**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**4th Sunday of Easter**

**May 11, 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: “Women of Faith”

Welcome, Announcements, 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: *In the Garden*  (all verses) pg. 26, gold worship supplement

Call to Worship   (Psalm 23, John 10)

Leader: Can you hear the voice of God?

**People: We hear God calling us by name.**

Leader: Come and find a guide who knows these lands.

**People: We come to praise our shepherding God,**

**All:** **For the Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Hymn 408: *There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*  (all verses)

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Shepherding God, like sheep, we tend to wander. We tend to go our own way and shut our ears to your voice, but even so, you keep calling. You came to us in Jesus Christ, teaching love, grace, and mercy to all who would listen. Thank you for your goodness and mercy that follow us all the days of our lives, and your Holy Spirit that guides our paths. 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.

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:  Psalm 23 Pew Bible, p. 501 (O.T.)

John 10:22-33 Pew Bible, p. 104 (N.T.)

Sermon: “Beside Still Waters: God’s Care and Mama’s Love” Rev. Traci Smith

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

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

Hymn: *He Knows My Name*  pg. 18, gold worship supplement

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: *Rejoice in the Lord (Exultate Justi)*  L. da Viadana/arr. D. Razey

This anthem will be sung in Latin. Here is the English translation of the text:

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye just:

Praise is fitting for the upright.

Give praise to the Lord upon the harp;

Play upon the ten-stringed psaltery.

Sing to Him a new song;

Sing skillfully with a strong voice.

Rejoice in the Lord, O ye just:

Praise is fitting for the upright.

\**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 250: *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* (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**

Guest Preacher: Rev. Traci Smith

Liturgist: Lynn Ferino  
Greeter/Fellowship: Francine Long  
Elder at the Door: Angela Smith  
Worship Host: Sarah Allen  
Musicians: Tom Anderson, Lynn Ferino, Elise Henkels  
Worship Associate: David Kozich  
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Steve Kozich

The flowers today are given by Janey Sarther in honor/celebration of her mom, Carol Miller’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 Janey Sarther in honor/celebration of her mom, Carol Miller’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 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 celebrate the new pope, Pope Leo XIV. We ask for divine wisdom and grace for him in this leadership role.*    
 - 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 Service of Witness to the Resurrection was held here yesterday at Southminster, Rev. Ken Hockenberry 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 celebration of her life will be tomorrow (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.   
 *- Alyssa, a mother of 3 who has stage 4 cancer*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:   
 - 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.

**This week at Southminster:**  **Pastor Wendy Boden and Minster of Youth and Adult Discipleship Blair Nelson are away through Tuesday May 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.   
  
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. **Monday, May 12 – Major paving work on the parking lot is scheduled begin   
Tuesday, May 13**  
 **Knitting Circle**, 10:00 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library  
 **Deacons** at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library  
 A.A. at 7:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall  
**Wednesday-Friday (this week only) –** **Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart on   
 Facebook live at 5:05 p.m.   
Wednesday, May 14  
 eNotes go out  
 Property** at 7:00 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library **Thursday, May 15** **Session docket deadline** at noon   
 **Staff calendar meeting** at 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor/Library  
 **Young Adults Video Club**, 8:30 p.m. **Friday, May 16  
 PW Spring Luncheon**, 11:30 a.m., Reserve 22 A.A., 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
**Next** **Sunday,** **May 18**  
 **Worship** 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](mailto:admin@southminsterpc.org)) and we’ll forward your message.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**    
**Adult Education**: Our study of Paul’s letter to the church in Philippi will continue… eventually. I will be away May 11, there is another meeting in the parlor on the 18th, and the 25th is Memorial Day weekend - watch bulletins and eNotes to see if we are meeting that Sunday. When we do meet, you’re always invited to join us for enlightenment, edification, and some good fellowship.

**Men of Southminster**: The possible dates for our May get-together are Wednesdays, May 14, 21, and 28. Please let Blair N know what works for you.

**Youth**: Put May 18 on the calendar for **Pizzaless Games**, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Come for fun, friendship, and deep thoughts. Be sure to let Blair N know that you are coming.

**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, thank yous, and photos are in the May *Dialog*.

The annual **Rummage Sale** is coming – Saturday and Sunday, June 7-8. As you sort, dust, clean, and discard, please hold on to those salable items that you can donate to the Rummage Sale. We will be receiving donations in Fellowship Hall the week of June 1 beginning after worship that day and continuing through the sale. **PLEASE NOTE**: ***We cannot accept electronics & furniture.*** But, just about anything else goes!

Price stickers are available on the counter in the main hallway. Pricing your items   
saves us an enormous amount of work. No need to price clothes or books—we   
have flat rates for those.

**“Paving the Way” – Work is underway!**

Major construction has been delayed but is scheduled to begin tomorrow (Monday, May 12). The project is still on schedule to be done by the end of May. The parking lot should be available for use every day, except when the paving takes place and the line painting is done.

A total of $211,908 cash is in the parking lot fund. We have received commitments for an additional $1,800 in 2025 pledges, which would bring the 2025 total to $213,708. If we include the $11,850 in future year pledges, the grand total is $225,558.

