**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**3rd Sunday after Pentecost**

**June 18, 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: A Medley of Spirituals

Our Photo Story today is “Men of Faith.”

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Song without Words (Consolation)*  Mendelssohn

Lighting the Candles (Galatians 5:22-23a)

**By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**

[Please remain seated while singing these songs.]

Hymn 614: *Great Are You, Lord*

Hymn 623: *I’ve Got Peace Like a River* (all)

Hymn 626: *As the Deer*

Call to Worship

Leader: May the doors of Southminster be open wide enough to receive all   
 who hunger for love and friendship.

**People: May we welcome all who have cares to unburden, thanks to express,   
 and hopes to nurture.**

**All:** **We worship the living God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

Hymn: *10,000 Reason (Bless the Lord)* (all)

This song is printed at the back of your bulletin.

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Gracious God, we hold before you our unresolved hurts and anger. Lavish your grace upon us that we might experience your renewal of life and be your light in our community. Thank you for the blessing of the Holy Spirit and the grace we have in Christ so we may live as your people in the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is our Lord and savior. Amen.**

(Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

Declaration of God’s Grace/The Good News of Jesus Christ

Leader: May the God of mercy who forgives all our sins

**People: Strengthen us in all goodness,**

Leader: And by the power of the Holy Spirit

**People: Keep us in eternal life.**

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

Response 581: *Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)*

**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.**

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The Passing of the Peace

Word with Children Pastor Wendy

Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

*God Welcomes All*  Hymnal 399

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;**

**God’s love is strong and it never ends.**

Text: John L. Bell, 2008

Music: South African song, transc, John L. Bell, 2008

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Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons:  Lamentations 3:14-25 Pew Bible, p. 766, (N.T.)

Matthew 5:4 Pew Bible, p. 4, (N.T.)

Sermon: “The Garden Path: Grief and Comfort”

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

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Hymn 39: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (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: *It Is Well with My Soul* Bliss, arr. Tornquist

\**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: *Faith of Our Fathers* (all)

This song is printed at the back of your bulletin.

Charge and Benediction

Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,

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

Postlude: *I'm Gonna Sing When the Spirit Says Sing* Trad. Spiritual, arr. Hayes

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden   
Liturgist: Sarah Allen  
Greeter/Fellowship: Elise Henkels  
Musician: Cindy Trowbridge  
Worship Associate: David Kozich  
Tech support: Chris Kozich

The flowers today are given by the Kozich family celebrating David’s birthday (this Wednesday, June 21).

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! Using the comments section on Facebook, you can say hello, ask for words of peace, or request prayers.  
 **Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study** will not meet today while Blair and the Youth Mission Team are away. Our next Adult Ed. class will be June 25.  
  
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. You’re invited to share your photos for this date:   
 **July 2: “Our National Parks.”** For Independence Day weekend, we’d like photos   
 taken in any of our many national parks. Please send your photos by Thursday,   
 June 29.  
**Send photos to our dedicated email address, used just for photos:** **[PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org](mailto:PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org).**

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**   
**Adult Education**:  Our Bible class does not meet this week, but we return to the minor prophet Zechariah on the 25th. See you then.  
  
**Youth Mission Team** is in Imperial, Pennsylvania this week!  
**Everyone**: Thanks for supporting our Youth Mission Team through our preparations and fundraising. Please be in prayer for us during our trip. Pray for safety in travels and on the work site, an enriching camp experience, a deeper encounter with God, blessings on the residents we serve, and lots of fun long the way.   
 **From the Worship Ministry:**

**Choir members and other singers:** During the summer there is no formal choir, but we still need people to help lead worship, not only for those in attendance in worship but for those at home online. If you are willing to lend your voice to this ministry, please simply come in and sit in one of the choir seats during worship.

**Singers and instrumentalists of all ages** are invited to share their gifts during summer worship. Please connect with Music Director Tom Anderson to sign up for a Sunday (or more than one) on which you’re willing to help lead us with music. Reach Tom at 651-246-5029 or [tomanderson101@gmail.com](mailto:tomanderson101@gmailcom).

