**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**Palm/Passion Sunday**

**March 24, 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 “Palms and Feet.”

 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

 Lighting the Candles

 Proclamation of Entrance into Jerusalem: Mark 11:9-11 Pew Bible, p. 47, (N.T.)

 Leader: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

 **All: Hosanna in the highest!**

 Prayer of Entrance

 Improvisational Prelude

[Please remain seated while singing the opening song.]

 Hymn 197: *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna* (all verses)

 Call to Worship

 Leader: Hosanna, we cry, Lord, as you ride into the city,

 **People: Heralded as messiah, prophet, and preacher,**

 Leader: Carpenter becomes king.

 **People: Hosanna, we cry, Lord, as we remember!**

 **All: Hosanna! Hosanna!**

 Hymn 196: *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* (verses 1, 2, 3)

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Lord God, you came to us in Jesus Christ, and we are grateful, but we have held back making you the cornerstone of our lives. Be first in our lives; be the foundation and rock of our lives. Knowing that anything we build without you will not last. We seek you not only to guide us but to be our firm foundation. In the name of Jesus Christ, who is both Lord and savior, we pray. 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 11:1-11 Pew Bible, p. 47, N.T.)

 Mark 12:35-37 Pew Bible, p. 49, N.T.)

 Sermon: “Son of David”

 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 198: *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty! (*all 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 Anthem: *Hosanna in the Highest* Robert Lau

 \**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 518: *Your Only Son (Lamb of God)* (all verses)

 ***Please be seated for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.***

 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: Angela Smith
Greeter/Fellowship: Barb Kocinski
Music: Tom Anderson, Southminster Choir
Worship Assistant: David Kozich

Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are from Lanny Russell to celebrate grandson Ryan’s birthday.

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. Watch for upcoming opportunities to share your photos.

**Session has called the Annual Meeting of the Congregation to be held
today at the close of the worship service.**

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Education**:  Now that we have heard all of Mark, can we go back to Matthew’s gospel with more insight? Join us in the Parlor or online at 11:15 a.m. for our Adult Bible class’s study of Matthew. Use this link to join us online: <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>.

**Men of Southminster**: We gather for stories and fellowship on Wednesday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m. Join us if you can, and if you can’t stay tuned for a date that you can make. Contact Blair if you are ready to tell us your story and God’s part in it.

**Youth**:  No event today. Enjoy Spring Break. **Pizza and Games** return Apr. 7, and be thinking about skits and talent for the **Talent Show** coming Apr. 21.

**The Talent Show!** Southminster, you have **TALENT!** Whether it is music, comedy, balancing act (I can stand on one foot for up to—but not including—three seconds!), whirling dishes on the end of a stick, Yo-Yo tricks, high-speed Rubiks Cude solving, card shuffling, cat toe-nail clipping, singing while gargling, texting while singing, gargling while texting, or whatever your talent might be, sign it up on the Narthex bulletin board to enter it in our 2024 Talent Show on Sunday, April 21. Solo and group acts are accepted, so gather your friends and get the band back together!
**From the Mission Ministry:**

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

For 75 years, Presbyterians have participated in One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) 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, One Great Hour of Sharing supports three programs: 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.

Envelopes for the One Great Hour of Sharing offering are on the table at the entrance to the Sanctuary, or you may donate at any time by designating OGHS on your check. Please give generously. You may give through Easter Sunday; the offering will be dedicated April 7.

March Madness and **March Mission Madness** are going strong! How well will your bracket(s) do? Even if you aren’t one of the top finishers, the winners in the end are the missions and projects we support!
If you haven’t yet contributed your $15 per bracket (or more, if you feel like it!), please write a check to Southminster and add your bracket name(s) on the memo line so our treasurer can reconcile the contributions.

 **Repeat Boutique clothing collection**: During the entire month of April, we will collect gently-used clothing for Repeat Boutique, which is a facility that provides clothing to refugees who come to this country via World Relief. **They especially need children’s clothing**, but they can also use any gently-used adult clothing. Beginning the first Sunday of April, there will be a large box in the coat room in which you may deposit your donations.

