**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**First Sunday in Lent**

**February 18, 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 “Presidents Day (Washington and Lincoln).”

Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

Lighting the Candles (John 1:5)

**“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”**

Improvisational Prelude

[Please remain seated while singing the opening songs.]

Hymn: *I Am Not There Yet* (verse 1)pg. 22, gold worship supplement

Hymn: *I Surrender All* (all verses)pg. 27, gold worship supplement

Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus calls us to be his disciples;

**All:** **We take up our cross and follow him.**

Hymn 166: *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* (all verses)

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Merciful God, Jesus Christ was tempted in every way, yet he was without sin. We have not been that faithful. We have hungered for things that do not satisfy. We don’t trust in your care for us. Even so, you give us mercy in our weakness and continue to offer us grace beyond measure. Restore in us such love and trust that we may walk in your ways and delight in doing your will. We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

(Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

Declaration of God’s Grace/The Good News of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:34)

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

**People: Only Christ and Christ died for us!**

Leader: Christ rose for us!

**People: Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

Response: *Kyrie* pg. 1, gold worship supplement

**Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

**Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

**Christe, Christe eleison.**

**Christe, Christe eleison.**

**Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.**

**Kyrie, Kyrie eleison, eleison.**

(The words are Greek for *Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.*)

CCLI Song # 2691048

Antonin Leopold Dvorak | Ruth Elaine Schram

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The Passing of the Peace

Word with Children: (Blair Baldwin)

Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

As children leave the sanctuary:

*This Little Light of Mine*  (sing 1 time)

**This little light of mine,**

**I'm gonna let it shine.**

**This little light of mine,**

**I'm gonna let it shine.**

**This little light of mine,**

**I'm gonna let it shine;**

**Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

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Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons:  Mark 10:17-27 Pew Bible, p. 46, N.T.)

Mark 10:28-31 Pew Bible, p. 46, N.T.)

Sermon: “Jesus Loved Him”

Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)

from *The Confession of 1967* (PCUSA) [9.15, edited]

**God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of human minds. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals his love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful people. The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of his love.**

Hymn 726: *Will You Come and Follow Me* (all verses) *(The Summons)*

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: *Not the Wind, Blowing from the Heights*  Rimsky Korsakov

\**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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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication

Hymn 8: *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* (all verses)

Charge and Benediction

Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,  
 **People: For we are blessed to be a blessing!**

Leader:  The cross, **All:  We shall take it.**  
  Leader:  The bread, **All:  We shall break it.**  
  Leader:  The pain, **All:  We shall bear it.**  
  Leader:  The joy, **All:  We shall share it.**  
  Leader:  The Gospel, **All:  We shall live it.**  Leader:  The love, **All:  We shall give it.**  
  Leader:  The light, **All:  We shall cherish it.**  Leader:  The darkness, **All:  God shall perish it.**  Leader:  For Jesus’ sake. **All:  Amen.**

Improvisational Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden   
Liturgist: Pete Petersen  
Greeter/Fellowship: Barb Kocinski  
Music: Tom Anderson, David Kozich  
Worship Assistant: David Kozich  
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are for Deb Bohi with love from a friend.

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.  
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.

**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. Here are some opportunities coming up for you to share your photos:  
 February 25: “Carol McHaley’s Winter Photos” (no additional photos needed)  
 March 3: “**Celebrating Southminster’s anniversary; Photos from our Past**” –  
 Send photos by Thursday, February 29.  
  
**Send photos to our dedicated email address, used just for photos:**[PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org](mailto: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.   
  
  
**Notes from Blair Nelson:**    
**Adult Education**:  Join us in the Parlor/Library at 11:15 a.m. for our continuing study of Matthew’s gospel. To join us online, use this link: <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>.   
  
**Men of Southminster**:  This Wednesday, February 21, at 7:30 p.m. is another of our get-together-and-get-to-know-each-other events. Watch for an email asking critical questions, such as, do we want to eat while we meet, and, if so, what.     
  
