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| We listen | We pass the peace | We read along | We give our offering of time, talent and treasure | We stand | We sing if we are at home | We pray | We respond | We participate  in the Word  with Children | We take com-munion |

(Kids – use your worship packet and the tools listed at the end of the bulletin to do all these things.)

**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**Baptism of the Lord**

**January 7, 2024**

**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.

**** 1 Gathering Music

 Our Photo Story today is “Baptismal Fonts and Baptistries.”

**** 2 Welcome and Announcements

3a Congregational Prayer of Dedication for the Christmas Offerings

**Holy God, the giver of life and all that is great and beautiful, we thank you for the gifts of talent, time, and resources, and particularly for the Christmas Joy and Local Mission Offerings. As we offer these gifts back to you, may they be used for your glory, both near and far. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, God with us. Amen.**

3b Prelude

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4a  Hymn 480: *Take Me to the Water* (all 4 verses)

4b Hymn 482: *Baptized in Water* (all 3 verses)

**** 5 Call to Worship

Leader: Do not fear, says the Lord; I am with you.   
 I have called you by name; you are mine.

**People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

Leader: When Jesus was baptized by John,   
 the Spirit of God rested on him like a dove.

**People: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

Leader: And the voice said: You are my beloved son;

**People: With you, my son, I am well pleased!**

**All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters!**

**** 6  Hymn 476: *Crashing Waters at Creation* (all 4 verses)

****

7 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved son. Keep us, your faithful children born of water and the Spirit, faithful in your service, and in our relationships that we may rejoice to be called children of God. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is both savior and Lord. Amen.**

(Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

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

Leader: As a voice from heaven said to Jesus,   
 so in Christ God speaks to us:

**People: You are my child and my beloved;   
 with you I am well pleased.**

**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!   
 Thanks be to God!**

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9 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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10 The Passing of the Peace

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11a Word with Children: Blair Baldwin

Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

****11b *Lord, Prepare Me (Sanctuary)*  (sing 2 times) Hymnal 701

**Lord, prepare me  
To be a sanctuary,  
Pure and holy,  
Tried and true.  
With thanksgiving  
I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for you.**

CCLI Song # 24140

John W. Thompson | Randy Scruggs

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****12 Prayer for Illumination

13 Scripture Lessons: Mark 1:9-13 Pew Bible, p. 34 (N.T.)

Mark 1:14-20 Pew Bible, p. 35 (NT.)

14 Sermon: “God With Us and For Us”

****15 Singing What We Believe

Hymn 481: *I Believe in God the Father* (all 3 verses)

**I believe in God the Father, merciful and mighty Lord,**

**Maker of the earth and heaven, whom we worship and adore.**

**And in Jesus Christ the Son, only Savior, sovereign one,**

**By the Holy Spirit given, born of Mary, blessed virgin.**

**Under Pilate, Jesus suffered, faithful to his final breath.**

**He was crucified and buried, and descended into death.**

**From the grave he did arise; he ascended through the skies;**

**Now enthroned with God in heaven, he will judge the dead and living.**

**I believe in God the Spirit, and the church in every place;**

**Saints in glorious communion, all forgiven, full of grace;**

**Flesh and blood will live again; life in Christ will never end.**

**Holy Spirit, Son and Father: I will praise your name forever.**

Tune: Public domain

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****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.]

17 Offertory Anthem:  *Celtic Communion*  arr. Mark Hayes

****18 \**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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19 Prayer of Dedication

Service of the Lord’s Supper

20 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.]

