**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 14, 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.

 Gathering Music

Our Photo Story today is “Meet Ivy and Wyatt.”

 Welcome and Announcements

 Lighting the Candles (John 13:34)

**“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.”**

  Improvisational Prelude

[Please remain seated while singing the opening songs.]

 Hymn 69: *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky* Refrain only *(Here I Am. Lord)*

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

 Call to Worship  (Ephesians 4:4-6)

 Leader: There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called
 to the one hope of your calling,

 **People: One Lord, one faith, one baptism,**

 **All:** **One God and Father of all, who is above all
 and through all and in all.**

 Hymn 375: *Shall We Gather at the River* (verses 1, 3, 4)

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**God, we are all both saints and sinners. You see us as your beloved children, washed and born new by your mercy, living in the blessings of your grace. In all that we have done wrong, forgive us, please. Continue to mold us more and more into the image of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of God’s Grace/The Good News of Jesus Christ (1 John 4:7-21)

 Leader: Beloved, let us love one another.

 **People: Love is from God.**

 Leader: Whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

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

 **because God is love. Alleluia!**

 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: The Sacrament of Baptism

 Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

***Wyatt David Hume, born March 4, 2023,
child of Kevin and Linsey Hume***

***Ivy Grace Van Beveren. Born July 28, 2022,
child of Ian Van Beveren and Dionna Jenkins-Reaves***

 Meaning of Baptism

 Presentation

 Wyatt’s family: parents Kevin and Linsey; grandparents Michael Hume, David and Lynda Opl;
 godmothers Linda Hume and Mallory Sterling; godfather Bradley Opl

 Ivy’s family: parents Ian and Dionna; grandparents Delores and Jerome Collins, Stephanie
 Van Beveren; godparent Donita Reaves

 Representing Southminster: Elders Chris Kozich and Sarah Allen

 Deacons Sue Knisely and Angela Smith

 Questions to Parents

 Questions to Congregation and Godparents [The congregation will please stand.]

 Profession of Faith/Renunciations

 Apostles’ Creed (unison)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

[Please be seated.]

 Prayer of Thanksgiving over the Water

 Leader: The Lord be with you.

 **People: And also with you.**

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

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

(prayer continues)

 Congregational Prayer (unison)

**O God, who called us from death to life: we give ourselves to you, and, with the church through all ages, we thank you for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

 The Sacrament of Baptism

 Welcome

 Leader: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

 **People: With joy and thanksgiving**

 **we welcome you into Christ's church**

 **to share with us in his ministry,**

 **for we are all one in Christ.**

 Baptism Response: *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*  (verses 1-4)Hymnal 727

 *(The Servant Song)*

Verse 1

**Will you let me be your servant,**

**Let me be as Christ to you?**

**Pray that I might have the grace to**

**Let you be my servant too.**

Verse 2

**We are pilgrims on a journey;**

**We’re together on the road.**

**We are here to help each other**

**Walk the mile and bear the load.**

Verse 3

**I will hold the Christ-light for you**

**In the night time of your fear.**

**I will hold my hand out to you,**

**Speak the peace you long to hear.**

Verse 4

**I will weep when you are weeping;**

**When you laugh I'll laugh with you.**

**I will share your joy and sorrow**

**Till we've seen this journey through.**

CCLI Song # 72673

Richard Gillard

Words: 1977 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing; Music: 1977 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

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 Congregational Prayer (unison)

**God our Father, we praise you for calling us to be a servant people and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our number this brother and sister in faith. Together, may we live in your Spirit and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.**

 Gifts from the Family of God

As children leave the sanctuary for Sundays school:

 *Lord, Prepare Me (Sanctuary)*  (sing 1 time) 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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 Prayer for Illumination

 Scripture Lessons:  Mark 2:1-12 Pew Bible, p. 36, N.T.)

 Mark 2:13-17 Pew Bible, p. 36 (N.T.)

 Sermon: “Calling All Sinners”

15 would be affirmation, but it’s part of the baptism

 Hymn 649: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*  (all 5 verses)

 Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

 Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

 **People**: **hear our prayers.**

**The Lord’s Prayer:** (unison)

**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: *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*  (Hymnal 488)

 \**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 475: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (all 3 verses)

 Charge and Benediction

 Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,

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

 Improvisational Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden
Liturgist: Francine Long
Greeter/Fellowship: Lynn Ferino
Music: Tom Anderson
Worship Assistant: David Kozich

Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today celebrate the baptisms of Wyatt Hume and Ivy Van Beveren.

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 we also have a cake in honor of our newly baptized children. Please sign the picture frames for them in the narthex.

