**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**6th Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 9, 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 “Meet Our Elders.”

Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

Prelude

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 775: *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* (all 3verses)

Hymn 753: *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* (all 4 verses)

Call to Worship

Leader: May Southminster’s threshold not be a stumbling block   
 to young or straying feet;

**People: May we be doorways to a richer and more meaningful life for everyone.**

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

Hymn 821: *My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep from Singing?)* (all 4 verses)

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Lord God most loving, holy, and just, for the times when we have embraced complacency, or given into hatred and selfishness, please forgive us. By the power of your Holy Spirit within us, help us to see the world through your eyes. May the things that break your heart break our own hearts. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is both Savior and Lord. 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 582: *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,**

**And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,**

**And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

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

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

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

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

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

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The Passing of the Peace

Word with Children Blair Baldwin

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:  Isaiah 1:16-18 Pew Bible, p. 631, (O.T.)

Matthew 5:6 Pew Bible, p. 4, (N.T.)

Sermon: “The Garden Path – Stay Hungry and Thirsty”

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

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

Hymn 750: *Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil*

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: *Christ Our Hope in Life and Death*   
 Getty/Papa/Kauflin/Boswell/Merker

\**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 761: *Called As Partners in Christ’s Service* (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**

Rev. Wendy Boden   
Liturgist: Lois Stevenson  
Greeter/Fellowship: Anny Davidson  
Musicians: Tom Anderson  
Worship Associate: David Kozich  
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are given by Tricia Smith in honor of her father, Harlan’s birthday.

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, 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 most weeks we have a live sharing of “**Heart to Heart**” with Pastor Wendy Boden at 4:20 p.m. 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. We’re all set for the rest of the month, except for this one, just for our deacons:   
 **July 16: “Our Deacons.”** Send us a favorite photo of yourself or let Wendy know if she   
 has permission to raid your Facebook entries. Please send photos by this Thursday,   
 July 13.

**Send photos to our dedicated email address, used just for photos:** **[PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org](mailto:PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org).**  
  
  
**Today! Yoga on the Green!**You are invited to our south lawn today at 2:00 p.m. for an hour of yoga fun led by a friend of Melissa Hammer: Katy Panek of Mindful Movements. We will not be providing food or beverages, but people are welcome/encouraged to bring a water bottle for themselves. Participants can bring their own yoga mat, towel or simply be on the grass. Children must bring their parents or guardians, and participants will be asked to sign a release which will be kept confidential. This event is free to everyone.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**   
**Adult Education**: Our Bible class will meet only once in July, on July 9. We will continue our study of Zechariah. Join us in the Parlor/Library or online at <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>.  
  
**Youth:** As the summer schedule goes, there are no dates for a youth event in July. Enjoy the summer and watch for August event information to come.  **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).

**Flowers!** There are openings coming up for flowers in worship: next Sunday (July 16) and August 27. Do you have a person to remember or an event to celebrate? Sign up in the narthex or contact Sarah Allen at [RidesRowdy@aol.com](mailto:RidesRowdy@aol.com).   
 **From the Mission Ministry:  
We’re having a “kitchen shower” for World Relief!**  
Imagine how it would feel to arrive in the United States as a refugee with nothing but what you were wearing and maybe carrying a bag or two. Throughout the month of July, our Mission Ministry will work with World Relief to host a “shower,” collecting items a refugee family would need to equip a kitchen. We will have bins in the coat room, and you can bring donations in any time this month.

Please consider donating from the following list:

1 set of mixing bowls     1 set of baking pans/dishes

1 saucepan/pot & 1 frying pan      1 set of cooking utensils

measuring cups & spoons         medium/lg cutting board

manual can opener                    3 kitchen towels

3 dishcloths                              silverware for 4

dishes for 4 (plates & bowls)       4 drinking glasses and 4 mugs

rice or pressure cooker              tea kettle

1 toilet brush                            1 broom & dustpan

1 plastic laundry basket           1 pad of paper

5 pens/pencils                     1 electric fan

1 small toolkit                        1 travel sewing kit

1 flashlight & batteries            1 alarm clock

*World Relief asks that all items be new to preserve the recipients’ dignity.*If we receive duplicates, World Relief will store them to distribute to other refugee families. Thank you for helping refugee families in need.

