**Southminster Presbyterian Church**

**12th Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 11, 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 “The May 19 Artist Reception.”

 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 as we begin worship.]

 Hymn: *Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery*  pg. 11, gold worship supplement

 Call to Worship

 Leader: We gather here to listen;

 **People: Lord of Inspiration, still our hearts.**

  Leader: We gather here to learn;

 **People: Lord of Wisdom, enlighten us.**

 **All:** **Let us worship God!**

 Hymn: *Speak, O Lord*  pg. 38, gold worship supplement

 Prayer of Confession: (unison)

**O Lord, we need your forgiveness. We hunger for that which will never satisfy, and we love that which leads us away from you. Guide us home through the Holy Spirit alive in our hearts, that we may enjoy you and glorify you forever. In Jesus' name we pray. 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.**

*Text Adapt. and Music* ©2008 Paul M. Vasile
Reprinted/Streamed with permission under OneLicense.net #A-739517. All rights reserved.

 The Passing of the Peace

 Word with Children: Blessing of Backpacks Blair Baldwin
 Children worshiping in the sanctuary, please come forward.

As the children leave:

 *He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands*

**He’s got the whole world in his hands,**

**He’s got the whole wide world in his hands,**

**He's got the whole world in his hands,**

**He's got the whole world in his hands.**

Public domain

 Prayer for Illumination

 Scripture Lessons:  Ephesians 4:25–5:2 Pew Bible, p. 194 (N.T.)

 Romans 15:1-18 Pew Bible, p. 163 (N.T.)

 Sermon: “Called to Be Different” Elder Jim Davidovich

 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 286: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God* (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: *Days of Elijah*  (p. 14, 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 443: *There Is a Redeemer* (all verses)

 Benediction and Charge

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

 Postlude

**Participants and Technical Crew**

Elder Jim Davidovich

Liturgist: Lynn Ferino
Greeter/Fellowship: Sue Knisely
Musician: Tom Anderson
Worship Associate: David Kozich
Tech support: Chris Kozich, Alec Parks

The flowers today are from the Schmidt family celebrating Kayla Schmidt’s 22nd birthday.

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 **in-person fellowship** in the narthex.

**Sunday Morning Adult Ed. Bible Study**will take a summer break; our next meeting will be August 18.
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 through August 13 and will not do Heart to Heart until she returns.

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**.** (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.

**Today – a Southminster Artists’ Reception!**

Plan to be here for the Artist Reception today from 12:30-2:00 p.m. We will have a light lunch (sandwiches and finger desserts), refreshing beverages, and live music. And, of course, you’ll have a chance to meet the artists who have shared their works with us this summer.

**Notes from Blair Nelson:**
**Adult Education**: There will be no after-worship adult Bible class until August 18.

**Men of Southminster**: Watch for an email from Blair N in mid-August about dates for our September get-together. We will share snacks and tell stories about our lives and what God has done in them. Our lives are so interesting!

**Youth**: Let’s put the following date on the calendar on your refrigerator that keeps your family’s schedule from turning into chaotic, random, collisions of events (business as usual in my household): **Pizza & Games on Sept. 22**. More dates will be added as schedules evolve. Also, be prepared for a water day (at a water park near us) in late September, to be shared with our Cuban visitors! What better way to introduce them to America?

**From the Christian Ed. Ministry**: **“Ticket to Adventure”**

Mark your calendars - Southminster is hosting a one-day VBS – “Ticket to Adventure” - on Saturday, September 7 from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (including lunch). Children Kindergarten through Fifth Grade are invited. A free will donation will be collected.

We will be collecting school supplies for our Cuba sister church. Anyone is welcome to donate school supplies. We will also be asking for donations of food and other items.

Registration information will be available soon. Sign up your own children, invite your neighbors, relatives, and friends, the more the merrier. Watch for for further details in eNotes and bulletins.

**From the Jeremiah Task Force**:
We are inviting you to share a **God Sighting** or a **Watch Word**. What are those, you ask?

**God Sighting**: How have you seen God at work here at Southminster?

**Watch Word**: a phrase that represents the core of our identity or ministry at Southminster. Who we are and what we do. God’s action in you.

Use the Post-It Notes by the bulletin board in the narthex that is closest to the coat room to record and post your God Sightings and Watch Words.

