



Southminster Presbyterian Church

"A Christ-centered ... intentionally missional congregation ..."

799 Washington Road · Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania 15228
412-343-8900 · www.spchurch.org · info@spchurch.org

Fifth Sunday in Lent Celebration of Worship March 26, 2023 11 a.m.

Prayer of Preparation

(...for a moment of personal reflection)

Almighty God,
your Son came into the world to free us
from sin and death.
Breathe upon us with the power of your Spirit,
that we may be raised to newness of life in Christ,
and serve you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Prelude

Concerto in G Major
Barbara Hois, Flute

Johann Quantz (1697-1773)

Ringing of the Hour

Welcome

Laura Bentley

* Call to Worship

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
People: who made heaven and earth.
Leader: Whose steadfast love endures forever,
People: and who will not abandon the works of his hands.
Leader: Grace be to you and peace from God our Father,
and from the Lord Jesus Christ,
in the communion of the Holy Spirit.

* Hymn #365

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

JESU, MEINE FREUDE

Jesus, priceless treasure, Source of purest pleasure, Truest friend to me;
Long my heart hath panted, Till it well-nigh fainted, Thirsting after Thee.
Thine I am, O spotless Lamb, I will suffer nought to hide Thee,
Ask for nought beside Thee.

In Thine arm I rest me; foes who would oppress me Cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking, Every heart be quaking, God dispels our fear;
Sin and Hell in conflict fell With their heaviest storms assail us;
Jesus will not fail us.

Hence, all thoughts of sadness! For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in:
Those who love the Father, Though the storms may gather, Still have peace within;
Yea, whate'er we here must bear, Still in Thee lies purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!

* **Prayer of Adoration**

Call to Confession

Fred Barnes

Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

**Out of the depths of a world of darkness, we cry to you, Lord.
We are lost in a world of pain and suffering.
When we put our trust in weapons of war, words of intimidation,
moments of anger, we find no peace.
When we put our hope in the ways for he world, we suffer pain
and find no healing.
Come to us, Lord.
Forgive our doubts and fears. Heal our brokenness,
that we may rejoice in your steadfast love.**

(Moment for silent confession)

Assurance of Forgiveness

* **Glory to God**

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

Hymn

All Things Bright and Beautiful

ROYAL OAK

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful: The Lord God made them all.

Time With the Young Church

Laura Bentley

Prayer for Illumination

Fred Barnes

Old Testament Lesson

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

p. 704

Anthem

It Is Well With My Soul
Chancel Choir

Daniel Muroki

New Testament Lesson

John 11: 1-44

p. 873

Sermon

Edwin van Driel

*** Hymn #154**

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

BRYN CALFARIA

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendor, First begotten from the dead,
You alone, our strong defender, Now lift up Your people's head.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Jesus, true and living bread! Jesus, true and living bread!

Here our humblest homage pay we, here in loving reverence bow;
Here for faith's discernment pray we, Lest we fail to know You now.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

You are here, we ask not how. You are here, we ask not how.

Paschal Lamb, Your offering, finished Once for all when You were slain,
In its fullness undiminished Shall forevermore remain.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Cleansing us from every stain. Cleansing us from every stain.

Life-imparting heavenly manna, Smitten rock with streaming side,
Heaven and earth with loud hosanna worship you, the Lamb who died.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Risen, ascended, glorified! Risen, ascended, glorified!

Announcements

Fred Barnes

Prayers of the People

Laura Bentley

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.

Prayer Response

Hear our prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord,
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Laura Bentley

Offertory

O vos Omnes
Chancel Choir

Pablo Casals (1876-1973)

*** Praise to God**

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.

*** Prayer of Dedication**

*** Hymn #360**

Hope of the World

DONNE SECOURS

Hope of the world, Thou Christ of great compassion,
Speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent.
Save us, Thy people, from consuming passion,
Who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.

Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven,
Bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,
Still let Thy Spirit unto us be given
To heal earth's wounds and end our bitter strife.

Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,
Showing to wandering souls the path of light;
Walk Thou beside us lest the tempting byways
Lure us away from Thee to endless night.

