**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**20th Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 15, 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 “Be a Cheerful Giver!”

 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Stewardship

  Prelude

 Lighting the Candles (Psalm 42:1)

**As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.**

[Please remain seated while singing these songs.]

 Hymn: *City of God*  p. 8, gold supplement

 Hymn: *10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)*  p. 2, gold supplement

 Call to Worship

 Leader: Faith embraces personal devotion and action.

 **People: We devote our hearts, minds, and hands to our faith in the living God.**

 **All:** **Loving all in the name of our Lord, let us worship God.**

 6 Hymn: *319* *Men of Faith, Rise Up and Sing (Shout to the North)*

 7 Prayer of Confession: (unison) (Romans 12:12)

**Lord God, we confess that we are tempted to despair at the state of the world. If not that, we try to avoid thinking about the suffering of others. Even so, you came to us in Jesus Christ teaching love and grace for a world in deep need, even as our own hearts are in deep need of your mercy. Through the Holy Spirit alive in each of us, enable us to truly “Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.” 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 (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 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:  Ruth Pew Bible, p. 241 (O.T.)

 Matthew 1:1-6a Pew Bible, p. 1 (N.T.)

 Sermon: “Call for Community”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)
 from *The Confession of Belhar* (10.2-10.3a)

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another[.]**

 Hymn 819: *Be Still My Soul*

 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: *Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me*  Robinson/Thompson/Farren

 \**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 35: *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

 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: Jessica Parks
Greeter/Fellowship: Anny Davidson
Musicians: Tom Anderson, Southminster choir
Worship Assistant: David Kozich

Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are given by Donna Marton for her brother Richard’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 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: “Beloved Saints”** – 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.)

**Also Wanted:  Photos of Your Cheerful Faces**

October is Stewardship Month. Beginning today, our Photo Stories all 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**:  Our study of Matthew's gospel continues today at 11:15 a.m. in the Parlor or online via this link: <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>. Need a lift? Consider this line from Matthew: “Come to me all who are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Can’t beat that!

**Men!**  Be sure to have this coming Saturday, October 21, in your calendar for our next men’s get-together. Because of the change of date for the Fall Clean-Up, our group will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the Parlor/Library, before the clean-up work begins. Please bring a couple of bucks for the coffee and donuts.

**Youth**:  Let Blair know which of the All-Church events in October you will be attending: the **Stewardship Potluck** today? **Trunk or Treat**, Oct. 29? (We will add a special SPYish bit to the Trunk or Treat event.)
Also, **Sleep Out Saturday** is coming November 4, so be sure to let Blair know if you are participating. We will have a fun and adventurous time, including the rally at COD, and, hopefully, a visitor.

**From Blair and Mission**:
**Sleep Out Saturday:** This annual fundraiser for Bridge Communities Transitional Housing Program involves a group of folks sleeping outside on the church grounds the night of November 4th. You can support Bridge's program and help homeless families get off the streets by sleeping out (contact Blair N to do that) or by sponsoring sleeper (see the donation page at <https://www.bridgecommunities.org/sleep-out-saturday/group129>. ***Note that we need an adult woman to join our sleepers for this event****.* If interested, talk to Blair N.

**From the Stewardship Ministry:**
**Hot Dog!** You are invited to **Stewardship Ministry’s Hot Dog Potluck Supper** today 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 Property Ministry**
Everything we had planned for our **Fall Clean-Up Day** has been postponed to Saturday, October 21, because of all the rain this weekend! See Pastor Wendy’s Bearing Fruit at the end of this bulletin for all the details.

**From the Christian Ed. Ministry: Trunk or Treat!**
A Reminder: The Christian Ed. Ministry is hosting a Trunk or Treat event in our parking lot on Sunday, October 29, from 2-4 PM. We hope you are planning on coming! It’s not too late to host a trunk (sign up in the narthex). If you are hosting a trunk, remember we advise ***individually wrapped treats with no nuts or nut products, gum, or hard candy. Small trinkets would be okay, too.*** This activity 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. We’ll see you at Trunk or Treat!

**From the Worship Ministry:
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.

**From the Mission Ministry:**

Thank you all for your contributions to the **Peace and Global Witness Offering**, which we dedicated last Sunday, World Communion Sunday. We raised $1,085! 75% of the funds go to programs initiated the Presbyterian Church USA at the national and regional levels to promote peace and justice. The remaining quarter of those funds, or $271.00, is allocated to a local non-profit organization of our choice that is working to promote peace and justice, and this year it will be the Criminal Justice Committee of the DuPage branch of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People). This committee is focused on building relationships with law enforcement and ways in which we can make the criminal justice system fairer.

We thank you, also, for all the new and gently-worn shoes you donated during September for **Jolly Old Soles**! We will have a final report on this collection soon.

**Women’s Circle – this Friday!**

Please join the women of the Presbyterian Women’s Circle this Friday, October 20, at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor. We will start with refreshments and devotions, then we’ll have a short business meeting, during which the signup sheet for creating fall arrangements (under the guidance of Linda Ellinghausen at the November meeting) will be passed around. Our program will be Kathy Davidson telling us about her European river cruise. ALL women are welcome!