21 Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

**** Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People**: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

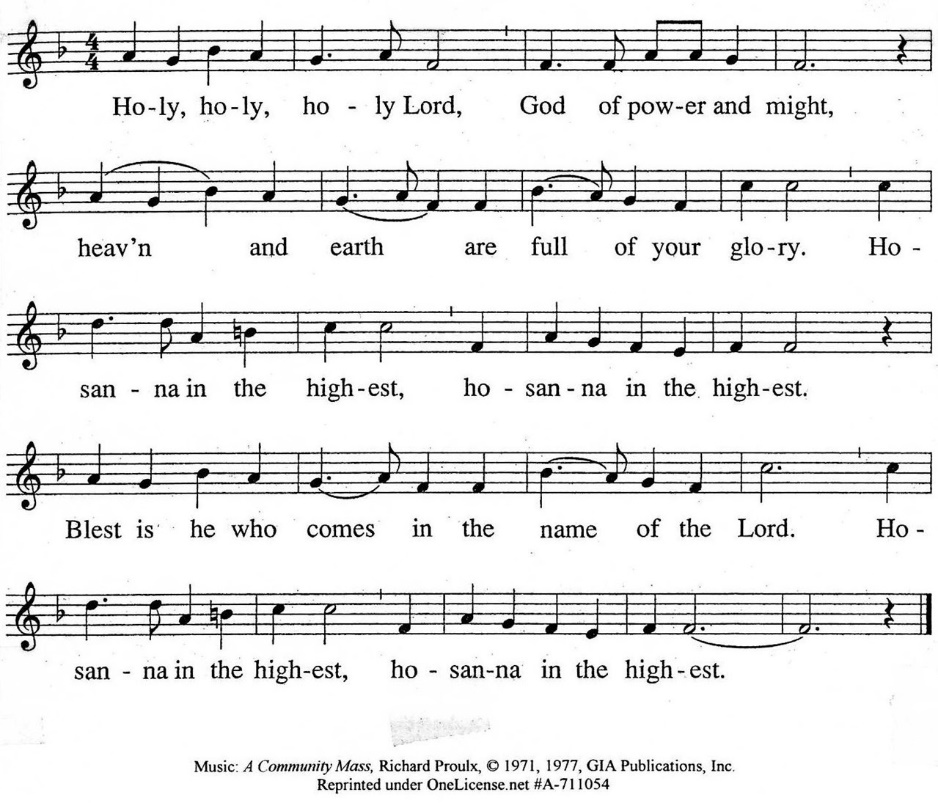
**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

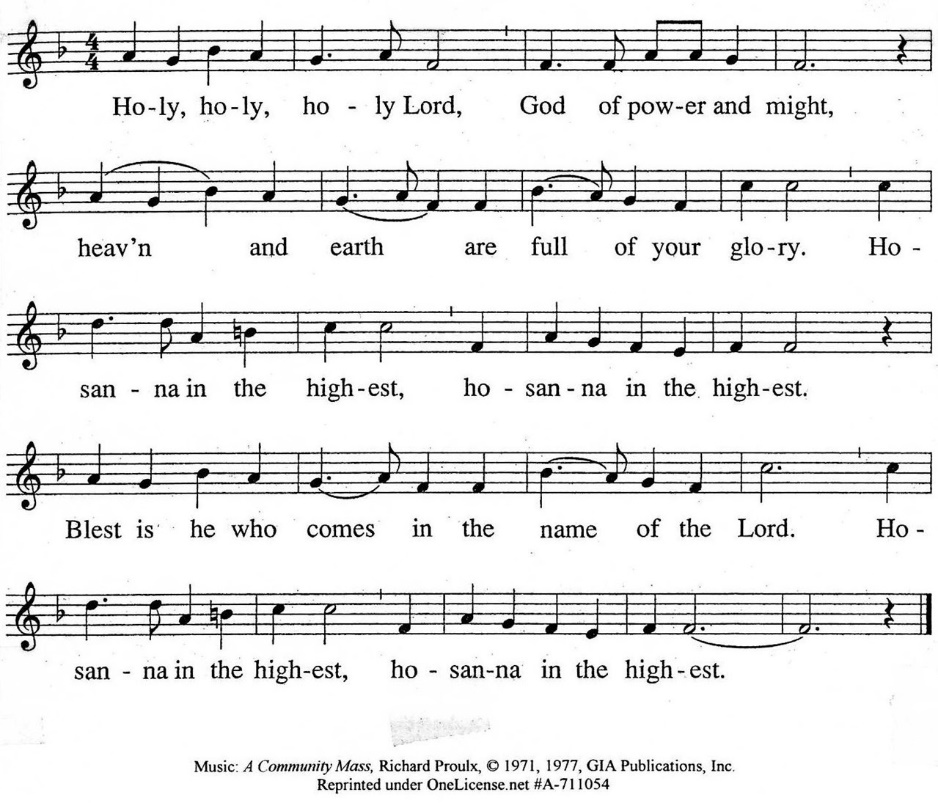
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