**Youth**:  Join us today for **Pizza & Games** from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Bring your smile, your enthusiasm, and $5 for the meal. We will have some fun, food, and a deep thought or two. Plus, we’ll have to make some plans for our Chili Cook-Off next Sunday!  
  
**Chili (or Soup) Cook-Off**:  Southminster’s annual Chili/Soup Cook-Off is coming after worship on February 25. Got a good chili or soup recipe? Enter it to win the laurels. Please sign up in the Narthex if you plan to bring chili (or soup). Don’t cook? We also need people eager to eat! Plan to come, taste them all, and vote for your favorite! (Eaters, there is also a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for you – we’d like to know how many people to expect.) This is our first fundraiser for the 2024 Youth Summer Mission Trip.  
  
**Coats for Cold Folks**: Folks coming from warm countries are being bussed from the southern border into Chicago suburbs, including Glen Ellyn. They arrive without proper clothing for an Illinois winter. To help out, SPY (our Southminster Presbyterian Youth group) is collecting winter outerwear for all ages. We will be giving these to the folks at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, who have been distributing clothing as the buses arrive. If you have spare winter outerwear to donate, please drop it off in the bin in the coat room.     
**From the Mission Ministry:**

**One Great Hour of Sharing – a Special Offering during Lent**

For over seventy years, Presbyterians have participated in One Great Hour of Sharing during Lent and culminating on Easter. In a world where many of our brothers and sisters lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, education, and opportunity, the three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing supports three programs. These programs are Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. These all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance works to provide relief to those affected by natural or manmade disasters. The Presbyterian Hunger Program helps to provide food for the hungry. Self-Development of People helps provide resources to communities working to cast of the bonds of poverty and oppression.

Watch for envelopes to be available at church, or donate at any time by designating OGHS on your check. Please give generously.

**From the Easter Celebration Task Force:**

We are now collecting wrapped Easter candy for our community Easter Celebration. The candy should be small enough to fit inside a plastic Easter egg. ***No nuts, peanut butter, chewing gum, or hard candy, please.***

You can help! Join us in the Narthex after worship for about an hour to stuff candies and other items into plastic Easter eggs. Our stuffing dates will be today (February 18), plus March 3 and 10.  
  
  
**From the Worship Ministry**:

Easter is early this year, so it’s not too early to start thinking about **Easter flowers!** We would love to have at least **10 Easter lilies** (2 stem plants @ $32 each) and **10 pink azalea plants** (6” pots @ $28 each) to beautify the sanctuary on Easter. Sign up in the narthex or contact Sarah Allen (630-988-8231 or [ridesrowdy@aol.com](file:///C:\Users\Owner\Desktop\2020%20Pandemic%2001-28-22%20update\Dialog\February%202022\ridesrowdy@aol.com)); the deadline for orders is March 10. Checks should be made to SPC with “Easter flowers” on the memo line. Thanks to everyone who will help fill our sanctuary with color and beauty on Easter morning.

**Presbyterian Readers: “Read with us!”**

Presbyterian Readers will meet this Wednesday, February 21, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The February book is *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles. As a group, we have previously read and discussed Towles' other novels: *A Gentleman in Moscow* and *The Lincoln Highway*.

We’ll also need to choose books for the next couple of months.

Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting through this link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86861724721?pwd=TE0yYXZGZUtUNkdvYWh4UEhaTFc0dz09>  
Meeting ID: 868 6172 4721 Passcode: 600865

**Jubilee Bucks:**   
Thanks to all who order Jubilee Bucks. The church has earned $288.91 so far this year of “free” money from those orders! The next order date is March 3.

