**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

**April 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 “Thank You, Worship Arts.”

 Welcome and Announcements

 Lighting the Candles (Acts 1:3-4a)‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬

**After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father.**

  Improvisational Prelude

[Please remain seated while singing the opening song.]

 Hymn: *In the Garden* pg. 26, gold worship supplement

 Call to Worship  (Psalm 27)

 Leader: We shall see the goodness of the Lord
    in the land of the living.

 **People: Wait for the Lord;
     be strong, and let your heart take courage;**

 Leader: For the Lord is risen!

 **All:** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

 Hymn 247: *Now the Green Blade Rises*  (all verses)

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Gracious God, we struggle to understand your requests to wait. We do not understand your way with us or your ways in the world. We are impatient to see your hand. We can be easily discouraged with unexpected twists and turns in our well-laid plans. It is wonderful that you love us as we are, as we depend on Christ’s grace. Tune our ears, our minds, and our hearts to not only hear you, but to also have the courage to live our lives trusting in you rather than ourselves. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. 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.**

Text and Music: Donald Fishel, 1971 © 1973 *International Liturgy Publications*

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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:  Isaiah 40:27-31 Pew Bible, p. 668 (O.T.)

 Acts 1:1-5 Pew Bible, p. 118 (N.T.)

 Sermon: “Wait”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison) (*PCUSA Book of Order,* F1.0301)

**The church is to be a community of love, where sin is forgiven, reconciliation is accomplished, and the dividing walls of hostility are torn down. The church is to be a community of witnesses, pointing beyond itself through word and work to the good news of God’s transforming grace in Christ Jesus its Lord.**

 Hymn 314: *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness (Christ, Be Our Light)* (all verses)

 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: *Christ Has Risen, Alleluia* (Hymnal 251)

 \**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 267: *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* (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.**  Leader:  For the Lord is risen! **All:  He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden
Liturgist: Gretchen Fleming
Greeter/Fellowship: Nick Kaskovich
Musicians: Tom Anderson
Worship Associate: David Kozich
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are given by Francine Long in memory of her mother, Rose,
and father-in-law, Al.

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.

**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.

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 an opportunity coming up for you to share your photos:
 April 21: “**Your Earth Day Photos**” – Send photos by Thursday, April 18.

**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.

 **Session has called a Meeting of the Congregation to be held at the conclusion of the worship service next Sunday, April 21. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on the nomination (by the Nominating Ministry) of Angela Smith as an elder.**

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Education**:  Join us as we continue our study of Matthew’s gospel, the most influential gospel of the early church. We heard Mark’s gospel all the way through a few weeks back; come and help us see what Matthew does with that story—the story of Jesus and his followers. We meet in the Parlor/Library and online Sunday mornings from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. To join us online, use this link: [<https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>](https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye).

**Men of Southminster**: Wednesday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m. in the Parlor/Library is our next gathering to share our stories and get to know each other. Let Blair know your snack preferences (are we tired of ice cream?) and whether you are up for telling your story.

**Youth and Youth Mission Team**:  Tonight’s **Pizza & Games** will be all about preparing for Talent Show, so ***we need everyone who can make it***. Bring your appetite and your ideas. We meet 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

**The Talent Show is coming soon – next Sunday!!** Sign up your talent on the bulletin board in the Narthex, then join us at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary on Sunday, April 21, for our famous family fun time. Got no talent? Yes, you do! Sing a song. Tell a joke. Fail at juggling. Do whatever will bring a smile to your church family. There will be a free-will offering supporting our Youth Mission Team, heading to a week of workcamp in Dexter, Maine, this June. We are not doing a meal this year, but there will be an intermission with snacks.

**From the Mission Ministry:**

**Repeat Boutique clothing collection:** During the entire month of April we are making a collection of gently-used clothing for Repeat Boutique, which is a shop that provides clothing to those in need, including 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. There is a large box in the coat room in which you may deposit your donations.

**March Mission Madness 2024** has come to a close, and it was another great year, with the Women’s tournament adding extra excitement right up until the end! While many brackets picked the right teams to make it into the championship game, there were still quite a few surprises and upsets along the way to keep us wrapped up in the action.

Congratulations to our winners and the missions they chose:

**Women’s Championship:**

1. Barb Doppelt – 1,650 points (Walk-In Ministry)
2. Elise Henkels – 1,610 points (Metro Family Services)
3. Steve Henkels – 1,550 points (Cuba Sister Church)

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**Men’s Championship:**

1. TIE:  Chris Kozich – 1,390 points (Peoples Resource Center)
2. TIE:  Gretchen Fleming – 1,390 points (Cuba Sister Church)
3. Steve Henkels – 1,370 points (Walk-In Ministry)

Bracket contributions totaled approximately $1,500, so each of these winners will have approximately $250 to donate to their designated missions. This is the most we’ve raised in the past 5 years, so thank you to everyone who participated!

**From the Worship Ministry**:

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

**From the Property Ministry**: **Save the date – Saturday, April** 27
Our annual **Spring Clean-Up Day** will be Saturday, April 27, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Rain date: Saturday, May 4) You’re invited to join us – indoors and out – as we care for our beautiful church and grounds. Check with any Property Ministry member for ideas about what our projects will be and how you can help.

**From the Jeremiah Task Force: Join us for lunch on April 28!**Please plan to join us for lunch on Sunday morning, April 28, at 11:00 in Fellowship Hall. The meal is free for all! We would like to discuss the book that was our Lenten reading: *When Church Stops Working: A future for your congregation beyond more money, programs, and innovation.* Everyone is welcome to join us for the Jeremiah Task Force Luncheon, whether you are a member or friend. Watch for a sign-up sheet—you’re not required to sign up to attend the meal, but knowing how many people to expect will help us know how much food to have!

