**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**18th Sunday after Pentecost**

**World Communion Sunday**

**October 1, 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.

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

 Our Photo Story today is “Communion Tables.”

 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Stewardship

 Congregational Prayer of Dedication for the Peace and Global Witness Offering

 **Lord God,
every time the world is troubled and we dare to wake and see;
every time our neighbors call us, and we stand with those in need;
and every time we are peacemakers and the fearful are set free,
in our living and in our giving we are there with thee.
Amen.**

 Prelude

 Hymn: *Days of Elijah*  pg. 14, gold worship supplement

 Hymn 519: *You Are My Strength When I Am Weak*

 Hymn 510: *We Gather Here in Jesus’ Name*

 Call to Worship

 Leader: Around the world Christians share in the Lord’s Supper.

 **People: We gather from the west to the east, from the south to the north.**

 Leader: We celebrate the God of peace.

 **People: This God of peace accompanies us in each
 and every circumstance around us.**

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

 Hymn 300: *We Are One in the Spirit*

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Gracious Lord, creator of this universe, in your generosity you have given us a world of abundance and beautiful diversity. In Christ, you made us brothers, sisters, siblings. You intended for us to be united, and yet we have built walls to separate us from those who are different from us. You gave us wisdom and creativity, and we have used those to trick each other. In all this and in other ways, we have not lived according to your will. Forgive us, Lord, for daring to boast in our human achievements and for failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise. In your mercy, forgive us our sins. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of God’s Grace/The Good News of Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:9; Eph. 2:17)

 Leader: “God accepted us simply because of our faith in Christ,”
 through whom our sins were forgiven.

 **People: May he help us to continue to “preach peace
 to those who are near and far.”**

 **All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

 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:

 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: Exodus 1:8-14 Pew Bible, p. 49 (O.T.)

 Exodus 3:1-15 Pew Bible, p. 50, (O.T.)

 Sermon: “Not Forgotten”

 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 530: *One Bread, One Body*

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:  *Take Time to Be Holy*  arr. Jay Rouse

 \**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.**

 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.**

*Music: A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, © 1971, 1977, GIA Publications, Inc.
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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:  *Bread of the World* Dennis Eliot

*We all will receive communion by intinction. Our usher will invite you to come forward by pew, beginning from the back. If you are unable to come forward, a server will come to you after everyone else has received. Please consume the elements when you are comfortable doing so. You do not need to wait – please do so as the Spirit leads (right away, as you pause after receiving, or back in your seats).
With Christian love we serve gluten-free communion bread and alcohol-free grape juice.*

 Prayer after Communion

 Hymn 340: *This Is My Song*

 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: Sarah Allen

Deacon Greeter/Fellowship: Sue Knisely

Musicians: Tom Anderson, Southminster Choir

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are given by John and Alicia Rasnic to celebrate their 53rd wedding anniversary and by Julie Storey to celebrate Dana and Eric’s birthdays.

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. Today, in honor of World Communion Sunday, we will offer Breads of the World during Fellowship!

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 the class, find Blair and 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. Coming up we’ll be looking for this:
 **November 5: “We Remember…”** – Photos of the people who have died since last All
 Saints Day and whose names we will list during our Prayers of the People in worship on
 November 5. Please send us photos by Friday, October 27. (It takes more time than
 usual to prepare this slideshow.)

**Send photos to our dedicated email address, used just for photos:****PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org****.** (If you only have hard copies of your photos, please leave them in the photo box on Pastor Wendy’s desk, labeled with your name and the date they are to be used.)

**Wanted:  Photos of Your Cheerful Faces**

October is Stewardship Month. Beginning next Sunday, our Photo Stories this month will feature photos of your cheerful faces. Please feel free to send cheerful photos of you and your family directly to Chris Kozich, at **kintonck@gmail.com**. We need all photos by October 26. In addition, Stewardship Ministry representatives will be available to take photos during after-worship fellowship time.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Education**:  We finished Zechariah and will start Matthew Chapter 10 today. After a couple of chapters of Matthew, we will read Malachi. Nothing like having our feet in both Testaments at the same time! But wait—you don’t know what I am talking about? Then come and find out in the Parlor at 11:15 or online via this link: <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>.