**From the Christian Education Ministry**

SPC will be hosting a one-day VBS, *"Blooming Together,"* on Saturday, August 12, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Taking place on the church grounds, this will be an interactive and fun-filled day learning about all the ways God provides for us through his gardens.

This event will be open to the public, K-5th grade, with pre-registration required. Look for a registration link on the website (coming soon!).

For more information on the event, or if you're interested in helping/volunteering, please reach out to Blair Baldwin: [blairbaldwin@southminsterpc.org](mailto:blairbaldwin@southminsterpc.org).

**Presbyterian Readers** meet at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom on the third Wednesday of the month—this month that’s June 21, when the group will discuss *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman.

Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday the 21st:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86861724721?pwd=TE0yYXZGZUtUNkdvYWh4UEhaTFc0dz09>

Meeting ID: 868 6172 4721 Passcode: 600865

Looking ahead: The July 19 book is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus.

**Calendar Notes/Deadline Changes!**

Barb will be away June 22-27, which means there are some deadline changes:

1. Please have everything needed for the June 21 eNotes and the June 25 worship bulletin turned in no later than Monday morning, June 19.

2. The due dates for both the last eNotes in June and the July *Dialog* will be the same day—Wednesday, June 28. (Can you have eNotes blurbs turned in by 9:00 a.m. that day?) The eNotes will go out a day late—Thursday, June 29, rather than Wednesday the 29th. The July *Dialog* should go out on Wednesday, July 5… but it’s possible that it will run late and come out on the 6th. We will keep you posted!

**Jubilee Bucks**:   
Thanks to all who ordered Jubilee Bucks gift cards in June. Our year-to-date total of “free” money earned from the sale of these cards is $773.49. The next order date will be July 2 (but delivery of orders may be a bit delayed because of the 4th of July holiday). **Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)**:   
It is amazing how our church has been supporting PRC with our donations! Weekly deliveries of food, personal care products, and cleaning products have been greatly appreciated! The number of clients has been increasing and all items donated greatly needed and utilized. Donation boxes has been relocated a few steps farther into the church... just past the second set of doors (across from the church office).  
  
If you are looking for ideas, donations of 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!

**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,  
You are all invited to offer prayer for people whether they are members or not. It would be a joy and very helpful to know how people are doing. If you have submitted a person to be prayed for, can you send an update to the office, please, once in a while? Thank you! Pastor Wendy**  
  
**Joys and Concerns**

**The flowers today** are from Kozich family celebrating David’s birthday. Happy birthday, David, on Wednesday!  **We give thanks to God for joys:**   
 - Linda Wolf Jeziorski, though she is weak and in need of much care and rest, has been told “there is no evidence of the disease at this time.” Her immune system is still on the mend, so it will be a while still until we see her in worship.  
**We pray for the whole world and our nation:**   
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. This past Saturday and Sunday, June 10-11, there were 9 mass shootings (those in which there were at least 4 victims) that left 6 people dead and 42 injured. Click on [data from the Gun Violence Archive](https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/reports/mass-shooting) to see the current statistics. - Perryton, Texas, which was devasted by a violent tornado on Thursday  
 - Wildfires in Canada   
 - The 4 children found safe in Colombia after 40 days alone in the jungle following a plane crash  
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world Ukraine, the Holy Land, Sudan, Myanmar, and everywhere that people face war, civil unrest, and the fight for civil rights.  
**Blessed are those who mourn:**  
 - Our friend and brother in faith Ed Koska passed away on Memorial Day. We pray for Joan and for the Koska sons and their families. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held Saturday, June 24, at 11:00 a.m. in the Southminster Sanctuary; visitation will begin at 10:00.  
 - The family of Jon Sutherland, who died Wednesday morning, and especially for his adult children Eric and Beth. Beth is a friend of Sandy Lopata.  
  - The family and many friends of Dan Bohi, and especially Deb, Jessica and Megan and their spouses, and the four grandchildren.  
 - We thank God for the love that God puts in our hearts for our pets. Blessed are those who mourn the loss of their beloved pets.  
**We lift up those who are affected by cancer, as well as their support systems:** - Helen Shierry is doing well on her chemotherapy. She is experiencing no side effects from the chemo drugs and is feeling good. She is very upbeat and is thankful for all the prayers from our congregation.  
  - Marta Sundquist, who had surgery for a brain tumor. She is safe at home and will need further treatment down the road. Her doctors are putting a plan together. You can be updated on her condition and send her messages online through CaringBridge.org.  
  - We continue to pray for: Steve, Peggy, Cameron A., Rod B., Sam C., Tammy G., Pam G., Amy H., Shelayne L., Jan M., Nikki M., Felicita M., Rebecca M., Tracy N., Tim O., Margaret R., Charlene S., Helen S., Jim 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:**  
 - Bob and Rose Audette both have Covid  
 - Jim Smith, recovering at Brookdale   
 - Donna Marton is at CDH with unexplained pain in her back  
  - Our members who are in long term care: **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      
  - Ian Van Beveren, looking for a place to live in the area  
  - Those struggling with house issues  
  - Those who are suffering from depression   
 - Those making difficult life transitions   
  - Former President Jimmy Carter and his family; he is under in-home hospice care and his wife, Rosalynn has recently been diagnosed with dementia.  
**We pray for the Jeremiah 29 discernment task force as they seek God’s will for Southminster in the 21st century.**May we all be attentive to the Holy Spirit’s leading.

