourn:**  
  - The family and many friends of Dan Bohi, and especially Deb, Jessica and Megan and their spouses, and the four grandchildren.  
 **We lift up those who are affected by cancer, as well as their support systems:**  - Floyd Rogers, cancer of urethra; he had surgery Tuesday. He reports that he came through it well and is managing to deal with some pain.   
  - Ian Van Beveren diagnosed with lymphoma. Prayers for his strength for chemo and for better news.   
  - Continuing prayers for Linda Wolf Jeziorski and Nikki Petersen Mendoza (adult daughter of Pete Petersen) and as they continue to heal  
  - We continue to pray for: Steve, Peggy, Cameron A., Rod B., Sam C., Tammy G., Tracy J., Shelayne L, Tracy N., Jan M., Felicita M. Margaret R, Charlene S., Helen S, Jim S., Jon S., Connie V., Beverly W., and others we name in our hearts.  
**We pray for all who are recovering or dealing with mental or physical health or other challenges:** - Marta Sundquist, who is having surgery for a brain tumor tomorrow  
 - Del Meester, herniated disc   
 - Prayers for a good recovery for Ann Anderson’s nephew, Zachary, who was hit by a hit and run driver while biking  
 - Those struggling with house issues  
 - A member requests prayers for “two significant situations;” we trust God to know the needs.   
  - Pray for Ian Vierck, Linda Ellinghausen’s grandson that his lungs will heal and not need surgery.  
  - Our members who are in long term care: **Ed Koska** at Tabor Hills, **Gail Johnston**, in hospice care at Du Page Convalescent Center (If you send a card, please send to Andrea Schmidt, whose address is in the directory.), and **Grace Van Beveren** at Oak Brook Care      
  - Former President Jimmy Carter and his family, as he is under in-home hospice care  
**We pray for the Jeremiah 29 discernment task force as they seek God’s will for Southminster in the 21st century.**May we reach out beyond our doors to invite people to share in our spiritual journey with Jesus Christ.

**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) the rest of April, call Deacon Barb Kocinski (630-710-4703). 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](mailto: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: The church office is closed on Mondays and Wednesdays.**Barb’s regular schedule is to be in the office Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from approximately 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. while her son attends his day program 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 –for details contact Ron Birchall.

**Dates to remember this week:**    **Sunday, April 23** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook.   
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the service   
 **Staff Meeting** at 10:45 a.m. in the Pastor’s Office   
 **Adult Ed.** at 11:15 a.m. either by Google Meet or by joining Blair in   
 the McHenry Parlor/Library  
 **No Youth activity today**  
 **Newly-elected officers** meet from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at church  
**Monday, April 24 – Pastor’s Sabbath. The church office is closed.**  
**Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m. **Tuesday, April 25**  
 **Pastor’s Bible Study** 4:00-5:00 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library  
 **No Pastor’s Prayer Meeting** this evening  
 A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
**Wednesday, April 26  
 eNotes go out, but it also the deadline for the May *Dialog*  
Friday, April 28**  
 A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall **Saturday, April 22  
 Rain date: Spring Clean-Up Day** from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  **Next Sunday, April 30** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook.   
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the service   
 **Staff Meeting** at 10:45 a.m. in the Pastor’s Office   
 **Adult Ed.** at 11:15 a.m. either by Google Meet or by joining Blair in   
 the McHenry Parlor/Library  
 **Youth?** Check with Blair.

**Bearing Fruit – April 23, 2023**

**A Household of Talent & Love**  
The earliest churches were actually households. Christians would meet in the house of a patron, probably a wealthy person. The big surprise is that this went against the standard for the culture of the Roman Empire. Everyone was welcome, no matter how noble or humble. To be a Christian – then and now – is to be a member of a large family of sisters and brothers. We are united not only with people around the world and with different ways of expressing “Christian faith,” but we are also united with people through time, from the earliest churches to the future church.   
  
This past Sunday evening we hosted a talent show at “our house”, the sanctuary of Southminster Presbyterian Church. This is the first time since 2019 that we didn’t have the dread of Covid hanging over our heads. We had a wonderful time! Once again, Sean Salins was our master of ceremony. Many shared their talents! There was joy, laughter, and above all else a deep sense of community and family. Talent Show began years ago as way to support the Youth Mission Trip and continues to do so in 2023. If you missed it, you can watch it online [here](https://www.youtube.com/@streamspc3812/streams). You can also contribute to it as well: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z56R/campaign/C-12HJZ>. Last week the youth raised $496 at the Talent Show.   
  
This year’s trip will be the week of June 17-24 in Imperial, Pennsylvania. Our Youth Mission Trip is a way for the youth of our congregation to step out of the everyday of Chicagoland and see God working outside of their own comfort zone. Think of it as Rebuilding Together Aurora or Habitat for Humanity for youth. Please pray that their eyes will be open to what God can do, not only here at home but out in the world, to a place they have never been before. Donations are being accepted to help with this endeavor.   
  
Another way the youth raise money for their mission is the **Rummage Sale & Car Wash**, which will be held Saturday, June 3, and Sunday, June 4. Donations will be accepted May 28 to June 2 in Fellowship Hall. Watch for details to come!   
  
We love God though worship. We love neighbor by helping our youth get to Imperial, PA. We love one another when we enjoy events like the Talent Show. Those are ways to bear the fruit of God’s love.