**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**8th Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 14, 2024**

**9:30 a.m.**

Find the link for the service on one of these sites:

1) on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>   
2) our YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

3) our web site: <https://www.southminsterpc.org/>

If the video feed is interrupted during the service, we will continue to record and then post the full video on Facebook and our web site as soon as possible.

Gathering Music

Our Photo Story today is “2024 Youth Mission Trip, Part A.”

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Candles (Acts 2:2)‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬

**They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship,   
to the breaking of bread and the prayers.**

Prelude

[Please remain seated while singing the opening songs.]

Hymn 740: *Lead Me, Guide Me*

Hymn 741: *Guide My Feet*

1. **Guide my feet…**

2. **Stand by me…**

Call to Worship

Leader: Exalted and holy is God’s great name!

**People:** **May God’s majesty be revealed in the days of our lives.**

**All:** **Blessed be God’s name for all eternity.**

Hymn: *Lord I Need You*  (p. 31, gold supplement)

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**Loving, gracious God, forgive us when we turn our backs on you   
and go our own way. Thank you for welcoming us home in Jesus Christ.   
Amen.**

(Time of silence for personal prayer and confession)

The Good News of Jesus Christ  (Psalm 103)

Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious;  
     slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**People: For as the heavens are high above the earth,** **so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

Leader: As far as the east is from the west,  
     so far he removes our transgressions from us.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**All: Alleluia!**

Response 582: *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,**

**And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,**

**And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

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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:

*I Danced in the Morning* (refrain) Hymnal 157

Refrain:

**Dance then, wherever you may be;**

**I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,**

**And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,**

**And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

CCLI Song # 78529

Sydney Bertram Carter

Words: Stainer & Bell Ltd; Music: Stainer & Bell Ltd

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Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons:  Revelation 22:1-5 Pew Bible, p. 260 (N.T.)

Genesis 6:5-8, 13-22 Pew Bible, p. 5 (O.T.)

Sermon: “The Flood, the Cross, and the River” Dr. Blair Nelson

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 363: *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* (verses 1, 3, 4)

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: *Blessed Be Your Name* (p. 4, gold supplement)

\**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 12: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* (all verses)

Charge and Benediction

Leader: Now go and serve the Lord,  
 **People: For we are blessed to be a blessing! Alleluia!**

Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Dr. Blair Nelson

Liturgists: Rev. Wendy Boden and Lynn Ferino  
Greeter/Fellowship: Beth Bonde and Elise Henkels  
Musician: Tom Anderson  
Worship Associate: David Kozich  
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Daniel or Steve Kozich

The flowers are in honor of Caroline Linde’s birthday today, given by a friend.

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. Following the service, you are invited by the deacons to gather for **in-person fellowship** in the narthex.

**Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study,** **11:15 a.m.:** If you’re at church and wish to join us, find Blair at his computer in the parlor/library. If you’re following us online, join the class by using this link: <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>.  
You are invited to join us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>), where we have a live sharing of “**Heart to Heart**” with Pastor Wendy Boden at 4:20 p.m. most weeks Tuesday through Friday. Note that Pastor Boden will be away July 17-23 and will not do Heart to Heart during that time.

We continue to be live on **Sunday morning for worship** at 9:30 a.m. (slideshow beginning at 9:15) on YouTube at  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/live>

or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SouthminsterGlenEllyn/>

If you are watching from home on Facebook, please check in and say hello so we can see that you have joined us. This is one way to make worship less “remote” and strengthen community at Southminster.

*The live video will appear about 15 minutes before the scheduled start time.*

*If for any reason the feed falters, rest assured that a recording will be posted to Facebook and You Tube as soon as possible.*

You can also find links to recordings of the weekday sessions, special services, and Sunday worship posted on our web site: <https://www.southminsterpc.org/> or by going to our YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPgWICngOvkmR1OXgCG_wiA/videos>

**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us feel connected!**Photo Stories/PowerPoints help us prepare for worship, connect with one another, and make sure that our at-home people get both sound and sight. Here are some coming opportunities for you to share your photos:  
 **August 25:** “**Doorways into Summer**” – doors that you see during your summer travels   
 or simply around Chicagoland, even your own home. Please send photos by Thursday,   
 August 22.  
 **October 6:** “**Communion Tables**” – photos of communion tables from the places of   
 worship you visit while away on vacation or even ask a relative to send you a picture  
  
**Send photos to our dedicated email address, used just for photos:**[PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org](mailto:PhotoStory@Southminsterpc.org)**.** (If you only have hard copies of your photos, please leave them in the photo box on Pastor Wendy’s desk, labeled with your name and the date they are to be used.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**    
**Adult Education**: Our after-worship Bible class will meet today and next Sunday (July 14 and 21). Join us in the Parlor/Library at 11:15 a.m.—bring your fellowship coffee with you and enjoy our study of Matthew’s gospel. To join us online, use this link: <https://meet.google.com/fna-eojg-uye>. The study is serious, but the fellowship is fun. Note that we won’t meet on July 28th, Aug. 4th, or 11th.  
 **Youth**: Today is our annual **Fox River Naval Battle**. Think a six-mile canoe trip downstream with squirt guns! This is a fun event for the whole family. Cost is $70/canoe (cash or check only), and we will meet at Ayer’s Landing (3494 East 2089th Rd., Ottawa, IL 61350—a little over an hour from Glen Ellyn) at 1:45 p.m. We will be on dry land by about 4:30 p.m. Be sure Blair knows that you are coming!  
  