**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 June, call Deacon 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](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, neighbor, and one another. 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, June 18**Tom Anderson, Blair Baldwin (and Blair Nelson with the Youth Mission Team)   
 will all be away.  
 **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   
 **No Adult. Ed. or Youth activity****Monday, June 19 – Pastor’s Sabbath**  
**Tuesday, June 20**  
 **Pastor’s Bible Study** at 4:00 p.m.  
 **Pastor’s Prayer meeting** in the Sanctuary from 7:00-7:30 p.m.  
 **Session** meets at 7:30 p.m. in the McHenry Parlor/Library  
 A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
**Wednesday, June 21**  
 **eNotes go out**   
 **Presbyterian Readers** meet at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom  
**Thursday, June 22**Barb will be away June 22-27 **Friday, June 23** A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
**Saturday, June 24**  
 Our **Youth Mission Team** returns, probably after dinner **Next Sunday,** **June 25**   
 **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   
 **C.E. Ministry** meeting at 10:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall  
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. either online via Google Meet or by joining   
 Blair in person in the McHenry Parlor/Library

**Bearing Fruit – June 18, 2023**

**Our Newest Federal Holiday: Juneteenth National Independence Day**   
  
“Juneteenth” is our most recently-designated federal holiday. Enacted in 2021, the Juneteenth holiday commemorates the emancipation of [enslaved](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slavery_in_the_United_States) [African Americans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_Americans).  
  
“There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” (Galatians 3:28)  
  
Have you heard or read about the “Slave Bible”? It was published in London in 1807. The Slave Bible was used to teach enslaved Africans how to read while at the same time introducing them to the Christian faith. However, parts of the Bible like Galatians 3:28, the Exodus story, and others were deleted because the messages from these portions were too liberating and hopeful. This so-called Bible emphasized portions that supported and validated enslavement of others.   
  
While slavery was abolished in the British Empire in 1838, slavery remained in the United States until the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment in 1865. As the nation approached the third year of and the end of the American Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. The proclamation was a military tactic.  
  
The Emancipation Proclamation only freed slaves in the confederate states, while slaves in Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, and West Virginia, which were still in the Union, were still enslaved. At the end of the Civil War, all slaves in the United States were freed.  
  
Enslaved people in Texas, however, were not immediately told that they were free. Juneteenth is celebrated on the anniversary of [the order](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General_Order_No._3), issued by [Major General Gordon Granger](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gordon_Granger) on June 19, 1865, finally proclaiming freedom for slaves in [Texas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Texas), 18 months after the Proclamation.   
  
The Gathering Music and Postlude today seek to remind us that we bear the fruit of God’s love when we remember that all human beings are created in the image of God and all Christians are one in Christ. The gospel message is truly liberating and hopeful.  
  
  
**Welcome, Cindy Trowbridge!**  
We welcome our friend Cindy Trowbridge as the sub today for our Music Director Tom Anderson, who is on vacation. Cindy has assisted many times in our worship services. Thank you once again, Cindy.

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