**From the Worship Ministry**:
**Please join us for the rest of Holy Week**:
Thursday, March 28 – **Maundy Thursday**– worship service with communion at 7:30 p.m.
 (The choir will rehearse after the service.)
Friday, March 29 – **Good Friday: “Seven Last Words from the Cross”** – worship service
 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 30 – the **Easter Party** at 9:30 a.m. (see article below)
Sunday, March 31 – **Easter/The Resurrection of the Lord**! Worship with us at 9:30 a.m.

**From the Easter Party Task Force:**

The time for our community Easter Saturday Party is nearing, and we need some volunteers!

> Help us set up for the party today after worship (and the annual congregational meeting) - meet in Fellowship Hall
> Help us at the party - we need Easter egg hunt volunteers (to spread eggs), and Easter party helpers (help with crafts, help clean up)

Please let Chris Kozich know if you can help with these!

Also, please invite your friends, family, and neighbors to join the fun on Easter Saturday when we once again open the doors to the community to offer a family friendly Easter Party, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 30. The party begins with hands-on crafts and an interactive, walk-through Easter Story. We finish the morning with a gigantic Easter egg hunt.

If you are on Facebook, please consider sharing Southminster's Easter Party Facebook announcement to your own Facebook friends and also to your local groups that may include parents of younger children.

**Presbyterian Readers** will meet this Wednesday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Our March book is *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown. (Have you seen the movie? Now let’s talk about the book!) 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 $471.52 so far this year of “free” money from those orders! The next order date is April 7.

**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. Your donations are very greatly appreciated!!!

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.

**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 given by Lanny Russell to celebrate his grandson Ryan’s birthday.
**We give thanks to God for joys:**
 - From Tricia Smith: “My sister (Betty Rupley) has been told she is now cancer free. Praise God!”
 - Floyd Rogers had asked for prayers earlier this week for his sister, Beth, who was undergoing tests prior to having a cardioversion procedure. She did well and is back home and in good spirits.
 - Marta Sundquist had a clean MRI scan last week! “Clean” means there is a void where the tumor was but no blood supply feeding it, no new growth. She is done with chemo and will continue Optune and have regular MRIs. The next MRI will be May 30.
**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. Between March 1 and 17 there were 16 mass shootings (involving 4 or more victims), killing 20 people and wounding 74 others. 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
**Blessed are those who mourn:**
 - Rebecca Storey and her family on the death of her grandmother, Edna Miller
 - Katie Boston and her immediate and extended family on the death of her father, Rod Boehmer
  - 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.***
  - We continue to pray for: Bobby B., Frank B., Katie B., Tom G., Dean L., Frank L., Jean K., Jan M., Nikki M., Rebecca M., Tim O., Laura P., Gerry S., Meagan S., Beverly W., Shelayne, 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 those who have medical concerns and procedures
 - Barb Doppelt requests prayers for Jamie, a 43-year-old woman who is largely unresponsive following a massive stroke earlier this week. She will have a trach and feeding tube inserted so she can be moved to an acute care facility.
 - Continued prayers for the Khouri family, friends of Derek Buckley, and their daughter Isabella. She is home and on daily dialysis until they’re able to find a kidney donor.
 - Karin Formento, who will have heart surgery-related surgery on March 25
 - Oaklen, a grandchild of a friend of Tricia Smith, who has birth defects
 - Sandy Phee asks prayers for Linda Talaga, who had a bad eye infection and is now blind in both eyes.
  - Ann Anderson asks prayers for Dan as he seeks sound medical advice re his heart condition
 - 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 continue prayers for those in hospice care: Shirley Johnson, grandmother of Nalani, Roxane, and Cyrus Johnson and stepmother of Steve Johnson; 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 March/April 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.