**Start saving shoes!** The shoe collection for Jolly Old Soles is coming back in September. During the summer, please set aside your gently used shoes for the upcoming collection. Formal and casual shoes, boots, sandals… all are welcome, but we ask that you keep them at home until September, when the collection boxes are in place. Thank you.

**Consider visiting our sister church in Cuba!**  
The Mission Ministry is beginning to plan for our next trip to visit our sister church in Guanabacoa, Cuba. Right now ***we would like to hear from those of you who might be interesting in going***, telling us when you are available to go and asking us more about the trip. One key issue is that we need to submit the names and passport information for those going at least three months in advance, so we hope to make some plans in the next few weeks to allow for that delay. **Please let Gretchen Fleming know by July 23 if you have an interest in this trip to visit our sister church and what specifically you need to know to make a decision. You may contact Gretchen by phone or text at 630-517-0926 or email at** [**gretchen\_fleming@yahoo.com**](mailto:gretchen_fleming@yahoo.com)**.**

**Used (zero-balance) gift cards**: Please do not cut the used cards in half before you turn them in. They are used to make guitar picks, and only whole cards are useful.

**From the Christian Education Ministry**

**Mark your calendars**…Southminster is hosting a one-day Vacation Bible School, “Blooming Together - One Day to Grow with God,” on Saturday, August 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for children going into kindergarten through fifth grade. There will be no charge to attend! Here’s how you can help:

* Sign up your children/grandchildren/friends/neighbors/other relatives (the registration will be online soon)
* Sign up to donate/loan some items we will need (the sign-up list will be in the narthex soon)
* VOLUNTEER: let Blair Baldwin or Deb Bohi know if you want to volunteer. We are also looking for young people older than fifth grade to assist.

**Presbyterian Readers** will meet Wednesday, July 19, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The July 19 book is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. We will meet in August, so on July 19, please bring your suggestions for the next couple of months.

Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Wednesday of the month:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86861724721?pwd=TE0yYXZGZUtUNkdvYWh4UEhaTFc0dz09> Meeting ID: 868 6172 4721 Passcode: 600865

**Crosstown Rivalry Fellowship—July 23!**

The first series of 2023’s Chicago baseball’s Crosstown Classic between the Cubs and the Sox will occur on July 25-July 26. Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 23, when the Deacons will host fun, baseball-themed refreshments during fellowship after church. We invite you to wear something from your favorite baseball teams that week, to celebrate this summertime tradition and “friendly” rivalry!

**Jubilee Bucks:**   
Thanks to all who ordered Jubilee Bucks gift cards in July. Our year-to-date total of “free” money earned from the sale of these cards is $901.57. The next order date will be August 6.

**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... in the hallway rather than the entryway.  
  
  
**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 Tricia Smith, honoring the birthday of her father, Harlan.  **We give thanks to God for joys:**   
 - For the new family from Sudan who arrived recently… a family of 9 now living in Wheaton.  
 - Thanks to God for the beautiful diversity of humanity!  
 - the safe return of our Youth Mission Team after their week of assisting people in Imperial, Pennsylvania  
 - 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. Gun violence that flared across the country over the Fourth of July left more than a dozen people dead and almost 60 wounded, including children as young as 2 years old. Click on [data from the Gun Violence Archive](https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/reports/mass-shooting) to see the current statistics.  
 - Wildfires in Canada causing air quality issues through the Midwest, including hazardous breathing conditions here   
 - Both the passengers of the Titan and those who died trying to migrate to Europe  
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world Ukraine and Russia, the Holy Land, Sudan, Myanmar, and everywhere that people face war, civil unrest, and the fight for civil rights.  
**Blessed are those who mourn:**  
 - We pray for Joan and for the Koska sons and their families, mourning the death of Ed. His Service of Witness to the Resurrection was held June 24 at Southminster.  
 - The family of Peter Jorgensen, Rita Zapel’s Danish cousin  
 - The Johnson/Woosley family on the death of Lynn Johnson  
 - Charlene S (Simpson), who had been on our prayer list, died after a long illness fighting cancer   
 - Burton Barr, who passed away last month  
 - The family of Jon Sutherland 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:** - A friend of Heidi Shierry and Barb Doppelt: Tim O’Neal, fighting bile duct cancer and hospitalized with blood infections  
 - Helen Shierry is doing well on her chemotherapy with no side effects from the chemo drugs and feeling good. She is upbeat and thankful for all the prayers from our congregation.  
  - Marta Sundquist, who had surgery for a brain tumor. She is on vacation having completed her first stages of treatment. 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., 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:**  
 - Sue Rasch, a friend of Heidi Shierry and Barb Doppelt, in need of prayer as she supports her brother, who is hospitalized after a serious stroke  
 - Prayers for health for Pat and Tom Grimsey, brother and sister-in-law of Deb Bohi  
 - Jim Smith, recovering at Brookdale   
 - Donna Marton is at home  
  - 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      
  - the family of Maykel Solomon  
  - 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 July, 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.  
  