**Men!**  We had a great time on the 23rd and are excited to meet again, so put Saturday, October 21, at 9:00 a.m. on your calendar.

**Youth**:  No youth event today. October will be a tricky month, and it looks like all we can do is be part of the general church events, but there is a bunch of those. So, Saturday, Oct. 14th at 9:00 a.m. is our church clean up. There will be lots for all of us to do—and snacks! Sunday, Oct. 15, is the Stewardship Potluck at 5:00—we all like food. Sunday afternoon from 2:00-4:00 on Oct. 29th is Trunk or Treat—should we have a youth-sponsored trunk? Then Nov. 4th, is Sleep Out Saturday. Let Blair N. know if you will be a part, and he will register you, and then the folks at Bridge Communities will set up your online donation page.

**From Blair and Mission**:
**Sleep Out Saturday**:  The annual fundraiser for Bridge Communities Transitional Housing Program has been a part of Southminster’s mission for years. It is not just for kids, though. Some of our youth will be sleeping outside on the church grounds the night of November 4. Interested in helping homeless families by braving the weather? Contact Blair N, and he will give you the 411.
 **From the Mission Ministry:
Mission Ministry Meeting**: Mission Ministry will meet this Tuesday, October 3, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parlor/Library of the church as usual (first Tuesday).

**From the Property Ministry**
Mark your calendars – Saturday, October 14, is our annual **Fall Clean-Up Day**! We can use your helping hands for projects outdoors on the grounds and inside the building! The work goes on from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. – any amount of time you can spend helping will be appreciated, even if it is just an hour or two. The Property Ministry will provide snacks and drinks (coffee and water). The rain date will be October 21.

**From the Stewardship Ministry:**
**Hot Dog!** You are invited to **Stewardship Ministry’s Hot Dog Potluck Supper** on Sunday, October 15, at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Hot dogs, chips, iced tea, coffee, and water will be provided by the Stewardship Ministry. You may bring a side dish to share if you like, or just come for the great food and great company – there will be plenty of both! The sign-up sheets are in the narthex; signing up is not required, but it will help our planning if you do.

**Be a cheerful giver!** (2 Corinthians 9:7)
God blesses us freely! Sharing those blessings freely is our privilege. You are invited to be a cheerful giver – one who gives freely to help support the work and mission of Southminster Presbyterian Church.

During the month of October, you are invited to make a pledge to declare the amount you expect to give to Southminster in 2024. If you did not receive a pledge card by mail, extra copies will be available at church. Or, you may contact Stewardship moderator Chris Kozich directly with your confidential pledge information: Kintonck@gmail.com. We hope to receive all pledges by October 31. For additional information, see the October *Dialog* or contact Chris K.

**From the Christian Ed. Ministry: Trunk or Treat!**
Have you ever been “Trunk or Treating”? It’s like Trick or Treating except instead of kids coming to your door for treats, they come to your car trunk.

The Christian Ed. Ministry is hosting a Trunk or Treat event in our parking lot on Sunday, October 29, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. (Note that ***the correct time is 2:00-4:00***… this week’s eNotes listed an incorrect time.) We invite you to participate – you can decorate your car as much or as little as you like and pass out treats to the kids as they come to “trunk or treat.” Please sign up in the Narthex.

This event is open to our church family and to the public. Bring your friends and neighbors. In case of rain, we’ll be in Fellowship Hall.

 **From the Worship Ministry:
Let’s make music together!** Our choir is back! Everyone from high school age on up is invited and warmly welcomed to join the choir. There’s no audition required, just a love of making music together. We don’t rehearse every week, so watch the church calendar. Questions? Talk to Tom after worship or at 651-246-5029 or tomanderson101@gmail.com.

**Looking Ahead: All Saints Sunday, November 5, 2023**
We will celebrate All Saints Day on Sunday, November 5. During our Prayers of the People on All Saints Sunday, we will pray for those who died during the past year (since All Saints Day 2022). If you have a loved one, friend, or family member whose death occurred since last All Saints Day and whom you would like mentioned during our All Saints Prayer, please let us know by October 27, giving us their name and date of death. Email the office at admin@southminsterpc.org or call 630-469-9149. If you leave a phone message, you can help us be as accurate as possible by providing correct spelling and leaving your name and phone number so we can check with you if we have any questions.
If you would like a photo of your friend or loved one to be included in the Photo Story on November 5, please send a picture and their name to PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org by October 27.