**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, March 24 – *Palm/Passion Sunday***
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **The Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will take place at the end of the worship service. **Fellowship time** will follow the meeting.
 **Easter Party set-up** will begin after the congregational meeting. Meet in Fellowship Hall.
 **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
**Monday, March 25 – Pastor’s Sabbath
Tuesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.
**Tuesday, March 26** A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir Room
**Wednesday, March 27
 eNotes go out, but it is also the deadline for the April *Dialog***
 **Pastor’s Prelude Bible Study** at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Lois Stevenson
**Thursday, March 28 – *Maundy Thursday*
 Maundy Thursday service with communion** at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary **Choir rehearsal** in the Sanctuary following the service
 **Young Adults Online** at 9:00 p.m.  **Friday, March 28 – *Good Friday*** A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room
 **Good Friday Service: Seven Last Words of Christ** at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
**Saturday, March 30
 Easter Party volunteers arrive** at 8:00 a.m. **Easter Story players arrive** at 8:45 a.m. **The Easter Party** at 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall and outdoors (weather permitting; egg hunt in Sanctuary in case of bad weather)  **Next** **Sunday,** **March 31 – *Palm/Passion Sunday***
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **Fellowship time** will follow the meeting; the Deacons will supply special treats.
 **Staff Meeting** at 10:45 a.m. in the Pastor’s Office

**Bearing Fruit – March 24, 2024**

**An Important Sunday**
Today is an important Sunday at Southminster for two reasons. Today begins Holy Week for us and many other Christians. The first Sunday in Holy Week is Palm/Passion Sunday, which is a paradox of triumph and tragedy. We begin with “Hosanna,” which is Hebrew for “save us,” shouted by the crowd desiring to crown Jesus King. We will be looking together at what the Lordship of Jesus means for Christ’s followers.

Please consider worshiping at one of our Holy Week services during the rest of this week. (If you can’t be here in person, you can find our services online; the links are always posted at the top of our worship bulletins.) You may want to attend our Easter Party on Saturday. We still need assistance in welcoming the community to our event. If you would like to help with the Easter Party, please contact Chris Kozich. (You can help today by reporting to Fellowship Hall after the annual meeting to begin setting up crafts and decorations.) Our pastor has arranged for the Prairie Wind Guild of Story tellers to fill out the actors for our Holy Week Walk-Through. This year our pastor will be a donkey instead of the angel, inviting people to enjoy the story of Easter.

Next Sunday – Easter Sunday – we will rejoice and remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Deacons are preparing a special light fellowship following our worship that day. Please invite your friends. Here is the schedule:

**Please join us at Southminster during Holy Week**:
Thursday, March 28 – **Maundy Thursday**– worship service with communion
 at 7:30 p.m. (The choir will rehearse after the service.)
Friday, March 29 – **Good Friday: “Seven Last Words from the Cross”** –
 worship service at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 30 – **Easter Party** at 9:30 a.m.
Sunday, March 31 – **Easter/The Resurrection of the Lord**! Worship with us
 at 9:30 a.m. as we proclaim “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!”

Today is also special for the folks at Southminster because it is our congregational meeting. In our tradition, the PCUSA, the business at the meeting shall be limited to items specifically listed in the call for the meeting. We will elect ruling elders, deacons, an endowment member, and nominating members. You may nominate someone from the “floor” for any of these positions, but you must not catch that person by surprise, so speak to them first. The docket and the annual report are on the prayer table outside the entrance of the sanctuary.

Our slate of officers is not complete. We suspect three reasons. One, we tried not to ask anyone who served on Session or the Board of Deacons during the pandemic. They did a stellar job, and we suspect that they need a break. Second, some of us may be reluctant to say yes because, like many people in the United States, there is a hesitance to reengage and commit. Finally, we think that some don’t have a handle on what is being asked of them. Part of the Nominating Report will include a brief description of what is expected of those elected.

Some of you may be wondering about the parking lot repairs. There is a copy of the engineer’s plan by the name tags at the entrance to our building. Finance and Elders from Property and Property’s moderator will be meeting in April to discuss financing.

Retelling and reliving the story of Holy Week and praying and working together as a people of God are some of the ways we bear the fruit of God’s love.