  
**From the Mission Ministry:  
All this month we’re having a “kitchen shower” for World Relief!**  
Imagine how it would feel to arrive in the United States as a refugee with nothing but what you were wearing and maybe carrying a bag or two. Throughout the month of July, our Mission Ministry will work with World Relief to host a “shower,” collecting items a refugee family would need to equip a kitchen. We will have bins in the coat room, and you can bring donations in any time this month.

Please consider donating from the following list:

1 set of mixing bowls     1 set of baking pans/dishes

1 saucepan/pot & 1 frying pan      1 set of cooking utensils

measuring cups & spoons         medium/lg cutting board

manual can opener                    3 kitchen towels

3 dishcloths                              silverware for 4

dishes for 4 (plates & bowls)       4 drinking glasses and 4 mugs

rice or pressure cooker              tea kettle

1 toilet brush                            1 broom & dustpan

1 plastic laundry basket           1 pad of paper

5 pens/pencils                     1 electric fan

1 small toolkit                        1 travel sewing kit

1 flashlight & batteries            1 alarm clock

*World Relief asks that all items be new to preserve the recipients’ dignity.*If we receive duplicates, World Relief will store them to distribute to other refugee families. Thank you for helping refugee families in need.

**From the Worship Ministry**:

We are looking for volunteers to provide **special music during the summer**! Singers and instrumentalists of all ages are invited! Sign up on the choir room door.

**Jubilee Bucks: Next order date is August 4**  
Many thanks to all who order Jubilee Bucks. Your next opportunity to order will be Sunday, August 4.   
 **Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)**:   
Our weekly donations to PRC are very much appreciated! If you are looking for ideas to donate, they are presently in need of tuna, canned spaghetti or stew, bags of rice, pasta. There are also lists of suggested donations printed on green paper in one of the literature stands on the shelf in the main hallway that is across from the church offices.

**Care Notes:** “In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” -Philippians 4:6   
Even though we aren’t all together for worship, we are still collecting prayer requests! Please email or leave a message on our answering machine at 630-469-9149 if you won’t be present to fill out a prayer request slip.

**Friends,****You are all invited to offer prayer for people whether they are members or not. It would be a joy and very helpful to know how people are doing. If you have submitted a person to be prayed for, please send an update to the office once in a while. Thank you! Pastor Wendy**