Please do not send either photos or names/dates to the pastor.

**Women’s Breakfast** will meet this Wednesday, October 4 (and the first Wednesday of every month) at 8:30 a.m. at Danby’s Station, 750 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn. All women are invited to come.

**A Public Service Announcement**: Every U.S. household can again place an order to receive four more **free COVID-19 rapid tests** delivered directly to their home. Go to [**covidtests.gov**](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Cttt%5CDownloads%5Ccovidtests.gov) to order.

**Jubilee Bucks: Order this Sunday, October 1!**
Your next opportunity to order gift cards for yourself or others is this Sunday, October 1. This is a good way to prepay for your groceries or household items and also give Southminster “free” money. Email bobbifrey@aol.com by 9:00 Sunday evening. Gift cards will be distributed the following Sunday in church. If you would like yours earlier, let Bobbi know when you place your order. The list of available cards is available at church, on the Southminster website, and attached to the weekly Friday emails with the worship bulletins.
Our next order date will be November 5.

 **Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)**:
Southminster has been faithfully providing donations of food items and personal care products for PRC for many years. If you would like suggestions for what to give, PRC has provided a list of the items that are most needed. Copies are printed on bright green paper and are in the stand on the nametag shelf (main hallway – across from the offices). You can view the list online at the PRC website: <https://www.peoplesrc.org/give-food-or-goods/>.
Many thanks to all who continue to support PRC’s mission to meet our communities’ needs, neighbor to neighbor.

**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 John and Alicia Rasnic to celebrate their 53rd wedding anniversary and from Julie Storey to celebrate Dana and Eric’s birthdays. **A joy and a concern:** -Alan Storey, the pastor who has led the church in South Africa where Floyd Rogers worships, is retiring after many years of leadership. We pray with gratitude for Alan Storey’s ministry, and we also pray for the transition in leadership in that congregation and for Rev. Alan’s 3-point charge.
**We give thanks to God for joys:**
 - Barb Zink has a new great-grandson, Noah Andrew, born September 8
 - Prayers of joy and thanksgiving on the marriage of the Birchalls’ granddaughter Samantha Dearing and Justin Walters.
  - Linda Wolf Jeziorski, as she continues to heal
**We pray for the whole world and our nation:**
 - We give thanks for the many years of service to our country given by Senator Dianne Feinstein, who died Thursday night. May her memory be a blessing.
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. This past weekend (September 23-24) there were 8 mass shootings (involving 4 or more victims), leaving 11 dead and 23 injured. Click on [data from the Gun Violence Archive](https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/reports/mass-shooting) to see the current national statistics for mass shootings. (In all gun-related incidents in our country in just one day – Sunday, September 24 – there were 122 shootings with 43 people killed and 105 injured.)
  - We pray for safety in our schools.
  - We pray for our nation as we continue to wrestle with race relations.
 - The people of Morocco following a devastating earthquake, and those of Libya following deadly floods
  - All who are affected by extreme weather conditions
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world
**Blessed are those who mourn:**
 - Sean Salins asks prayers for his sister and family on the passing of her daughter.
 - Susie Salins ask prayers for the family of Stewart Lapham, who passed last week.
  - The family of Dick Barten, who died last week
 - The family of Marj Cilley, who was the mother of Heidi Shierry’s friend, Paula
  - We pray for Steve Henkels and his family on the sudden death of his brother, Tom.
  - We pray for the family of Grace Van Beveren whose Service of Witness to the Resurrection was held at Southminster on August 26.
  - We pray for Joan and for the Koska sons and their families, mourning the loss of Ed.
  - 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:
*Please help us pray for your family and friends by updating your loved ones’ information with the church office. We support them and you in their journey.***
 - Sandy Lopata’s friend, Rebecca Moeckler, who continues to battle pancreatic cancer
  - We continue to pray for: BobbyKae B., Tom G., Jan M., Nikki M., Tim O., Helen S., Marta S., 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:**  - Maykel Bautis Solomon, seeking prayers for moving his family to Oregon under the new government humanitarian parole program
 - Kathy Sanders requests prayers for Miles, an 8th grader who has a tumor on his spine. He will need surgery, which is complicated because of a heart condition.
  - Edem, our friend in Ghana, who is searching for a job
  - Pain relief for Paul Anderson
  - Susie Salins, recovering from a surgical procedure. She is doing well but dealing with a 12-week-long total recovery.
  - Jim Smith, recovering at Brookdale
  - We pray for those who are in hospice care: Gail Johnston at Du Page Convalescent Center (If you send a card to Gail, please mail it to Andrea Schmidt, whose address is in the directory.); Tim O’Neal, friend of Heidi Shierry and Barb Doppelt, in care at home and nearing the end of his life on earth; former President Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn.
**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 October, 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: 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, October 1 – World Communion Sunday**
**Order Jubilee Bucks gift cards** by emailing bobbifrey@aol.com before 9:00 p.m.
 **Worship and communion** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook;
 **Dedication of the Peace and Global Witness** Offering
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the service; serving Breads
 of the World
 **Staff Meeting** at 10:45 a.m. in the Pastor’s Office
 **Adult Ed.** at 11:15 a.m. either online via Google Meet or by joining Blair
 in person in the McHenry Parlor/Library **No Youth activity**
**Monday, October 2 – Pastor’s Sabbath
Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.
**Tuesday, October 3
 Mission Ministry** meets at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, October 4
 October *Dialog* goes out
 Women’s Breakfast** at 8:30 a.m. at Danby’s Station **Pastor’s Bible Study** meets at 4:00 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
**Thursday, October 5** Hawthorn Garden Club will park in our lot and carpool to another site
**Friday, October 6**
 A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Next** **Sunday,** **October 8**
 **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 online via Google Meet or by joining Blair
 in person in the McHenry Parlor/Library **No Youth activity**

