**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**Easter/The Day of Resurrection**

**April 20, 2025**

**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/Photo Story: “Resurrection of Our Lord Artwork”

 Welcome and Announcements

 Lighting the Candles (1 John 1:1-4)

**That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we saw it, and testify to it, and proclaim to you the eternal life which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us; and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing this that our joy may be complete.**

 Prelude*: An Easter Medley*

 Choral Introit: *Resurrection Alleluias* Tom Fettke

 Call to Worship

 Leader: The Lord is risen!

 **People: He is risen indeed!**

 **All:** **We are messengers of 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 can 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.

As the children leave:

 *God Welcomes All*  Hymnal 399

**God welcomes all, strangers and friends;**

**God’s love is strong and it never ends.**

Text: John L. Bell, 2008

Music: South African song, transc, John L. Bell, 2008

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 Prayer for Illumination

 Scripture Lessons:  Luke 24:1-9 Pew Bible, p. 90 (N.T.)

 Luke 24:10-12 Pew Bible, p. 90 (N.T.)

 Sermon: “Messengers” Pastor Wendy Boden

 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: *And Can It Be*  Dale Grotenhuis

 \**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 the Lord is risen! **All:  He is risen indeed!**  Leader:  For Jesus’ sake! **All:  Amen. Alleluia!**

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Rev. Wendy Boden

Liturgist: Andrea Schmidt
Greeter/Fellowship: Kathy Sanders and all deacons
Elder at the Door: Melissa Hammer
Musicians: Tom Anderson, the Southminster Choir
Worship Associate: David Kozich
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The Easter flowers today are given by the following people:

Sarah and Craig Allen Gretchen Fleming

Ron and Janet Birchall Troy and Melissa Hammer

Wendy Boden and Terry and Ginny Kline

 Blair Nelson Barb and Joe Kocinski

Deb Bohi Chris and Steve Kozich

Beth Bonde Lanny Russell

Betty Eichin Julie Storey

Lynn Ferino Diane Swiss

**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,
We have refreshed our list of people fighting cancer following Luminaria Sunday. Please make a point of sending an email, text, phone call, or filling out a blue prayer request and letting the people of Southminster know who you would like us to keep in prayer. All prayer requests are welcome. We want to be able to know who to talk to in order to follow up on all the people we pray for each week.

*New requests and updates are italicized in our prayer list.*

**Joys and Concerns** *The flowers today* *are given by many people listed in your bulletin…***We give thanks to God for joys: (*Romans 12:15) “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.”*** **We pray for the whole world and our nation: (1 Timothy 2:1-2) “I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”**
  - May we resist the temptation to hate and embrace the law of love.
- Lord, may you grant all our leaders and authorities wisdom and empathy as they carry out their duties.
 *- We pray for people in prison. May they know that you have not forgotten them.
 - We pray for the victims of the mass shooting Thursday on the campus of Florida State University, which left 2 people dead and 5 people injured.*
 - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. May those who use guns solve their issues and their pain. We ask for wise counsel, friends, and family to reach out to them in their sense of isolation. We ask for your light and peace for those who have lost loved ones to gun violence. May we and our leaders come together to end gun violence in our nation, as well as other forms of violence and hate. *On one day (Sunday, April 13) there were 98 shooting incidents in 27 states plus the District of Columbia, leaving 39 people dead and 100 people injured.* To see current statistics for shootings in this country, go to <https://www.gunviolencearchive.org>.
 - We pray for the peace of the world. We pray for the people of Sudan, who are experiencing famine, for Myanmar and Thailand after a devastating earthquake, and for all who are affected by raging wildfires in North and South Carolina and floods in many states. Look with mercy on our planet and all people. **Blessed are those who mourn**: (**Romans 12:15) “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.”
We lift up families and friends…:** *- We remember with love and gratitude the life and witness of Floyd Rogers, who passed away peacefully on Good Friday morning.*
**We continue to pray for the families and friends of:**
  -Joan Koska, whose visitation and service was held here on April 5. Send cards to: Tim and Tom Koska, 717 Stonebridge Dr., Bolingbrook, IL 60490
 - Linda Wolf Jeziorski, and for Paul, her husband
  - Gail Johnston, Andrea Schmidt’s mother
  - Franklin Keith Beeler, Angela Smith’s father
  - Caroline Linde, and for Ralph, her husband.
  - 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 the church office with the information of your loved ones. We support them and you in their journey.   - Meagan S., whose numbers are bad; she needs a transplant
We continue to pray for Kerri, Margaret F., Marge H., Ginny O., Cis R., Marta S., Shelayne, Kurt Parent, who is now in palliative care, and those we name in our hearts.
**We pray for all who are recovering or dealing with mental or physical health or other challenges**:
 *- Louanne Jourdan ask prayers for healing for her brother, Ralph Mueller, who had a heart attack last week.
 - Lynn Ferino’s sister, Donna, recuperating from successful surgery
  - Jack Thorne, recovering at DuPage Care Center after a fall*
  - Helen Shierry (Steve’s mom), now in a skilled nursing center with continuing health issues. We also pray for Steve and Heidi as they support her.
  - Alicia Rasnic, who is hospitalized. No visitors, please.
  - Jonathan Buckley, whose numbers are improving. May he continue to improve.
  - Our trans brothers and sisters and their families for peace and safety
 - Jim Smith, at Brookdale, and all who are in care centers
**Prayers for our worshiping community and the Jeremiah Task Force** as we discern together God’s call on SPC for the 21st century.

