**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**2nd Sunday of Easter**

**April 27, 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: “The Easter Party”

 Welcome, Announcements, Moment for Mission

 Congregational Prayer of Dedication for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (unison)

**Lord God in Jesus Christ, you have restored our hope and empowered us to share that hope with the people of the earth. May our gifts for the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering relieve hunger, strengthen communities, be your presence in times of disaster, and help others experience your love. Amen.**

 Prelude: *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

 Call to Worship

 Leader: We gather in the name of the risen one: Jesus Christ.

 **People:** **We gather to celebrate the gift of new life,**

 Leader: For the Lord is risen;

 **People:** **He is risen indeed!**

 **All:** **Alleluia!**

 Hymn 260: *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*  (all verses)

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Gracious, loving God, we come to you seeking your renewal and grace for our lives. Forgive our missteps. Through the presence of your Holy Spirit within, help us to walk in your ways that we might reflect your love and grace in the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is our Lord and savior. 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 581: *Glory Be to the Father* *(Gloria Patri)*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.**

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 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children Deb Bohi
 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 Lesson:  Luke 24:13-35 Pew Bible, p. 90 (N.T.)

 Sermon: “The Road to Emmaus” Rev. Grayson Van Camp

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)
 from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (PCUSA)

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

**Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

 Hymn 236: *The Strife Is O’er* (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: *Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring*  J. S. Bach

 \**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 232: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* (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 the Lord is risen! **All:  He is risen indeed!**
  Leader:  For Jesus’ sake! **All:  Amen. Alleluia!**

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Guest Preacher: Rev. Grayson Van Camp

Liturgist: Lois Stevenson
Greeter/Fellowship: Paul Jeziorski
Elder at the Door: Gretchen Fleming
Worship Host: Sarah Allen
Guest Musician: Dr. Derek Buckley
Worship Associate: David Kozich
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are given by Rita Zapel to celebrate Zoe’s 30th birthday.

**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 Rita Zapel celebrating her daughter Zoe’s 30th birthday.***We give thanks to God for joys: (*Romans 12:15) “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.”*** *- “The Lord is risen!” “He is risen indeed!”
 - We are thankful for Rita Zapel’s daughter, Zoe’s presence in the world and pray that she will continue to enjoy many more birthdays.* **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.”***
 *- We join with our Catholic brothers and sisters around the world to mourn the loss of Pope Francis, who died Monday morning.*  - 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 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 (Easter Sunday, April 20) there were 103 shooting incidents in 26 states plus the District of Columbia, leaving 44 people dead and 90 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 in or own country who have been affected by wildfires, floods, and tornados. 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 pray for our Pastor, Wendy Boden, and her family – husband Blair Nelson, son Max, daughter Anna, and her extended family – following the death of her mother, Bobette, on Tuesday afternoon.
 - We remember with love and gratitude the life and witness of Floyd Rogers, who passed away peacefully on Good Friday morning. A memorial service was held for him yesterday at his church in Cape Town, the Central Methodist Mission.*
**We continue to pray for the families and friends of:**
  -Joan Koska, and for her extended family
 - Linda Wolf Jeziorski, and for Paul, her husband
  - Gail Johnston, Andrea Schmidt’s mother
  - Franklin Keith Beeler, Angela Smith’s father
  - 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.
We continue to pray for Kerri, Margaret F., Marge H., Ginny O., Cis R., Marta S., Meagan 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**:
*- Alicia Rasnic is now in hospice care.
 - Barb’s friend, Tony, who had a bleed in his brain and broken ribs following a fall. These injuries are aggravating his preexisting heart issues, for which he may require surgery once he is stabilized.*
 - Louanne Jourdan asks prayers for healing for her brother, Ralph Mueller, who is recovering from a heart attack..
 - 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.  - 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 27**
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **Fellowship time** will follow the service.
 **No Adult Ed. Bible Study**
 **Youth/Mission Team** – report by 5:00 p.m.
 **Talent Show/Dinner Theatre style**, 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hal **Major paving work on the parking lot will begin this week.
Tuesday, April 29**
 **Staff calendar meeting**, 12:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 **Mission Ministry** at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library (This meeting is in place
 of the meeting that would normally be on May 6.)
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, April 30
 eNotes go out, but it also the deadline for the May *Dialog*
 Endowment** at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library **Thursday, May 1** Hawthorn Garden Club, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall
 **Young Adults Video Club**, 8:30 p.m. **Friday, May 2** A.A., 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
**Next** **Sunday,** **May 4**
 **Worship with communion** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **Fellowship time** will follow the service.
 **Child Protection Policy meeting**, 11:15 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library (No Adult
 Ed. this day)

