**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**Easter Sunday/The Resurrection of the Lord**

**March 31, 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 “Easter Sunday Artwork.”

 Welcome and Announcements

 Lighting the Candles (Revelation‬ 21‬:4‬-5)‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬

**“…he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.””**

  Improvisational Prelude: An Easter Medley

[Please remain seated while singing the opening song.]

 Hymn: *In Christ Alone* pg. 25, gold worship supplement

 Call to Worship

 Leader: The Lord is risen!

 **People: He is risen indeed!**

 **All:** **We are witnesses to the resurrection! Alleluia!**

 Hymn 232: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*  (all)

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Lord Jesus Christ, you are the risen one! On the cross you gave your body and shed your blood that we might enjoy full fellowship with you and one another. Sometimes we believe that we are not good enough to be welcomed here, as if we do not deserve your love. Mend our hearts and minds, so that we not only receive your love but share it with others. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is both Savior and Lord. Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 The Good News of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:33-34)

 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; Christ reigns in power for us,

 **People: Christ intercedes for us.**

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

 Response 240: *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks* (verse 1)

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

**Jesus is the Lord of all the earth.**

**He is the King of creation.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.**

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 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children Blair Baldwin
 Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

 *I Danced in the Morning* (refrain) Hymnal 157

Refrain:

**Dance then, wherever you may be;**

**I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,**

**And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,**

**And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

CCLI Song # 78529

Sydney Bertram Carter

Words: Stainer & Bell Ltd; Music: Stainer & Bell Ltd

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 Prayer for Illumination

 Scripture Lessons:  Mark 15:42-47 Pew Bible, p. 54 (N.T.)

 Mark 16:1-8 Pew Bible, p. 54 (N.T.)

 Sermon: “What Are You Waiting For?”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (responsive) *The Apostles’ Creed*

 Leader: Do you believe in God the Father?

 **All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

 Leader: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

 **All: 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.**

 Leader: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

 **All: 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.**

 Easter Prayer (unison)

**Gracious God, by water and the Spirit, you claimed us as your own, cleansing us from sin, and giving us new life. You made us members of your body, the church, calling us to be your servants in the world. Renew in us the covenant you made in our baptism. Continue the good work you have begun in us. Send us forth in the power of your Spirit to love and serve you with joy, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

 Hymn 248: *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!* (verse 1)

 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: *This Day Above All Days*  Timothy Dudley-Smith, Douglas E. Wagner

Dr. Derek Buckley, organ David Kozich, trumpet

 \**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 245: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!* (verses 1, 2)

 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.**

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden
Liturgist: Steve Henkels
Greeter/Fellowship: Angela Smith and all Southminster’s Deacons
Musicians: Tom Anderson, Southminster Choir, Dr. Derek Buckley, David Kozich
Worship Associate: David Kozich
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Daniel Kozich, Blair Nelson

“**Alleluia**” is one of the richest words we use in worship! It means, “Praise God!” which we get from the Hebrew word *Halleluya*. In the Hebrew Bible, our Old Testament, the phrase occurs only in the psalms. Alleluias are a summing phrase, calling us together and a sending phrase before the psalms. It was adopted into Christian liturgy early on as an expression of joy and praise particularly in the season of Easter. In the Eastern tradition of Christianity, they use the phrase all year, but in the Western tradition it is retired for the season of Lent. We have been saving our Alleluias during the last six weeks of Lent. Today and through the Easter season, the next seven weeks, we will be singing and saying Alleluia a lot. May your heart be full of Easter joy this season.

The Easter flowers are given by the following people:

Sarah and Craig Allen Chris Kozich

Deb Bohi Caroline and Ralph Linde

Sue and Walt Briney Jessica Parks

Linda Ellinghausen Lanny Russell

Lynn Ferino Angela Smith

Gretchen Fleming Diane Swiss

Sue Knisely Rita Zapel

Barb and Joe Kocinski

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. We will have special treats today for Easter, thanks to our deacons.

**Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study** is not meeting today.

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.

We 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:
 April 7: “**Easter Celebrations**” – At home, at church… how did you celebrate Easter?
 Send photos by this Thursday, April 4.
 April 21: “**Your Earth Day Photos**” – Send photos by Thursday, April 18.
 April 28: “Our Talent Show” – Send photos by Thursday, April 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.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Education**:  No class today, but our Sunday-after-worship Bible class will continue studying Matthew after Easter. Join us for edification, enlightenment, and enjoyment. We meet from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.in the Parlor/Library and online via this link: [<https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>](https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye).

**Men of Southminster**: Take a break from the rush of life and join our next gathering of the guys: Wednesday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parlor/Library. We will have snacks/dessert (got any ideas or cravings—let Blair N know) and hear some more stories of our lives and what God has done for us.

**Youth**:  Happy Spring Break, and happy Easter! Spend this Sunday with your families, but remember **Pizza & Games** on April 7th and 14th. These are *critically important dates* because we will use them to develop our Talent Show acts. So, come with ideas and enthusiasm and all your talent! The Show will be April 21 at 6:00 p.m.

**The Talent Show:** Our annual Talent Show is coming at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 21. This is a fundraiser for the Youth Mission Team and a whole lot of family fun. But, *there is no show without the talent*. Now is the time to sign up, so put your John/Jane Doe and the name of your act on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex, because the show must go on!
Talented or not, do plan to come, enjoy… and support our Youth Mission Team!

**Youth Mission Team**: Our trip to Dexter, Maine, in June is not that far away (June 20-30). So, be sure to do your online form for Group (see Blair’s last email).
Get your act together (literally) for our **Talent Show** on April 21st. ***Can you join our youth on April 7th and 14th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. to help develop their skits, etc.?*** Please let Blair N know if you can be there.