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

**Joys and Concerns**  ***The flowers today*** *are given by a friend in celebration of Caroline Linde’s birthday.***We give thanks to God for joys.**  - Meagan Severson had successful cancer surgery in Texas and is now home recovering in Alaska. **We pray for the whole world and our nation:**   
  - Peace for Haiti and Sudan; Hamas, Israel, the people of Palestine, and the tangle of interests in the Middle East; Ukraine and Russia  
  - Pray for the American people  
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. To see current statistics for shootings in our country go to <https://www.gunviolencearchive.org>.  
  - We pray for our nation as we continue to wrestle with race relations.  
  - We continue to pray for peace in the world  
 - For the Cuba Partnership Network as they seek passports for Cuban pastors and spouses for their meeting, which is in Oak Brook in September  
**Blessed are those who mourn:**   
 - Prayers for the family and congregation of Pastor Abel in Cuba on the death of his eldest son, Abelito.   
  - For the families and friends of Ruth, Grace, Ed, Dan, and those we name in our hearts and hold dear.  
**We lift up those who are affected by cancer, as well as their support systems:   
*Please help us pray for your family and friends by updating your loved ones’ information with the church office. We support them and you in their journey.***   
 - Prayers for Jason Burris, brother-in-law of Pete and Pam Petersen, who is now in hospice care as a result of brain cancer  
 - Lynn Ferino asks prayers for her good college friend, Cis, who has been newly diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer.  
  - We continue to pray for: Frank B., Katie B., Pam G., Tom G., Frank L., Jean K., Jan M., Nikki M., Rebecca M., Tim O., Laura P., Gerry S., Marta S., Meagan S., Beverly W., Shelayne, and others we name in our hearts.   **We pray for all who are recovering or dealing with mental or physical health or other challenges:**  
 *- Pray for Caroline Linde, who is in the hospital. Please, no visits or phone calls.*  
 - Esther, recovering from surgery  
  - Phyllis Lay, hospitalized in Florida   
  - Heidi Shierry, continuing health issues  
  - Carmen (sister of Pedro Luis Laza in Cuba), who had a stroke and is recovering at home  
  - Brandon, a young man with liver damage  
  - Prayers for all who are looking for meaningful employment  
   - Mya, an 11-year-old who is suffering from an auto immune disease  
  - All those who have medical concerns and upcoming medical procedures  
  - Isabella, awaiting a kidney donor  
  - Oaklen, a grandchild of a friend of Tricia Smith, who has birth defects  
  - Sandy Phee asks prayers for Linda Talaga, who is now blind in both eyes.  
  - Prayers for healing, strength, and peace for Dan, a neighbor of Ann Anderson    
  - All those who are experiencing chronic pain.  
  - For those who are depressed  
  - Jim Smith, at Brookdale, and all who are in care centers   
  - Difficult marriages  
  - We continue prayers for those in hospice care: Gail Johnston at Du Page Convalescent Center (If you send a card to Gail, please mail it to Andrea Schmidt, whose address is in the directory.); former President Jimmy Carter; Barb’s friends Vicki and Bill (a married couple who both entered hospice care at the same time); Barb’s Aunt Ruth.  
**We pray for the Jeremiah 29 discernment task force and all of us as we seek God’s will for Southminster in the 21st century.** May we all be attentive to the Holy Spirit’s leading.  
**Prayers for our worshiping community** as we discern together God’s call on SPC for the 21st century.  
**Caring for you!**Our **Congregational Care Committee** is ready to assist in time of need. If you need assistance from the Congregational Care Ministry or Helping Hands in July, call Lynn Ferino (630-272-2269). You may call Pastor Wendy Boden on her cell or home phone (if she has shared the numbers with you) or leave a message for her at the church office: 630-469-9149. Email Wendy at [wendy@southminsterpc.org](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.  
 **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.  
  
**Church staff will be away…**

**Pastor Wendy Boden** will be away July 17-23. For **Pastoral Care** while she is away, contact Minister of Youth and Adult Discipleship Blair Nelson at 630-917-6035. She will not stream Heart to Heart while she is away.

Grace and peace to you! Remember that we love God, neighbor, and one another. Our address is 680 South Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 if you would like to set up an online account with your bank or mail in your pledge. Online giving through Vanco is also now an option –for details contact Ron Birchall.   
  
  
**Dates to remember this week:**  **Sunday, July 14** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. - in person and also live on Facebook.  **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the meeting  
 **Staff meeting** at 11:00 a.m. in the Pastor’s Office   
 **Adult Ed.** at 11:15 a.m. either online via Google Meet or by joining Blair   
 in person in the McHenry Parlor/Library  
 **Confirmation** at 11:15 a.m. in the pastor’s office  
 **Youth: Our annual “Fox River Naval Battle”** (canoeing on the Fox River)! Meet   
 at 1:45 p.m. at Ayers Landing in Ottawa, IL.  
**Monday, July 15 – Pastor’s Sabbath  
Tuesday, July 16  
 Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart on Facebook live at 4:20 p.m.** A.A.meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  **July 17-23 Pastor Wendy Boden will be away.** She will not do Heart to Heart   
 during this time. **Wednesday, July 17  
 eNotes go out  
Friday, July 19** A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  
**Next Sunday, July 21** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m. - in person and also live on Facebook **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following the meeting  
 **No Staff meeting or Confirmation**  
 **Adult Ed.** at 11:15 a.m. either online via Google Meet or by joining Blair   
 in person in the McHenry Parlor/Library

**Bearing Fruit – July 14, 2024**

**Loving God with Heart and Mind**  
Dear Friends,  
  
The Revered Doctor G. Blair Nelson is bringing God’s message to us today. Blair has been our Minister of Youth and Adult Discipleship for 15 years. His responsibilities have expanded over this time to include adult discipleship in general. Dr. Nelson has a genuine love of youth and young people. The youth program that he administers includes Sunday evening youth events, various special and service events, and culminates in an annual work-camp each summer helping the poor and the elderly. He coordinates events for our young adults and leads a Sunday morning adult Bible study. Most recently Blair started a men’s group that meets monthly. The dates of the meetings rotate between Saturday morning and Wednesday night, depending on schedules. The men share their faith stories. The most recent meeting was yesterday – Saturday, July 13.  
  
Blair is an historian of science, as well as an ordained North American Baptist pastor. Blair attended Fuller Theological Seminary for his M.Div. and received his doctorate from the Universality of Wisconsin in the history of science. Blair brings a wide knowledge of history, culture, and religion, and has skills as a college educator working as an adjunct professor at Wheaton College and Benedictine University.  
  
Blair brings both mind and heart to his work and we thank him for bearing the fruit of God’s love in his work at Southminster.