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 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. We have a very specific request coming up:
 **January 28: “Meet Our Church Officers”** - Elders and deacons, we want photos of
 you—with your families and pets, enjoying a hobby, on vacation… Help church
 members get to know you a bit! Send your photos by Thursday, January 25.

**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.

Watch this space and the weekly eNotes for future photo requests.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Education**: Sunday after worship, a group of interesting and engaged folks gather in the Library/Parlor to study the Bible together. Join us at 11:15 a.m. for edification, conversation, and some laughter. We are studying Malachi for a few more weeks, then we return to Matthew's gospel. If you’re not at church, you can join us online at [<https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>](https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye).

**Men of Southminster**: Wednesday, January 17, we are getting together at 7:30 p.m. for a dessert fellowship. We are going to hear a couple of stories, get a sugar buzz on, and get to know each other better. Watch for an email from Blair N for more details.

**Youth**: Our next **Pizza & Games** is Jan. 21. We might play outside in the snow if the snow cooperates, so watch for a text about whether to wear snow clothes. Also, Feb. 25 will be our **Chili Cook-Off** after church, so have that on the calendar.

 **Meet the artists today!**The art currently on display in our main hallway gallery features works by artists from the College of DuPage Continuing Education program. Enjoy the variety of works as you pass through the hallway and make plans to meet and talk with the artists at our **Artists’ Reception** this afternoon, January 14, from 3:00-4:00.

 **From the Worship Ministry:**The **flower chart** for the first half of 2024 is posted in the Narthex. If unable to sign up at church, contact Sarah Allen (ridesrowdy@aol.com) with your requests. The cost of flower arrangements will stay at $35 for 2024. If you are donating your flowers, mark the chart with an X. Deacons deliver flowers that are donated.
The flower chart for July to December 2024 will be posted after Easter.

Our next **Worship Ministry meeting** will be this Thursday, January 18, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library**From the Mission Ministry**:
***Luminaria Sunday:*** We will have Luminaria Sunday on February 25. On that Sunday, as in the past, we will honor and remember those touched by cancer. Luminaria bags will light the sanctuary during the worship service. Names of those remembered and honored will be read during the Prayers of the People.

Luminaria bags will be available for a $10 donation to the American Cancer Society for each person honored or remembered. Checks will be accepted from January 28 through February 11. Please provide your check, **made out to the American Cancer Society**, by February 11. Please print the name(s) of those you wish to honor (those living who have cancer or have had cancer) and those remembered (those who had cancer and are now deceased). For each name, please indicate if the person is to be honored or remembered. Example: “John Jones, remembered, $10. Jane Smith, honored, $10. Total: $20.” Then submit your check with the names to those providing the bags on Sunday mornings at church or mail your check to Southminster Presbyterian Church, 680 S. Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. Luminaria bags will be prepared for each person so honored or remembered.

**Presbyterian Readers: Discussing a classic!**
Presbyterian Readers will meet this Wednesday, January 17, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom to discuss a classic: *The Innocents Abroad* by Mark Twain. Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on January 17:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86861724721?pwd=TE0yYXZGZUtUNkdvYWh4UEhaTFc0dz09>
Meeting ID: 868 6172 4721 Passcode: 600865

**Women’s Circle**

Please join us in the parlor THIS Friday, January 19, at 9:30 a.m. for a program by Angela Smith. After devotions, a short business meeting, and (of course!) refreshments, Angela will talk about her trip in the Danube River Region and Prague. ALL women are welcome.

**And in February: The Purse Auction!**

Come join us for a fun-filled Purse Auction on Sunday, February 4, 1:30-4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. There will be many laughs, refreshments, and fellowship.

A purse collection box is in the coatroom. We also need small donations to put inside the purses.

**Jubilee Bucks:**
Thank you for your orders last Sunday, our first order date of 2024. We earned $171.56 in “free” money.
Your next chance to order will be February 4. (Start thinking about Valentine’s Day!)
 **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, please send an update to the office once in a while. Thank you! Pastor Wendy**

