**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**3rd Sunday of Easter**

**May 4, 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.

For those who are in the sanctuary, please put your phone in airplane mode.

Today we are having communion. Those at home may want to gather the elements (“bread” and “wine” or whatever you have) before the service begins.

 Gathering Music/Photo Story: “Spring at Southminster”

 Welcome, Announcements, and Moment for Mission

 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

[Please remain seated while singing the opening song.]

 Hymn 519: *You Are My Strength When I Am Weak (You Are My All in All)*

 Call to Worship  (Philippians 2)

 Leader: We seek encouragement in Christ.

 **People**: **We seek to console with love and share in the Spirit.**

 Leader: May our joy be complete as we gather to worship.

 **People**: **For the Lord is risen!**

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

 Hymn 536: *Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen* (verses 1-3)

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Lord God, we gather today around your table seeking to taste your love, see your grace, and feel your presence. Your Holy Spirit draws us into your presence and unites us with your church in every time and place. We reaffirm our baptisms and recommit ourselves to love and serve you, one another, and our neighbors in the world. Your forgiveness precedes us, as we seek to walk in your ways. In the name of Jesus Christ, who is both Lord and Savior, Amen.**

 (Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

 Declaration of God’s Grace/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.

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 24:28-32 Pew Bible, p. 90 (N.T.)

 Acts 2:42-47 Pew Bible, p. 120 (N.T.)

 Sermon: “You Are Invited”

 Saying What We Believe/Affirmation of Faith (unison)
 *The Apostles’ Creed* [Ecumenical]

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

 Hymn 533: *In the Singing* (all verses)

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: *We Are Many Parts* Marty Haugen

 \**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 Dedication

 Service of the Lord’s Supper

 Invitation

 [You do not need to wait to consume the elements – please do so as the Spirit
 leads (right away, as you pause after receiving, or back in your seats).

 We extend an invitation to the Lord’s Supper to all who have been baptized. You do
 not need to be a member of this congregation or a Presbyterian to share in this meal.
 We remember that access to the Table is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a
 privilege given to believers who come in faith, repentance, and love.]

 Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

 Leader: The Lord be with you.

 **People**: **And also with you.**

 Leader: Lift up your hearts.

 **People: We lift them to the Lord.**

 Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

 **People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

 *The minister gives thanks…*

 The congregation responds by singing together:

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 *The minister continues the Thanksgiving…*
 “*Together we proclaim the great mystery of faith:”*

 **According to Christ’s commandment**

 **We remember his death,**

 **We proclaim his resurrection,**

 **We await his coming in glory.**

*The minister continues with Intercessions for the Church and the World
and Prayers of the People…*

 Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

 **People**: **hear our prayers.**

 Our 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.**

 Words of Institution

 Communion

 Communion Music: *In This Very Room*

*We all will receive communion by coming to the Lord’s Table. Our usher will invite you to come forward by pew, beginning from the back. If you are unable to come forward, a server will come to you after everyone else has received. Choir members will remain seated and receive after the congregation.
Please consume the elements when you are comfortable doing so. You do not need to wait – please do so as the Spirit leads (right away, as you pause after receiving, or back in your seats).
With Christian love we serve gluten-free communion bread and alcohol-free grape juice.
Also with Christian love the elements were prepared with strict attention to health concerns.
You are invited to partake of the prepackaged communion juice and wafer if you choose; we now offer prepackaged cups that include gluten-free wafers.*

 Prayer after Communion

 Hymn 523: *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart* (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: Sarah Allen
Greeter/Fellowship: Anny Davidson
Elder at the Door: Steve Sanders
Musicians: Tom Anderson; the Southminster Choir
Worship Associate: David Kozich
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Blair Nelson