22 *The minister gives thanks…*

****23 The congregation responds by singing together:

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24 *The minister continues the Thanksgiving…*   
 “*Together we proclaim the great mystery of faith:”*

**** **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…*

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Description automatically generated** 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

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Description automatically generated** Communion

25 Communion Music:  *Morceau Lyrique*

*We all will receive communion by coming to the Lord’s Table. 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.   
Also with Christian love the elements were prepared with strict attention to health concerns.  
You are invited to partake of the prepackaged communion juice and wafer if you choose; the wafer is not gluten free.*

**A picture containing wrench, tool

Description automatically generated**26 Prayer after Communion

****27 Hymn 485: *We Know that Christ Is Raised* (all 4 verses)

****28 Charge and Benediction

Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,

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

****29 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgist: Terry Kline

Deacon Greeter/Fellowship: Barb Zink

Musicians: Tom Anderson, Southminster Choir; Lucy and Eleanor Archbold

Worship Associate: David Kozich

Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The poinsettia today is shared with a prayer for peace in 2024.

**Good Morning to our Children:**

To complete all the activities in this worship folder you will need:

* ears to hear
* a mouth to sing
* hands to fold
* eyes to read
* a brain to think
* a worship kit including:
  + something to color with – crayons, markers or colored pencils
  + something to write with, like a pen or pencil
  + something to write on, like a table or a clipboard
  + scissors and tape

If you would like a worship kit for your child, please contact Pastor Wendy ([wendy@southminsterpc.org](mailto:wendy@southminsterpc.org)) and one will come to you!

**A Guide to Our Worship Symbols**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Ear | **We listen**: “Basically, the sermon is God’s dynamic, eternal Word spoken to us in such a way that we might hear what God has to say to us and be encouraged to follow the Lord  in faith. | |
| Dove | **We pass the peace**: “…We greet one another with the peace of Christ as common forgiven sinners. As we are forgiven, so we forgive. This is also a good time to reconcile with those family members who drove us crazy trying to get to church on time, church members with whom we have tensions, or people we're not so happy to see.” | |
| Open book | **We read along**: “God’s Word comes to us in many ways—through scripture, special music, sermons. Listen for God's eternal Word addressing you with good news about the Lord’s love for you and all people.” | |
|  | **We give our offering of time, talent, and treasure**: “This is the time when we give ourselves, all that we are, and all that we have, to God’s service. As a symbol of what is of value to us, we make an offering… to promote the gospel.” | |
| Man with kid | **We stand**: “We stand as a way of saying, “This is where I stand,” and as a way of standing in continuity with the people of God of ages past…” | |
| Music notes | **We sing**: “…We sing praise with hearts and minds (even if that's a little out of tune), just enjoying God for who God is. As we open up the pathways of breath to sing praise, we make space for the Spirit breath to fill us.” Even if we simply listen and read the words, we are praising God. | |
|  | | **We pray**: The first thing we do is pray—for our world, the church, other people, and ourselves. The prayer is our prayer as a church. One person may pray for us, but we are all praying together as one in our hearts, continuing Christ’s ministry of prayer for the world.” |
| Pencil | | **We respond**: Responding by writing or drawing helps us remember what we are hearing and is a chance to express our beliefs. |
| Children | | **We participate in the Word with Children**: It is called the Word WITH Children because the whole church is invited to listen with the fresh, faith-filled ears of children to the proclaimed message. |
|  | | **We share communion.** The Lord’s Supper not only nourishes, it also teaches, and we learn about communion by participating in it. Even very young children can sense that the Lord’s Supper is a special meal to be received with respect, and they can share a deep sense of belonging to the forgiving, accepting, loving community of the church. Parents or guardians may decide when their children have reached this point and are ready to celebrate communion. |

Quotations for our Worship Symbols Guide are taken from *Our Order of Worship* by Teresa Lockhart Stricklen, Associate for Worship, Presbyterian Church (USA), found at <https://www.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/theologyandworship/pdfs/order_of_worship_brochure_dec_2008.pdf>. Edited.