**We’re following this up with a Hot Dog and Watermelon Fellowship following worship on Sunday, August 25. Plan to join us outdoors (we hope).**

**From the Mission Ministry: The Cuba Sister Church Ministry**

There is more to having a sister church than paying a visit, though the visits are important. In September the Chicago Presbytery is hosting the Cuba Partnership Network (CPN) for their annual meeting in Darien, IL. The CPN is a network of Presbyterian churches in the U.S. that have sister churches in Cuba. ***We are looking for people to help with this event.*** Pastor Wendy will be making gift bags and would love your help assembling them. The event will also need folks to make Costco runs and airport runs. There will be people attending from all over the United States and Cuba.

**We need people to pray that the U.S. visas for Cubans attending this important meeting come through in time**! Take a moment right now and offer a prayer.

Southminster is looking for someone to help make the travel arrangements for our trips. Would you enjoy supporting this special relationship by working on the arrangements? You will be guided and taught and not just simply tossed into the deep end.

**Presbyterian Readers** will meet Wednesday, August 21, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Our August book is *The Berlin Letters: A Cold War Novel* by Katherine Reay, “an unforgettable tale of the Cold War and a CIA codebreaker who risks everything to free her father rom an east German prison.”

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

**Jubilee Bucks: Next order date is September 1!**
Thanks to all who have ordered gift cards this year! As of now, we have earned $1,271.45\* in “free” money for Southminster! The next time to order will be the Sunday of Labor Day weekend. If you aren’t going to be around that weekend, you can place your order early. Cards will probably not be in until Wednesday or Thursday after Labor Day.

\**This is the correct year-to-date total. The amount printed in the* Dialog *that was sent out by email on Wednesday had two digits inadvertently reversed.*

**Donations for PRC (People’s Resource Center)**:
Our weekly donations are greatly appreciated! Every bit helps! Each client receives between 70-100 pounds of food per visit! PRC receives, rescues, sorts and distributes about 40,000 pounds of food per week. Thanks to all! If you’d like suggestions for the most needed items for the PRC food pantry, there are lists of suggested donations 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 from the Schmidt family to celebrate Kayla’s 22nd birthday.***We give thanks to God for joys:**  - The baptism of Clementine on July 28
 - the birth of Colette Poppy Russell, daughter of Andy and Nicole Russell, newest granddaughter of Lanny Russell **We pray for the whole world and our nation:**
 - Those affected by wildfires in the west, and prayers of thanks for those who fight those fires
  - 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 – heal our nation and help us begin to work together.
  - We pray for an end to gun violence in our nation. *In one day (last Sunday, August 4) there were 123 shooting incidents in 33 states, leaving 39 people dead and 121 people injured.* 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 visas for Cuban pastors and spouses for their meeting, which is in Oak Brook in September
**Blessed are those who mourn:**
 - Prayers for the family of Caroline Linde, and especially for Ralph, after her passing on July 17. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection for Caroline will be held at Southminster on Saturday, September 14; visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m. with the service following at 11:00. You can find her obituary here: <https://www.hultgrenfh.com/obituary/caroline-linde>.
 *- Prayers for Sue Ashpole and family on the death of Mike on July 27. There will be a private service for Mike at his family’s home on August 21.
 - Prayers for Karen Fitzgerald and family on the death of her father, John Launer, on July 29.* - Prayers for the family and friends of Jason Burris, brother-in-law of Pete and Pam Petersen
 - Prayers for the family of Cindy Young
 - The Rasnics ask prayers for the family of Hank Dowgwillo, their daughter’s father-in-law
 - Rita Zapel asks prayers for the Levin family on the death of Shirley Levin
 - Prayers for the family of Sonya Massey
  - 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.***   -
 *- Marta Sundquist asks prayers for Betsey Parrish for a new diagnosis of breast cancer that has spread to her brain
 - Kim, who has stage 3 colon 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., Cis R., 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:**
 - Those trying to conceive and struggling with infertility
 - Rita Zapel asks prayers for Felice Tristano, age 94, who fell and broke his pelvis. He is the father-in-law of Rita’s brother.
 - Paul Anderson needs prayers for healing; he has 2 broken feet.
  - Phyllis Lay, hospitalized in Florida
  - Heidi Shierry, continuing health issues
  - 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 friend Bill and her 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 August, call Deacon Elise Henkels (630-740-0473). Once Pastor Wendy Boden is back from vacation, you may call her 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. (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.