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**: Our class will not meet today. We will continue our study of Philippians at a later date.

**Youth and Mission Team**: **Today is Talent Show day**! Follow the instructions in Blair N’s email.

**Talent Show and Spaghetti Dinner**!  The show is today, Sunday! Southminster’s annual cornucopia of fun, song, and laughter, and dinner, too, is not to be missed. This year it is in a dinner theatre format, all in Fellowship Hall, beginning at 5:30 p.m. (Not 4:30 as previously advertised.) If you have not informed Blair N that you are coming, come anyway! You might have to raid your neighbor’s plate to get some food, but that is half the fun. (Comic relief—I am sure we will have enough food).

 **From the Mission Ministry**
Ending soon! All this month we have been collecting gently used clothing for our **April collection of clothing for Repeat Boutique.** Repeat Boutique is a shop that serves people referred to it 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. Our collection will end this Wednesday, April 30.

**From the Worship Ministry**:

The **flower chart for the remainder of 2025** is 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.

**“Paving the Way” – Work has begun!**
Preliminary work began April 21. Early work is 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.

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**

On Friday, May 16, Presbyterian Women will meet for our **Spring Luncheon** at Reserve 22 at 11:30 a.m. If you plan on attending the luncheon, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the PW bulletin board. This is our final gathering for the 2024-2025 season. All women are welcome to join us for lunch.

**Women’s Monthly Breakfast**
Join us for the Women’s Monthly Breakfast on Wednesday, May 7, at 8:30 a.m. at Danby’s Station. This is a great time to reconnect with friends, make new ones, and enjoy fellowship and relaxation. All women are welcome!

**Jubilee Bucks – order next Sunday!**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 27, 2025**

*When this perishable body puts on imperishability and this mortal body puts
on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled:*

*“Death has been swallowed up in victory.”*

*“Where, O death, is your victory?*

*Where, O death, is your sting?”*

*The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God,
who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

 - 1 Corinthians 15:54-57

The Saturday evening before Easter Sunday, Pastor Wendy’s mother, Bobette Barfod, had a massive stroke. Wendy and her children flew to San Diego to be with Granma, and they, with Wendy’s siblings and niece and nephew, were at Bobette’s bedside when she died Tuesday afternoon. This loss was sudden and unexpected. Wendy will not be with us today.

Bobette was a loving and dynamic person, a woman of deep faith that she expressed with great energy. She served her church and took care of many of her fellow residents at the retirement community that she and her husband, Frank, have lived in for many years. Everyone knew Bobette. Everyone knew they could rely on Bobette.

All Wendy’s family have fond memories of the great gatherings of the clan that she arranged, and her visits to the mid-western branch of the family were full of fun and adventure. When Granma Bobbie came to town, Max and Anna knew there would be big plans and a lot of love, not to mention lots of food. Granma brought the party!

Needless to say, our family’s Easter celebrations have been subdued. But we share Bobette’s faith that death does not have the final say.

He is risen!

Pastor Wendy is extraordinarily grateful that Rev. Grayson Van Camp could take the pulpit and also arrange for a substitute moderator for last Tuesday’s session meeting. Rev. Van Camp did this in the midst of an already busy week. We are all thankful for her dedication and aid.

This has been an ordeal for Wendy, and she needs some time to herself. She may not respond to calls, texts, or email for a few days. Please, let’s give her some quiet time to grieve.

We bear the fruit of God’s love when we support and comfort one another in times of deep sorrow, remembering that “death has been swallowed up in victory.” Thanks be to God!