The flowers today are given by the Parks family to celebrate Joe’s 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 the Parks family celebrating Joe’s 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 Joe’s presence in the world and pray that he 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 sisters and brothers around the world to mourn the loss of Pope Francis, whose funeral was a week ago Saturday. We ask for divine wisdom and grace for the 135 Cardinals Electors of the College of Cardinals.
 - May we resist the temptation to hate and embrace the law of love.
  - Lord, may you grant all our leaders and authorities wisdom, justice, 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 an end to gun violence in our nation. May our public servants come together to solve this problematic issue. Bring comfort to those who have suffered loss because of gun violence, and we ask you to reach out to those who are so very desperate to pick up guns to resolve their issues and pain.
 - We pray for the peace of the world and all her people. May they have food, shelter, clean water, clothing, health, and loving relationships.
**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 John Rasnic and his family, whose wife, Alicia, died on April 28. A memorial gathering will take place from 4:00-8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 9, at Leonard Memorial Funeral Home, 565 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn. The following day, Saturday May 10, there will be a service at Southminster, Rev. Paul Gogue officiating.
 - 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 April 22.* *especially Wendy’s “bonus” dad – Bobette’s husband, Frank Barfod. The service is on Monday, May 12, at Mt. Miguel Chapel, 325 Kempten St., Spring Valley, CA 91977.*
 - 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, 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 orother challenges:
 *- Barb’s friend, Tony, who had a serious concussion, bleeding in his brain, and 4 broken ribs following a fall. He is now also recovering from surgery to implant a cardiac pacemaker/defibrillator.* - Louanne Jourdan asks prayers for healing for her brother, Ralph Mueller, who is recovering from a heart attack.
  - 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.

**Pastor Wendy Bodoen and Blair Nelson will be away May 8-13** to attend Wendy’s mother’s memorial service. If you need pastoral care during this time, you may call Rev. Ron Beauchamp, pastor of Hope Presbyterian Church in Wheaton, at 630-945-7259.

**This week at Southminster:**  **Sunday, May 4**
 **Worship with communion** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook
 **Fellowship time** will follow the service.
 **Staff meeting** at 11:00 a.m. in the pastor’s office
 **Adult Ed. Bible Study**, 11:15 a.m., Parlor/Library
 (**Child Protection Policy meeting** has been rescheduled for May 18)
 **Youth: Pizzaless Games** from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall **Monday, May 5 – Pastor’s Sabbath**
Cuba Task Force, 5:00 p.m. via Zoom

**Tuesday-Friday –** **Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart on Facebook live will be
 at a different this week: 4:05 p.m.
Tuesday, May 6**
 **Staff calendar meeting**, 12:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library
 **Heart to Heart at 4:05 p.m.**
 **No Mission Ministry meeting**
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall
**Wednesday, May 7
 Women’s Breakfast**, 8:30 a.m. at Danby’s Station
 **Heart to Heart at 4:05 p.m.**
 **the *Dialog* goes out
Pastor Wendy Boden and Blair Nelson will be away Thursday, May 8,
 returning Tuesday, May 13.
Thursday, May 8
 Heart to Heart at 4:05 p.m.**
 **No Young Adults Video Club
Friday, May 9
 Heart to Heart at 4:05 p.m.** A.A., 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
**Saturday, May 10
 Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Alicia Rasnic**
 in the Southminster Sanctuary
**Next** **Sunday,** **May 11**
 **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. in person and also live on Facebook.
 Guest preacher: Rev. Traci Smith
 **Fellowship time** will follow the service.

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 meet today after all.** Meet Blair at 11:15 a.m. in McHenry 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 4:05 p.m. (just for this week) 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**: Change of plans! Our study of Paul’s letter to the church in Philippi continues **today** at 11:15 a.m. in the Parlor/Library. Join us for enlightenment, edification, and some good fellowship. (The meeting that was going to conflict with class has been moved to May 18.)

**Youth**: Great job with the Talent Show, guys! Our next event **Pizzaless Games** today from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Have you let Blair N know if you will be there?

**Mission Team**: June is coming, and so is workcamp. Please register with Group Mission Trips if you have not yet done so. The link is in the last email Blair N sent to the team.