**Bearing Fruit – October 1, 2023**

**World Communion Sunday and the Peace and Global Witness Offering**

One of the important images of our Lord’s Table is that many shall come from the east and the west, the north and the south, and sit at table with the Lord. Today our Lord’s Table has bread from around the world reminding us that God’s people are all one in Christ. In addition, today we are using liturgical elements that were composed by other Christians from around the world.

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. Paul tells us that we are to “discern the body” when we partake of Holy Communion, mindful that we note our relationship to all our brothers and sisters in Christ in the celebration. (I Cor. 11:21). Therefore, World Communion Sunday is also a time when we receive the annual [Peace and Global Witness Offering](http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/peace-global.html) as a way of continuing the ancient Christian practice of sharing what we have with sisters and brothers. World Communion Sunday is a gift of the Presbyterian Church to the larger ecumenical church. The first celebration occurred at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1933 where Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr served as pastor.

Dr. Kerr first conceived the notion of World Communion Sunday during his year as moderator of the General Assembly (1930). Dr. Kerr’s younger son, the Rev. Dr. Donald Craig Kerr, who was sixteen in 1933 relates it was an attempt to bring churches together in a service of Christian unity—in which everyone might receive both inspiration and information, and above all, to know how important the Church of Jesus Christ is, and how each congregation is interconnected one with another.

The concept spread very slowly at the start. People did not give it a lot of thought. It was during the Second World War that the spirit caught hold, because we were trying to hold the world together. World Wide Communion symbolized the effort to hold things together, in a spiritual sense. It emphasized that we are one in the Spirit and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Celebration of World Wide Communion Sunday was adopted as a denominational practice in the Presbyterian Church (US) in 1936. Churches in other denominations were invited to celebrate with us from the beginning, but it wasn’t until 1940 when the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches (a predecessor body of the National Council of Churches) promoted extending the celebration to a number of churches around the world that the practice became widespread. Today, World Communion Sunday is celebrated around the world, demonstrating that the church founded on Jesus Christ peacefully shares God-given goods in a world increasingly destabilized by globalization and global market economies based on greed.
 -(Office of Theology and Worship PCUSA)

In all of this we bear the fruit of God’s love.