**Church staff away…****Pastor Wendy Boden and Minister of Youth and Adult Discipleship Blair Nelson** are away through Tuesday. For **Pastoral Care** before she returns, contact Rev. Beth Freese Dammers, Pastor/Head of Staff at Community Presbyterian Church in Clarendon Hills. Her office number is 630/323-6522; cell phone is 630/400-1401. Or you may always call your deacon.

**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.

**Dates to remember this week:**  **Sunday, August 11** **Worship, Blessing of the Backpacks** at 9:30 a.m.; - in person and also live
 on Facebook **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following worship
 **No Adult Ed. or Youth activity
 Artist Reception** from 12:30-2:00 p.m. in the hallway gallery and Narthex

**Pastor Wendy Boden and Minister of Youth and Adult Discipleship Blair
 Nelson will be away through Tuesday. Pastoral care coverage is listed
 above. There will be no Heart to Heart until she returns.**
**Tuesday, August 13
 Knitting Circle** meets at 10:00 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library **Deacons** meet at 7:30 p.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library A.A.meets at 7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall  **Wednesday-Friday – Pastor Wendy’s Heart to Heart** on Facebook live
 at 4:20 p.m.  **Wednesday, August 14
 eNotes go out
Thursday, August 15
 Session docket deadline is at noon today
Friday, August 16** A.A. meets at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
**Saturday, August 17**
 Presbytery of Chicago work group meets from 10:00 a.m.-Noon in the
 Narthex/Parlor
**Next** **Sunday, August 18** **Worship** at 9:30 a.m.; - in person and also live on Facebook **In-person Fellowship** in the Narthex following worship
 **Staff meeting** at 11:00 a.m. in the Pastor’s office **Adult Ed. Bible Study** at 11:15 a.m. in McHenry Parlor/Library **No Youth activity**

**Bearing Fruit – August 11, 2024**

**Art is a blessing from God**

The making of art is a blessing from God. The sharing of artwork is a gift between people. We talk often at Southminster about loving God, loving neighbor, loving one another, and loving our enemies. Artwork can be a form of love in the world, a precious gift between people, a way of sharing love between one another. Our front hallway is an art gallery. Quarterly we have artists share their artwork with us, and once quarterly we honor our artists with a reception. Our quarterly receptions are a way for us to welcome people from our community into our church home and enjoy the beauty that is shared with us.

Today’s PhotoStory is from our May19th Artist Reception for artist Jesse Lee. That day we had not only artwork but also live music and refreshments. Southminster’s next Artists Reception is today from 12:30-2:00 p.m. We will have a light lunch, refreshing beverages, and live music.

The art now on display in our main hallway gallery is a compilation of work by artists from the College of DuPage Continuing Education program. Their teacher, Pam (Cather) Keller has displayed her own works here a number of times. The 4 students currently displaying their work have been students of Pam's in her watercolor and acrylic classes at C.O.D. from 4-10 years. The artists are Ron Biondo (acrylic), Mark Scherer (watercolor), Steve Seder (watercolor), and Judy Stezowski (watercolor).

We hope you enjoy their art. Please join us this afternoon, meet the artists, and bear the fruit of God’s love with our community.

**Pastor Wendy Boden and Minister of Youth and Adult Discipleship Blair Nelson** will be away through this Tuesday, August 13. For **Pastoral Care** during this time, contact Rev. Beth Freese Dammers, Pastor/Head of Staff at Community Presbyterian Church in Clarendon Hills. Her office number is 630/323-6522; cell phone is 630/400-1401. Or you may always call your deacon.
Note that Wendy will not stream Heart to Heart while she is away.

**Welcome, Jim Davidovich**

Our guest preacher today is Elder Jim Davidovich, who is the Moderator of the Presbytery of Chicago; he is subbing for Pastor Wendy Boden. Jim is retired after a 37-year career at United Airlines, mostly in Loyalty Marketing. He is currently a career coach for the Chicago-based firm Challenger Gray & Christmas. Jim is married; his husband, Andrew, is from Jamaica as are their two dogs, Usain and Bolt. Jim is a huge Chicago Cubs fan and counts seeing the Cubs win a World Series game at Wrigley Field among life’s joys.