If you like to read, you’ll like the **Presbyterian Readers** book group! The Readers will meet this Wednesday, April 17, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Our April book is *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick.

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

***We will not meet on May 15th*** due to a scheduling conflict. We will discuss an alternative date at the April meeting.

All women are invited to join the **Presbyterian Women’s** meeting this Friday, April 19, at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor/Library. We will enjoy fellowship, refreshments, a brief business meeting and a special travel program on India by guest Dr. Karen Boden, our pastor’s sister, who travelled to that country in 2019. Karen will discuss India’s religious, political, and economic landscape.

**Jubilee Bucks**Thanks to all who have ordered gift cards! So far this year we have made $679.55 in "free" money for our church! Next time to order is May 5.  **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 Francine Long in memory of her mother, Rose,
and father-in-law, Al.
**We give thanks to God for joys:**
 - Laura Price, recovering from successful breast cancer surgery on Tuesday. Her doctor told her it looked like “the best case scenario.” She is a friend of Barb and Heidi – wife of Pastor Dave Price of the Glen Ellyn 1st United Methodist Church.
 - Megan Severson got amazing news on her CT scan! (And when the doctor says, “This is amazing!” then it must be!) Her current course of treatment has reduced her tumor and metastasized spots by 60-70%. She will continue treatment and have another scan in 3 months before determining next steps.
 - Thanks and praise that Ian Anderson has a new job!
 - 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.
**We pray for the whole world and our nation:**
 - All who have been affected by the bridge collapse in Baltimore, especially the families of the workers who had no chance to get off the bridge before it collapsed.
 - Possible missile launch by Iran
 - Peace for Haiti and Sudan; Hamas, Israel, the people of Palestine; Ukraine and Russia
  - 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 – Sunday, April 7 – there were 93 incidents of gun violence in 25 states and the District of Columbia, killing 32 people and wounding 85 others. 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 Nancy Gay, a very dear friend of Sarah Allen, who died suddenly Easter night
 - For the family and friends of Roy Sangmeister, who died after a very long illness
 - Barb Doppelt requests prayers for the family and friends of Jamie Insco, who died on Easter at age 43 after suffering a massive stroke and never regaining consciousness.
  - For the families and friends of 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.***
 - Prayers for Pam Greenholt, Linda Ellinghausen’s niece, whose cancer has returned  - 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:** - Rick Crilly, recovering from spinal surgery on Monday. Darlene said, “He can walk again. Thanks be to God!”
 - Jonathan and Derek Buckley and Delmar Meester ask prayers for their neighbor’s granddaughter, Mya, an 11-year-old who is suffering from an auto immune disease, requiring her to be wheelchair bound. She is currently doing physical therapy. Continuing prayers are needed for a speedy recovery.
 - All those who have medical concerns and upcoming medical procedures
 - All who are recovering from Covid
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - Kaylee Gain, a St Louis area high school student who suffered traumatic brain injury after a brutal assault from a classmate
 - 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 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, April 14**
 **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
 **No Confirmation class**
 **Youth: Pizza & Games** at 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Monday, April 15 – Pastor’s Sabbath
 Jeremiah Task Force** at 6:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
**Tuesday, April 16**
 **Session** meets at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 A.A. meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, April 17** **eNotes 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
 **Southminster Men** meet at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
**Thursday, April 18
 Young Adults Online** at 8:30 p.m. **Friday, April 19
 Women’s Circle** at 9:30 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Next** **Sunday,** **April 21**
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. - in person and also live on Facebook
 **Congregational Meeting** at the conclusion of the worship service
 **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the meeting
 **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
 **Talent Show** – a fundraiser for the Youth Mission Team – at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

**Bearing Fruit – April 14, 2024**

**The Return of the Red Vest**

The lives of the people of Southminster Presbyterian Church are marked by textured worship woven with love and study of scripture, deep loving fellowship, and servant hood. Our youth participate in worship, they study and love one another… they also serve in mission.

Our Youth Mission Trip is a way for the youth of our congregation to step out of the everyday of Chicagoland and see God working outside their own comfort zone. Our group will be heading for Dexter, Maine, June 20 to 30 to serve the people who can’t repair or paint their own homes. Think of it as a Habitat for Humanity for youth.

How is this mission paid for?The families of each participant make a down payment, but there are other ways funds are raised. Every year the youth have a chili cook-off, a rummage sale, and are recipients of Gifts Grow, but there is more. Just like Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland said, “Let’s put on a show!” Our youth, members, and friends of the congregation put on a Talent Show to help raise money.

Since the spring of 1994 (with the possible exception of 2020) there has been a talent show that boasted a red vest for the emcee, Sean Salins! This was a gift from Susie to Sean for that first show. We are grateful for the work of Sean and Susie’s ministry to youth in the past and their continued support through the annual talent shows. They have borne the fruit of fellowship for our congregation in a wonderful, fun-loving way.

**This year’s show will be next Sunday, April 21, at 6:00 p.m.** Not only will the youth bring their talent, but many of our members and friends will be offering their talents as well. It is a wonderful family event!

But wait there is more! Our talent show will have an intermission with free snacks! Plus, if you attend the Talent Show, you will be first to receive labels for the rummage sale! Rummage Sale deliveries will be received in Fellowship Hall beginning May 26 and the following week. The rummage sale is Saturday and Sunday, June 1 and 2, with a rain date of June 8 and 9.

For our Youth Mission Team members, please pray that their eyes will be open to what God can do – not only here at home but beyond, in places they have never been before. Our youth experience a week of concentrated discipleship and service shared with youth from across the United States, all spending concentrated time with people who need helping hands.

You can help make this possible by joining the love and fun next Sunday night, April 21, at our house, Southminster Presbyterian Church. This is one of the ways we bear the fruit of God’s love.