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)**:   
It is amazing how much food we donate each week to PRC! They are excited when our delivery is dropped off each Monday. This past year they served over 6,000 families! That is a 37% increase over the prior year and totaled over 73,000 grocery carts!!! This translated into over 4 million pounds of food! Your donations are very greatly appreciated!!!  
If you would like suggestions for what to give, visit the PRC website: <https://www.peoplesrc.org/give-food-or-goods/> or pick up a list of suggestions in the stand on the nametag shelf in the hallway – it’s printed on green paper.  
Many thanks to all who continue to support PRC’s mission to meet our communities’ needs, neighbor to neighbor.  
  
  
**A note from Barb:** **Have fun and help SCARCE**! A friend from my church volunteers at SCARCE and often has boxes of donated jigsaw puzzles that need to be assembled so they’ll know whether all the pieces are there. I have several puzzles in the church office (under the front edge of the desk). Take one home, assemble it, and then put a note on the box: “All pieces here” or “Pieces missing.” Then bring it back so I can return it to SCARCE. (They have other things they can do with puzzles that are missing pieces – using pieces for art projects, for instance, or simply recycling the cardboard.)  
  
  
**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** are for Deb Bohi with love from a friend  
**We give thanks to God for joys:**   
 - The Geneva High School Varsity Dance Team placed 10th in national competition. Lynn Ferino’s granddaughter, Tatem, is a member of the team.  
**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. On Wednesday this week (February 14), there were 3 mass shootings (involving 4 or more victims), including 4 students wounded at a high school in Atlanta and 1 person killed and more than 20 injured, including children, at the victory parade for the Super Bowl champion Kansas City Chiefs. 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. May we learn something new this Black History Month.  
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world  
**Blessed are those who mourn:**   
 - Remembering those affected by the shooting at NIU 16 years ago, in which 5 were killed and 18 wounded.  
 - The family and friends of Brian Chellios, who died unexpectedly   
  - For the families and friends of John Throckmorton (Pam Petersen’s father), Ruth Thome (Parin’s aunt), Grace Van Beveren, Ed Koska, Dan Bohi, and those we name in our hearts and hold dear.  
**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.***   
 - Successful surgery for Tricia Smith’s sister, Betty Rupley. She will continue with her cancer treatment.  
 - Marta Sundquist has been able to resume treatment.  
 - Glen Crest Middle School Band Director Katie Berry, who is recovering from brain cancer surgery  
  - We continue to pray for: Bobby B. (Wendy Boden), Frank B., Tom G., Dean L., Frank L., Jan M., Nikki M., Rebecca M., Tim O., Betty R., Gerry S., Meagan 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:**  - All during February, American Heart Month, we emphasize heart health and pray for a cure for heart disease.  
 - The Khouri family, friends of Derek Buckley, as they navigate their daughter’s illness  
 - Kurt Ellinghausen (son of Linda), having heart bypass surgery February 21, and for all who are going through surgeries/procedures  
 - Sandy Lopata asks prayers for Karin Formento, who will have bypass surgery on February 19.  
 - Sandy Phee asks prayers for Linda Talaga, who had a bad eye infection and is now blind in both eyes.  
 - Prayers for Rita Zapel’s friend Manny, who is returning to work after being off on disability  
  - Ann Anderson asks prayers for Dan, who is now stable at home  
 - Ian Anderson – prayers for a new (good) job soon, and prayers for all who are looking for meaningful employment  
  - For Paul Anderson and all those who are experiencing chronic pain.  
  - For Faith and others who are depressed  
  - Jim Smith, recovering at Brookdale, and for all who are recovering   
  - We pray for those who are in hospice care: Rod B (Katie Boston’s father); 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 February call Barb Zink (630-668-2387). You may call Pastor Wendy Boden on her cell or home phone (if she has shared the numbers with you) or leave a message for her at the church office: 630-469-9149. Email Wendy at [wendy@southminsterpc.org](mailto:wendy@southminsterpc.org). (Please note that she can only read email when she is in the office.) You may also call your deacon if you need help from the church.  
  