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. Ask in the office,  
  
If you have any financial questions, please contact Rita Zapel at [rboserup@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rboserup@sbcglobal.net). Project construction questions should be directed to Steve Kozich at [ee99530@yahoo.com](mailto: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 Mission Ministry: It’s time to watch your “Gifts Grow”**  
During the month of May, you can donate to your favorite Southminster-sponsored organization and have your donation doubled with matching mission funds. Got $50 to donate? Southminster will chip in another $50 to the mission of your choice.

Consider making a donation in honor of a birthday, anniversary, baptism, graduation, or a special someone. Then watch as the donations grow week-by-week in the narthex bulletin board display.

Simply write a check to Southminster and note that it is for Gifts Grow – or use the Gifts Grow envelopes available at church. Be sure to indicate your choice of mission on the envelope or check. Donations must be received by Sunday, June 1, 2025.

Southminster’s Gifts Grow-supported missions include:

**Bridge Communities People’s Resource Center**

**Cuba Sister Church Walk-In Ministry**

**DuPage PADS World Relief**

**Metropolitan Family Services Youth Mission Trip**

Matching funds are capped at $522 per family, $1,624 per organization and $5,800 total. The Mission Ministry reserves the right to designate use within a given fund.

**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](mailto:sarah.cleland.allen@gmail.com%20) with your choice of flower dates and honoree. Flowers remain $35.00. Thanks for your support of the Flower Ministry at Southminster.

**Presbyterian Women**

This Friday, May 16, Presbyterian Women will meet for our **Spring Luncheon** at Reserve 22 at 11:30 a.m. This is our final gathering for the 2024-2025 season. All women are welcome to join us for lunch. Reservations have already been made, but if you still wish to attend, call Heidi Shierry (630-853-6836) as soon as possible, and no later than Wednesday, May 14.  
  
  
**Presbyterian Readers**  
will meet Wednesday, May 21, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. The May book is *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray. This is the story of two different, yet equally formidable, passionate, and committed women – Mary McLeod Bethune and Eleanor Roosevelt – and the way in which their singular friendship helped form the foundation for the modern civil rights movement.

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

For more information about the Readers, contact Rita Zapel at [rboserup@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rboserup@sbcglobal.net).  
   
  
**Jubilee Bucks – thank you for your orders!**Thanks to all who order Jubilee Bucks! So far this year Southminster has earned $835.67 from the sale of gift cards.  
Next chance to order: 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 from April 9 to May 13, call Deacon Elise Henkels (630-740-0473). (After the deacons meet on Tuesday we will know who to contact in the next month.) 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](mailto: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. **Pastor Wendy Boden and Blair Nelson will be away through Tuesday, May 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.  
  
 **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 11, 2025**

**Gifts Grow, and so do people**  
  
While our pastor and Minister of Youth and Adult Discipleship attend a memorial service, we welcome Rev. Traci Smith. She is an ordained Presbyterian minister, mother of three, and author of the Faithful Families books. Traci helps families connect and find spiritual nourishment in daily life, drawing from her own experiences and making faith practices fun, easy, and accessible.   
  
Traci completed her undergraduate studies at Calvin College and received a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. She also interned as Youth Director here at Southminster. Welcome back, Traci.   
  
  
**Gifts Grow**  
During May, Southminster is offering Gifts Grow, an opportunity to contribute to our missions and have your donations matched. Each week during May we will share information about the missions we support. This week we highlight these:  
  
**Bridge Communities**: Through the help of program partners and supporters, Bridge Communities provides free transitional housing to 100+ DuPage County families each year. During the two years each family spends in our program, they are able to save money, learn budgeting skills, and obtain better employment, so they can live self-sufficiently once they graduate. Southminster participates in their annual “Sleep Out Saturday” event in November to raise funds and awareness. Several SPC members volunteer throughout the year.  
  
**DuPage PADS** is the only non-restrictive sheltering program in the county, addressing homelessness through various programs to support clients. During the pandemic, PADS turned the Red Roof Inn in Downers Grove into an Interim Housing Center (IHC), the first hotel-to-interim housing conversion in the state. Since opening the IHC, PADS reports greatly reduced incidents of mental and physical health incidents and proudly supports more than 130 children registered in and regularly attending school.  
  
**People’s Resource Center** **(PRC)** is a community-based service organization that provides numerous human service programs to DuPage County residents who are in economic distress, receiving nutritious food and other basic necessities like clothes and rent assistance. PRC also connects people with resources – education and tutoring, jobs, technology, art, and a caring community – to create a future of hope and opportunity for all.  
  
Southminster has collected food and personal care products for PRC for years, but when the pandemic arrived in our area in March 2020 and our building closed, we began collecting goods for PRC on the front porch of the Freys’ home, Bobbi and Tom. (Bobbi is a longtime volunteer at PRC.) We have moved the collection boxes back to the church – they are now located in the main hallway opposite the church office. The weekly carloads of donations Bobbi delivers to PRC make a difference in the lives of many in our county!  
  
**The Mission Ministry will match your contributions up to a total of $5,800 for the entire event. There is a cap of $522 per family and a cap of $1,624 per mission. The deadline for donations is Sunday, June 1. Please look at our Gifts Grow bulletin board in the narthex and watch our gifts grow.**  
Help our Gifts Grow as we bear the fruit of God’s love.