**Glen Ellyn Interfaith Prayer Breakfast:** For many years now Southminster Presbyterian Church has been a leader in the interfaith conversation through the Glen Ellyn Interfaith Prayer Breakfast. Pastor Wendy invites you to be her guest at this year’s Interfaith Prayer Breakfast on Wednesday, October 25, 7:30-9:00 a.m. at the Abbington. Please RSVP to her by this Tuesday, October 17. If you like, you can form your own table by purchasing tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/glen-ellyn-prayer-breakfast-2023-tickets-723137482677?aff=ebdsshotherlink>. The featured speaker will be a young woman who escaped from Afghanistan, where the Taliban had her name on a wanted list; a network of people helped her find safe passage to the United States.

We are planning to have a **Prospective Members Brunch** after worship at 11:00 a.m. on November 12 in Fellowship Hall. Please contact Pastor Wendy if you would like to be included. You may call the church office: 630-469-9149.

**Jubilee Bucks:**
Thanks to all who ordered Jubilee Bucks gift cards this month. Our year-to-date total of “free” money earned from the sale of Jubilee Bucks is $1,337.22. Your next chance to order 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 Donna Marton for her brother Richard’s birthday
**We give thanks to God for joys:**
  - Linda Wolf Jeziorski, as she continues to heal
**We pray for the whole world and our nation:**
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. This past weekend (October 7-8) there were 5 mass shootings (involving 4 or more victims), leaving 3 dead and 27 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.
  - We pray for safety in our schools.
  - We pray for our nation as we continue to wrestle with race relations.
 - The people of Afghanistan and Morocco following devastating earthquakes, and those of Libya following deadly floods
  - All who are affected by extreme weather conditions
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world, especially Ukraine and Israel/Gaza
**Blessed are those who mourn:**
 - Linda Barten on the death of her mother
  - The family of Dick Barten
  - We continue to pray for the family of Grace Van Beveren
  - 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.***
  - We continue to pray for: BobbyKae B., Rod B., Tom G., Dean L., Jan M., Nikki M., Rebecca 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:** - Victor King is hospitalized at Good Sam
 - Those in need of direction and healing during big life changes
  - 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, has found a new job but now needs help finding an apartment
  - Pain relief for Paul Anderson
  - 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.); 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.

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 15**
 **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 **Stewardship Hot Dog Potluck Supper** at 5:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall **Monday, October 16 – Pastor’s Sabbath
Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.
**Tuesday, October 17
 Session** meets at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, October 18
 eNotes go out
 Pastor’s Prelude Bible Study** at 4:00 p.m. in the McHenry Parlor/Library
**Friday, October 20
 Women’s Circle** meets at 9:30 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Saturday, October 21** **Men’s Ministry and Fellowship** will meet earlier than originally planned! Come
 at 8:30 a.m. to McHenry Parlor/Library so we can meet before the clean-up
 work begins. **Rescheduled Fall Clean-Up Day** from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. We welcome your
 help for whatever amount of time you can contribute!
**Next** **Sunday,** **October 22**
 **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

**Bearing Fruit – October 15, 2023**

**Loving Without Words**

If someone asked where you worshiped, what might you say?

A likely follow upquestion would be, “Where is Southminster?”

One good answer would be, “Southminster is on Park Blvd. between Butterfield and Roosevelt, just up from Glenbard South High School. Have you noticed the church with the three crosses in front as you drive north toward Roosevelt?” A usual response is, “Oh yes, I have seen that while driving. It is beautiful.”

Southminster is beautiful inside and out! In fact, before we got the three crosses from the Petersen family, many people thought our grounds were a park, a green space. People have even picnicked on our lawn. The grounds are inviting and a way for us to share God’s love without words.

Our Property Ministry members faithfully serve up love without words. Much of what they do is behind the scenes, but what they do is important.

Though we have a weekly cleaning service, it can’t replace the work of loving hands and committed hearts to fine tune the work that needs to get done. If you drive around Glen Ellyn, you can see a number of landscaping companies and handy man trucks and Merry/McMaid cars. Just think, what would it cost our church family if we had to hire people to do all that work that our volunteers do? We would rather give that money to ministry and mission, so we need your help, regardless of age or gender.

Every fall and every spring the Property Ministry has a clean-up day. You are invited to share in this important work.

**When**? Anytime on Saturday, October 21, starting at 9:00 a.m. and lasting until 1:00 p.m. Stay as long or as short as you want. We will have a coffee break at 11:00. You can come for coffee and stay and help.

**Where**? At the church, where you can select your own task. Where might you lend a hand? Picking up walnuts? Oiling the pews?

**Why**? To tackle inside and outside projects, and to transition to colder weather.

**How**? With a spirit of helping to maintain God’s House, accompanied by good fellowship, refreshments, and a sense of satisfaction.

Volunteers can stay as long as they prefer. Choose to work indoors or out - we’ll have some tools and equipment here (You might want to bring your own work gloves.) and we’ll provide refreshments.

Thank you, Property members and all those who are willing to help. Participating in Clean-Up Saturday is yet another way we bear the fruit of God’s love, even without words.