**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. This offering will be dedicated next Sunday, April 7.

March Madness and **March Mission Madness** are going strong! How well are your brackets doing? We won’t know the outcome until the championship games – Sunday, April 7 for the women and Monday, April 8, for the men. 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 next Sunday, there will be a large box in the coat room in which you may deposit your donations.

**From the Worship Ministry**:
Your Easter flowers may be taken home after worship today. If not claimed after this service, they need to be picked up tomorrow (Monday, April 1) from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at church. If you are **unable** to retrieve your flowers, please make arrangements with a friend to get them for you. It is appreciated!

The **flower chart** for the remainder of 2024 is now posted. Please sign up in person or email Sarah Allen, ridesrowdy@aol.com with your choice of flower dates and honoree. Flowers remain $35.00. Thanks for your support of the Flower Ministry at Southminster.

**All women invited: First Wednesday Women’s Breakfast!**Our next monthly Women’s Breakfast is this Wednesday, April 3, at Danby’s Station at 8:30 a.m. All women are invited to join us! Call, text, or email Gretchen Fleming—(630) 517-0926; gretchen\_fleming@yahoo.com—if you have any questions. Danby’s Station is at 750 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn.

**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 next Sunday, 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 Easter flowers today** are given by the people listed.
**We give thanks to God for joys:**
 - Thanks and praise that Ian Anderson has a new job!
 - From Tricia Smith: “My sister (Betty Rupley) has been told she is now cancer free. Praise God!”
 - Floyd Rogers had asked for prayers 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! “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 – one was scheduled to be done yesterday.
**We pray for the whole world and our nation:**
 - The victims of the terrorist attack in Russia
 - Peace for Haiti and Sudan
  - Pray for our President and our legislative and judicial bodies
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. On just one day – this past Sunday, March 24 – there were 98 incidents of gun violence, killing 36 people and wounding 72 others. If every day this year had similar violence, at the end of 2024 there would have been 35,268 shootings, leaving 13,176 people dead, and 26,352 people injured. Go to [the Gun Violence Archive](https://www.gunviolencearchive.org/last-72-hours) to see current statistics for shootings in our 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:**
 - For the family and friends of Shirley Johnson, grandmother of Nalani, Roxane, and Cyrus Johnson and stepmother of Steve Johnson, who died earlier this month. Her service has been held.
 - For the family and friends of Jack Quinn, who died of Alzheimer’s. He was a good friend of Donna Marton.
  - For the families and friends of Edna Miller (Becca Storey’s grandmother), Rod Boehmer (Katie Boston’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
 - Kaylee Gain, a St Louis area high school student who suffered traumatic brain injury after a brutal assault from a classmate
 - Barb Doppelt requests prayers for Jamie, a 43-year-old woman who had a massive stroke. She now has a trach and feeding tube and has been transferred 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 had a successful heart procedure
 - 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 her neighbor, Dan, that he might get some good news for his heart condition.
 - Prayers for all who are looking for meaningful employment
  - 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: 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 31 – *Resurrection/Easter Sunday***
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **Fellowship time** will follow the service; the Deacons will supply special treats.
 **Staff Meeting** at 10:45 a.m. in the Pastor’s Office
**Monday, April 1 –Church Staff’s Sabbath**
**Tuesday, April 2**
 **Mission Ministry** meets at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, April 3
 Women’s Breakfast** at 8:30 a.m. at Danby’s Station **the April *Dialog goes out***
 **Pastor’s Prelude Bible Study** at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Lois Stevenson
**Friday, April 5** A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Next** **Sunday,** **April 7
Order Jubilee Bucks gift cards** by emailing bobbifrey@aol.com by 9:00 p.m.
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. with communion and dedication of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering - 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** at 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

**Bearing Fruit – March 31, 2024**

**We Are People with a Story to Tell**

The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!

Today we remember and celebrate the good news of the Christ’s Resurrection. Easter is a day of *anamnesis* and celebration. Please join us after the service to enjoy a celebratory fellowship offered by our deacons.

*Anamnesis* means “reminisce.” It has its origin in Jesus’ words at the Last Supper: “Do this in memory of me” (Ancient Greek: “τοῦτο ποιεῖτε εἰς τὴν ἐμὴν ἀνάμνησιν”, (Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25). This past Holy Week has been a time of *Anamnesis*. From Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday to today – Resurrection Sunday, which we call Easter. We remembered, entered into, and encountered a living memory of God’s saving acts through Jesus Christ, who is our risen Lord and Savior.

The followers of Jesus Christ are people of story. When the followers of Jesus Christ spoke and wrote about the work of the Jesus, they told stories. The events of Holy Week are full of stories – the Triumphal Entry, events at the temple, the story of the Last Supper, the crucifixion. and of course, the Resurrection. After the Resurrection, the story and wonder of God’s presence in Christ’s work was told by the people who call Jesus Savior and Lord.

We, the modern followers of Jesus Christ, have stories to tell as well. We can tell the stories of meeting God in worship and in service here at Southminster and out in the world. We can tell the stories of the love we share for one another. We can tell the stories of what God has done and is doing in and through us.

Upcoming is a very important way for us to share stories and bear the fruit of God’s love. The Jeremiah Task Force and Session invite you to a free lunch on Sunday, April 28, following worship, in Fellowship Hall about 11:00. It will be an opportunity to share our experience of reading our Lenten Book Club book: *When the Church Stops Working: A future for your congregation beyond more money, programs and innovation*. We want to share our stories and hear yours. Together, sharing stories, we bear the fruit of God’s love.