**This week at Southminster:**  **Sunday, April 20 – Easter Sunday/the Day of Resurrection!**
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **Fellowship time** will follow the service.
 **No Adult Ed. or Youth activity
Monday, April 21 – Pastor’s Sabbath
 Pick up Easter flowers** between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. **Tuesday, April 22**
 **Staff calendar meeting**, 12:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 **Choir rehearsal (note the special meeting day)** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary
 **Session** at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, April 23
 eNotes go out
Thursday, April 24** **Young Adults Video Club**, 8:30 p.m. **Friday, April 25** A.A., 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
**Saturday, April 26** **Men of Southminster**, 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall
 **Presbyterian Women**, 9:30 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library **Next** **Sunday,** **April 27**
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **Fellowship time** will follow the service.
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study**, 11:15 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 **Talent Show/Dinner Theatre style**, 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

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, please wear a name tag; they are on the Mission shelf in the Narthex and on the shelf across from the church offices. Following the service, you are invited by the deacons to gather for a time offellowship in the narthex.

**Our “Comfort Zone”** – It is still cold, flu, and Covid season, so we continue to have a “comfort zone” toward the back of the sanctuary. You may wear a mask, of course, if you so choose.

**Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study will not meet 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 5:05 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. Watch here for coming opportunities to share your photos.

**Calling all musicians, vocal or instrumental!** If you would like to offer your musical gifts in worship, please talk to Tom Anderson on a Sunday when he is here, by text at 651-246-5029, or by emailing the office (admin@southminsterpc.org) and we’ll forward your message.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Education**: We do not meet today, so enjoy your Easter lunch. We will continue our study of Philippians on the 27th.

**Men of Southminster**: Join us for coffee, donuts, and conversation on Saturday, April 26th, at 9:30 a.m. in *Fellowship Hall*. What shall we talk about?

**Youth**: **Talent Show** is coming next Sunday. Keeping thinking about our skits and any new ideas you would like to add. Blair N. will be in touch about when to be at church on the 27th.

**Talent Show is coming next Sunday, April 27**!  This year we are doing it dinner theatre style. The spaghetti dinner is returning, and we will do the show as we eat, all in Fellowship Hall. The cost is adults, $10; children $5; and under four, free! Proceeds support our Youth Mission Team, heading to the Rosebud reservation of the Lakota people in South Dakota for a week of workcamp in June. Got an act? Be sure to sign it up on the Narthex bulletin board. Plan to attend? Sign up for that, too, so we’ll know how much pasta to cook!

**From the Worship Ministry**:

Your Easter flowers may be taken home after worship today. If not claimed after the service on Easter, they need to be picked up tomorrow (Monday, April 21) 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!
Have you paid for your **Easter flowers**? If not, be sure to make your checks to SPC with “Easter flowers” on the memo line.

Watch for the **flower chart for the remainder of 2025** to be posted in the Narthex. Please sign up in person or email Sarah Allen at sarah.cleland.allen@gmail.com with your choice of flower dates and honoree. Flowers remain $35.00. Thanks for your support of the Flower Ministry at Southminster.

 **From the Mission Ministry**
**One Great Hour of Sharing**: For over seventy years, Presbyterians have participated in One Great Hour of Sharing during Lent, starting on the first Sunday in Lent (March 9) and culminating on Easter Sunday (April 20). This year’s theme is “Repairing the Breach”.

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.

You will find envelopes in the sanctuary. (Write your check to Southminster, and write OGHS on the memo line.) You may give today; the offering will be dedicated next Sunday.