  
**Revised Deacon Flock Member Lists:** The Deacons have been finalized for the coming year, and revised "Flock" lists have been created with members assigned to each Deacon. The new list will be posted on the Deacon bulletin board this week, closest to the Parlor/Library. You will see an alphabetic list by church member, with their assigned Deacon representative and phone number. Over the next month, we will also be asking Deacons to contact their members and ensure that they have their contact information, email addresses, and best phone numbers. Thank you to all the Deacons for their willingness to serve. We look forward to the year ahead!    
  
  
**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, July 9**   
 **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 11:15 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  
 **Yoga on the Green** from 2:00-3:00 p.m. on the south lawn.   
 **No Youth activity  
Monday, July 10 – 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, July 11**  
 **Knitting Circle** meets at 10:00 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library  
 A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
**Wednesday, July 12**  
 **eNotes go out   
Friday, July 14**  
 A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
**Next** **Sunday,** **July 16**   
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook.   
Guest preacher: Dr. Vince Gaddis  
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the service   
 **No Adult Ed. or Youth activity**

**Bearing Fruit – July 9, 2023**

**Reaching out all around to our neighbors**

The days of summer are not lazy, just different. This summer Southminster continues to reach out to our neighbors both near and far… in some different ways.   
  
Beginning today at 2:00 p.m. on our great lawn to the south of the Memorial Garden, we are offering an hour of yoga fun led by Katy Panek of Mindful Movements, a friend of Melissa Hammer. The hope is that you will not only come but feel comfortable inviting a friend or neighbor and that the smoke from Canada will be long gone. We will not be providing food or beverages, but people are welcome/encouraged to bring a water bottle for themselves.  
  
Participants can bring their own yoga mat or towel or simply be on the grass. Children must bring their parents or guardians, and participants will be asked to sign a release which will be kept confidential. This event is free to everyone.  
  
Have you ever been interested in visiting our sister church in Cuba? We are in the planning stages right now for our next trip. We have NOT picked out a date to go yet! If you would like to join us in sharing the love we have with our sister church up close and personal, now is your opportunity. Even if you don’t want to go in the next twelve months, you may want to express your interest by contacting Gretchen Fleming, moderator of Mission, by July 23rd. The love we share between Southminster and Guanabacoa is a beautiful thing.  
  
The entire month of July we are collecting items for a kitchen shower to help World Relief welcome newcomers to our nation. There is more information in the announcements as well as the July *Dialog*.  
  
We are also reaching out to our neighborhood children with our Vacation Bible School (VBS): “Blooming Together - One Day to Grow with God”. This is a one-day event on Saturday, August 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Children who are entering kindergarten through 5th grade are invited; there is no charge to attend.  
  
We bear the fruit of God’s love for us by providing opportunities to our neighbors to join us in trying new things like yoga on the green, like welcoming new immigrants to our county, by welcoming children into our doors and refreshing ties with our sisters and brothers in Cuba. Our summers are not lazy but bursting with love for God and neighbor.