**Talent Show and Spaghetti Dinner 2025 was a triumph!** We came, we ate, we sang, and we laughed. We also support the Youth Mission Team to the tune of $767! Thanks especially to Sean Salins (the man in the red vest) and Steve Henkels (the commander of the kitchen). More details and thank yous coming in the next *Dialog*.

**From the Mission Ministry**
May is **Gifts Grow** month at Southminster, and it is one of the ways we bear the Fruit of God’s love. Through Gifts Grow you have the opportunity to contribute to our missions and have your donations matched by the Mission Ministry. Matching funds are capped at $522 per family, $1,624 per organization and $5,800 total. Weekly eNotes, the *Dialog*, and written and verbal announcements all this month will add details to the Gifts Grow project.

**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 is delayed**
Preliminary work began April 21.. Early work was pavement marking, landscape trimming, and tree protection fencing. The major work has been delayed due to permitting issues with the Village of Glen Ellyn, which we hope to resolve soon.

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.

**From the Deacons: Can you help?**
In the narthex this Sunday there will be a signup board. If you would be willing to help the deacons once in a while, check it out! Occasionally we need assistance, such as extra food for receptions or special fellowships, rides for members to church or appointments, or meals for those going through difficult times. Signing up means only that you're willing to be called to see if you're available when we need assistance; it does not mean you're required to help each time we call. We plan to do this signup each May. Thank you from the deacons.
 **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 **today** 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 today!**
Buying Jubilee Bucks is such an easy way to donate “free money” to Southminster without costing you a penny! A percentage of the face value of each card you buy comes straight back to the church as a rebate. Think of your weekly expenses, groceries, gas, meals out, etc. – you can pay for these with gift cards instead of cash or charge cards. And, of course, you can always give gift cards as gifts! Today is your only chance this month to order, so reach out to Bobbi Frey by text (630-643-3858) or email (bobbifrey@aol.com) no later than 9:00 tonight. (Note: There’s a new order form – it has added McDonalds, a $10 Target, and deleted Fannie May.)
Your next chance to order will be Sunday, June 1.

**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 until 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 – May 4, 2025**

**“Gifts Grow”**

During May, the Mission Ministry sponsors a program called “Gifts Grow” that offers the church family an opportunity to grow their contributions to specific missions sponsored by Southminster. The Mission Ministry will match your contributions up to a total of $5,800 for the entire event. The deadline for donations is Sunday, June 1.

There is a cap of $522 per family and a cap of $1624 per mission.

Please look at our Gifts Grow bulletin board in the narthex and watch our gifts grow.

Throughout May, Bearing Fruit will offer brief sketches of our various outreach ministries. This will not be an endorsement or recommendation; rather, it will provide additional information about some of our missions and how we bear the fruit of God’s love through these gifts of mercy and love.

Our Gifts Grow missions include Bridge Communities, Cuba Sister Church, DuPage PADS, Metropolitan Family Services (Family Shelter Service), People’s Resource Center, Walk-In Ministry, World Relief, and the Youth Mission Trip.

Other mission ministries that Southminster supports, which are not part of the Gifts Grow program because we do not provide financial support, include DuPage Care Center, Prayer Shawls (Knitting Circle), and other ministries.

We hold seasonal annual events that are not covered by Gifts Grow, such as Luminaria Sunday (American Cancer Society) and March Mission Madness. We collect for SCARCE and groceries weekly for the PRC. We participate in Sleep Out Saturday on the first Saturday of November for Bridge Communities. We have held assorted collections for World Relief throughout the year, and this April we were collecting clothing for the Repeat Boutique.

We also hold special offerings and collections for the PCUSA throughout the year: One Great Hour of Sharing, Peace and Global Witness, Christmas Joy, and our local Christmas Offering.

Southminster Presbyterian Church has always been a congregation that reaches out in love to those around us. Presbyterians believe that whatever we do, we do to the glory of God. This is one way we worship during the week and bear the fruit of God’s love.