**Donate your gently-used clothing for Repeat Boutique!**

During the entire month of April there will be a large box in the coat room in which you may
place your donations of gently used clothing for Repeat Boutique. This shop serves people
referred by non-profit organizations —World Relief, PADS, People’s Resource Center, as
well as other charitable organizations in DuPage County—who need financial help clothing themselves and their families. Eligible persons may shop every three months for a year at no cost to themselves. Children’s clothing is especially needed. Boys and men’s clothing, especially men’s pants, are needed. Our collection ends on April 30.

March Madness and **March Mission Madness** for 2025 are history! How did your brackets) do? The winners of Southminster’s March Mission Madness will be officially announced next Sunday.

**Paving the Way-Work will begin soon!**Abbey Paving was chosen as the parking lot reconstruction contractor. Preliminary work should begin the week of April 21st, starting with pavement marking, landscape trimming, and tree protection fencing.

Major work should begin the week of April 28th and hopefully be finished in mid-May, depending on the weather and barring any unforeseen issues.

Other than the one day for paving, parts of the parking lot will remain open each day. Please use caution when entering the lot. The traffic circle will be blocked off, but the front entrance can be reached by the sidewalk. Workers might be on-site on Saturdays but will not be there on Sundays.

If you plan on watching the workers for more than a few minutes, you must wear a yellow safety vest as this is an active work site. John Pezl will have some vests on-site.

The Paving the Way committed funds (donations and 2025 pledges) total is $213,708 as of April 16, 2025. If we include the $11,850 in future year pledges, the grand total is $225,558.

If you have any financial questions, please contact Rita Zapel at rboserup@sbcglobal.net. Project construction questions should be directed to Steve Kozich at ee99530@yahoo.com.

***And on the subject of parking…***

**Handicap Accessible parking**

If you need to use a handicap accessible space in the traffic circle on a Sunday and find the spaces all full and no valet parker, **please double park your car by the entrance doors and bring the keys to Lanny**. He will find someone to move your car and return your keys after it’s moved.

**Presbyterian Women’s April meeting – note the date change!**The April meeting of PW is scheduled for ***next Saturday, April 26*** *(please note change in day: Saturday instead of Friday)* at 9:30 a.m. in the McHenry Parlor/Library. April’s program is on Oral Health and will be presented by Roxane Johnson. This April meeting has been scheduled on a Saturday in hopes that the women of Southminster who work during the week will be able to join us.

Our final meeting for the program year is our annual **Spring Luncheon** at Reserve 22 on Friday, May 16, at 11:00 a.m. A sign-up sheet is on the PW bulletin board. The deadline to sign up is Thursday, May 1.

All women are invited to the meeting and the Spring Luncheon.

**Jubilee Bucks**Thanks to all who order Jubilee Bucks gift cards, we have earned $700.48 in “free” money for Southminster so far this year.
Your next opportunity to order Jubilee Bucks will be May 4.

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)**:
This is the 50th year People’s Resource Center is distributing food to our neighbors in DuPage County! That first year, bags of groceries were shared from a house with 125 families. This past year, groceries were provided over 63,000 times! Our weekly trunkful of groceries from Southminster is truly appreciated! Not only does PRC distribute food, they also assist people with other needs - ELL (English Language Learner) classes, job assistance, social work, computer classes and repair, gas cards, rental assistance, tutoring, art classes, and more. Volunteers are always welcomed and appreciated!

**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 from April 9 to May 13, call Deacon Elise Henkels (630-740-0473). You may call Pastor Wendy Boden on her cell or home phone (if she has shared the numbers with you) or leave a message for her at the church office: 630-469-9149. You may 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.

**Bearing Fruit – April 20, 2025**

**Your love is not unnoticed**

A song refrain has been running through my mind these past three days: *"Nobody knows the trouble I’ve seen, nobody knows but Jesus.”* My thinking is not that nobody understands me; rather, it means I have been seeing a lot of love at Southminster this week.

The dedication and love I have witnessed from you, the congregation, have inspired my thinking.

People have been caring for the grounds in preparation for the egg hunt and doing extra cleaning around the building, inside and out.

People have shared their gifts by consenting to be readers and singers for our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services. The choir has also been dedicated in its preparations.

People have been working diligently to prepare for our Easter party on Saturday, including setting up tables and crafts and organizing the Walk-Through Holy Week Bible story. During Lent many of you have stuffed eggs in preparation for the Easter Party.

The Sanctuary has been inspiring throughout Lent. Our special services are particularly uplifting for these occasions, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. I have been looking forward to seeing the Sanctuary this morning, when we all share the good news of Jesus Christ: ***“The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!”***

Many of us have been faithful workers so that we can celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. I have not seen everything people have done; some of us may have performed acts of mercy and worshiped with great devotion, but I am sure that the Lord has seen your love and dedication. Your love is not unnoticed.

Thank you for bearing the fruit of God’s love.