**Joys and Concerns**  **The flowers today** celebrate the baptisms of Wyatt David Hume and Ivy Grace Van Beveren. **We give thanks to God for joys:**
  - John D, who has undergone months of treatments for oral cancer - prayers of thanksgiving for new test results showing that he is now in full remission, and also prayers for continued healing.
  - Linda Wolf Jeziorski, as she continues to heal
 - Nikki Mendoza, who has graduated to regular scans
 - Marta Sundquist. who has enough red blood cells to receive treatment
**We pray for the whole world and our nation:**
  - Pray for our President and our legislative and judicial bodies
 - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. In the first 7 days of this year, there were 6 mass shootings (involving 4 or more victims), leaving 5 people dead and 30 injured. Go to [data from the Gun Violence Archive](https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/reports/mass-shooting) to see current statistics for mass shootings in this country.
  - We pray for our nation as we continue to wrestle with race relations.
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world, especially Ukraine/Russia, Israel/Gaza, the Sudan, Congo, Syria and Iran/ISIS
**Blessed are those who mourn:**
 - The Schmidt family on the sudden death of Parin’s Aunt Ruth Thome
  - 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 (who died a year ago, January 10, 2023) and especially Deb, Jessica, and Megan and their families
**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.***
 - Meagan Severson, friend of the Boden-Nelsons, who is beginning cancer treatment
  - Tricia Smith’s sister, Betty Rupley
 - Lanny’s friend Dean L, who is going bi-weekly for radiation and chemo
 - We continue to pray for: Bobby B. (Wendy Boden), Frank B., Rod B (Katie Boston) Tom G., Frank L., Jan M., Rebecca M., Tim O., Helen S (Shierry), Gerry S., and others we name in our hearts.
 - Beverly W., Gretchen’s sister in law, who has chosen not to continue treatment  **We pray for all who are recovering or dealing with mental or physical health or other challenges:** - Prayers for Joan Koska, recovering from cataract surgery, and for all those recovering from surgery
 - Prayers for all who have Covid
 - For Paul Anderson and all those who are experiencing chronic pain.
 - For Faith and others who are depressed
  - Ann Anderson asks prayers for Dan, who is on dialysis. Pray that his heart and liver function well, that fluid doesn’t build up, and that he doesn’t need a heart transplant.
  - Heidi Shierry’s cousin, Bailey
  - Those looking for meaningful employment
 - 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.
**We pray for the Jeremiah 29 discernment task force and all of us as we 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 January, call Elise Henkels (630-740-0473). 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.

**Regular 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, January 14**
 **Worship with the Sacrament of Baptism** 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
 **Confirmation** meets at 11:15 a.m. in the Pastor’s office **Artists’ Reception** from 3:00-4:00 p.m. in the hallway gallery and narthex
**Monday, January 15 – Pastor’s Sabbath**
**Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.
**Tuesday, January 16
 Barb will be out of the office
 Session** meets at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, January 17
 eNotes** will go out
 **Pastor’s Prelude Bible Study** at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Lois Stevenson  **Presbyterian Readers** meet at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
 **Cuba Mission Team Dinner** at 7:00 p.m. at Sue Knisely’s **Men of Southminster Dessert Fellowship** at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Thursday, January 18
 Worship Ministry** meets at 6:00 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library **Choir rehearsal** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary **Friday, January 19**
 **PW Circle** meets at 9:30 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Next** **Sunday,** **January 21**
 **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
 **Confirmation** meets at 11:15 a.m. in the Pastor’s office **Youth: Pizza & Games** from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

**Bearing Fruit – January 14, 2024**

**The Sacraments of the Family of God**
The early Church, following the direction of Jesus, took three primary material elements of life — water, bread, and wine — to become basic symbols of offering life to God as Jesus had offered his life. Being washed with the water of Baptism, Christians received new life in Christ and presented their bodies to be living sacrifices to God. Eating bread and drinking wine or fruit of the vine, they received the sustaining presence of Christ, remembered God’s covenant promise, and pledged their obedience anew.

“The Reformed tradition, which Presbyterians are members of, understands Baptism and the Lord’s Supper to be Sacraments, instituted by God and commended by Christ. Sacraments are signs of the real presence and power of Christ in the Church, symbols of God’s action. Through the Sacraments, God seals believers in redemption, renews their identity as the people of God, and marks them for service.” (Directory for Worship, W-1.3033)

The body of Christ is one, and Baptism is the bond of unity in Christ. As they are united with Christ through faith, Baptism unites the people of God with each other and with the church of every time and place. Barriers of race, gender, status, and age are to be transcended. Barriers of nationality, history, and practice are to be overcome. In Baptism we belong to God and one another.

Today we will be twice blessed because we are baptizing two children of our congregation: Wyatt David Hume, born March 4, 2023, and Ivy Grace Van Beveren, born July 28, 2022.

In Baptism we are united to Christ as members of the Body, his Church. In Communion we share and give thanks for our salvation in Christ. Both Baptism and Communion are “marks of the church,” vital signs of the worldwide church’s identity, mission, and ministry. We are one community of faith, no matter our particular branch of Christian tradition, around the world and through time. Our Sacraments are “gifts of God for the people of God.” In Baptism and Communion, we have a visible, tangible experience of God’s grace and goodness. We seek to love God, neighbor, one another, and even stretch to love enemies. One way to think about Baptism and Communion is that they are fuel for faith as we seek to bear the fruit of God’s love into the world.

The family of God stretches through all time and place, back to the time of the institution of the Sacraments by our Lord Jesus Christ and around the world.