  
**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, February 18 – *1st Sunday in Lent*** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook  
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the service  
 **Easter egg stuffing** in the Narthex for about 1 hour following worship  
 **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  
**Monday, February 19 – Pastor’s Sabbath**   
**Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.   
**Tuesday, February 20**  
 **Staff calendar meeting** 3:00-3:15 p.m. in the Parlor/Library **Session** meets at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library  
 A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
**Wednesday, February 21  
 eNotes go out**  
 **Pastor’s Prelude Bible Study** at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Lois Stevenson   
 **Presbyterian Readers** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom  
 **Presbyterian Men’s Fellowship** at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library **Thursday, February 22  
 Choir rehearsal** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary **Friday, February 23**  
 A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
**Saturday, February 24**  
 **Luminaria bags** set up – 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary   
**Next** **Sunday,** **February 25 – *2nd Sunday in Lent, Luminaria Sunday*** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook  
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the service  
 **Chili/Soup Cook-off** in Fellowship Hall at 11:00 a.m.

**Bearing Fruit – February 18, 2024  
The Season of Lent at Southminster**

We begin our season of Lent today.There are six candles on the Lord’s Table, representing the six weeks until Easter, Resurrection Sunday. At the conclusion of our service, we will extinguish one candle for each Sunday we are in Lent, representing the journey we make with Christ to the cross. For those of you at home you may want to gather six candles for yourself while you watch the service at home.   
  
There are other ways that we will be observing Lent as a community of faith. One such way is through a **Lenten book club**. During Lent many at Southminster will be reading the book *When Church Stops Working: A Future for Your Congregation Beyond More Money, Programs, and Innovation*. It is an invitation to follow Christ rather than follow society or the next great idea. It is available on Kindle and audible, and a few paper copies are available in the narthex today, the first Sunday in Lent. Not all of us are readers, but Blair Nelson, our Minster of Youth and Adult Discipleship, has written study guides for each week of Lent to help us as we read. The study guides will be at the back of the bulletin each Sunday.  
  
Southminster has long supported One Great Hour of Sharing during Lent and hosting a community Easter Saturday Celebration. **One Great Hour of Sharing** has been a Presbyterian Lenten tradition since 1947, before Southminster was formed. That’s 77 years! In 1949, church leaders from several denominations joined Presbyterians to begin working together to promote this effort. That’s 77 years of American Christians working together to bless the world. That year major networks broadcast a show called “One Great Hour,” on Saturday, March 26, at 10 p.m. EST. The broadcast, featuring President Truman and popular musicians and actors of the time, closed with the request that people make a sacrificial contribution at their own place of worship the next morning. While there is no record of funds raised that day, it is estimated that over 75,000 churches participated.   
  
Our **Easter Saturday Celebration** welcomes the community to celebrate the good news of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Yes, there are crafts and an egg hunt, but there is also the sharing of the Christ’s story as well. Today in the narthex, we will begin to stuff eggs for the egg hunt. You can help! Please join us following worship, not only to have a cup of coffee but to stuff the plastic eggs for the hunt. Our stuffing dates will be February 18, March 3, and March 10. Additional dates will be announced, if needed, for egg stuffing or for preparing craft materials for the Easter Celebration.  
  
There are several other ways you can help us share the good news of Jesus Christ. We will need people to help set up for the event and break down afterward. People will be needed to staff the craft tables, welcome the community, and perhaps be a character in the Easter Bible Walk-Through.  
  
We are now collecting wrapped Easter candy for our community Easter Celebration. The candy should be small enough to fit inside a plastic Easter egg. ***No nuts, peanut butter, chewing gum, or hard candy, please.***  
  
Joining together to prayerfully read our Lenten Book, we bear the fruit of God’s love for one another. Supporting One Great Hour of Sharing and the Easter Saturday Celebration are two ways we bear the fruit of God’s love outside of our doors during the season of Lent.