Hope of the world, who by Thy cross did save us
From death and dark despair, from sin and guilt;
We render back the love Thy mercy gave us;
Take Thou our lives and use them as Thou wilt.

Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death victorious,
Who by this sign didst conquer grief and pain,
We would be faithful to Thy gospel glorious:
Thou art our Lord! Thou dost forever reign!

*** Charge and Blessing**

*** Postlude**

Gigue

Ann Slowins(b. 1932)

*** If you are able, please stand.**

If you are visiting with us this morning, WELCOME! Please complete a CONNECT Card
so we can be in touch with you.
Thank you for sharing Worship with us.

PASTORAL TEAM

The Rev. Dr. Donald R. Ewing, Interim Pastor

The Rev. Laura A. Bentley, Designated Associate Pastor

Mr. Frederic D. Barnes, Pastoral Care Associate & Director of AIC

Mr. Richard B. Pinkerton, Minister of Music

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 26, 2023

WELCOME. In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you to this Celebration of Worship. May we, each one, by the power of the Holy Spirit experience a *close communion* with God and a *warm fellowship* with one another.

THIS MORNING WE WELCOME THE REV. DR. EDWIN CHR. VAN DRIEL to Southminster this morning. He is the Director's Bicentennial Professor in Theology at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He teaches mainly in Christology, ecclesiology, and the interaction between biblical studies and theology. Van Driel is deeply invested in helping the church think about its existence and calling as it moves into an increasingly post-Christian world.

Dr. van Driel is an ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and served on the church's committee that produced the denomination's new hymnal, *Glory to God*. He was the primary writer of the committee's "Theological Vision Statement" and "A Statement on Language," and also served on the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Book of Common Worship*.

THE FLOWERS in the *Sanctuary* this morning, are given in remembrance of Loved Ones from the Schnatterly Family.

SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE is available from 8:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. in Room 409 for infants to 4 yrs. old.

THE SOUTHMINSTER CAFÉ in Rec Hall is open today from 8:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Stop in for donuts, bagels, fruit, coffee, tea, or juice anytime on Sunday mornings.

WORSHIP BAGS for children are available at the Christian Education entrance to the Sanctuary (across from the Church Library) and on the Crossings table. Please return the bags and books at the end of worship.

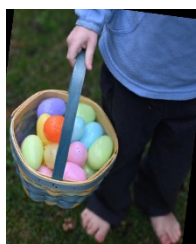
PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL: Children are invited to meet in the Narthex at 10:55 a.m. to join the Palm Processional. Children will lead the choir in with palms waving during the first hymn of 11 a.m. worship. If your child is involved with Children's Choir, they will join everyone in the Narthex after robing.

SUNDAY SEMINARS FOR ADULTS – IN MEMORY OF ED SELL. This group is open to all adults and meets during the 10 a.m. church school hour in our Chapel. Donuts and coffee are available in the Parlor as well. Our current series:
3/26 – Christians, The Nation & War – Dr. John Burgess



FRESH START BIBLE STUDY Start your week off on a positive note by joining this Monday morning fellowship and study. We are currently reading the book "**Rediscover Church – Why the Body of Christ is Essential.**" It is a look at how the church functions and the issues that the post-pandemic church is dealing with. Here is a quote of interest: "God does not invite us to church because it's a comfortable place to find a bit of spiritual encouragement. No, he invites us into a spiritual family of misfits and outcasts. He welcomes us into a home that's rarely what we want yet just what we need." We start at 11 am in the Chapel and end about Noon. Feel free to drop in on the discussion on Monday mornings.

SARAH CIRCLE meets this **Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 1 p.m.** in Southminster House. Please join us to learn about two of Southminster's local missions. Bob Brown will speak about the South Hills Food Pantry and Bruce Levertt will speak about the Limited Mobility Ministry. All women are invited to attend.



FAMILY RESURRECTION EGG HUNT – SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND AT 4 P.M.! Come learn about the Christian meaning of Easter. We'll have a time of family worship and music, hunt for eggs that contain symbols of Easter and hear the story of the Resurrection! There will be fun for the whole family! We'll meet in Fellowship Hall. **Please RSVP** by emailing info@spchurch.org or calling the Church office. We look forward to seeing you there!

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT, APRIL 2, 5:30-8:30PM: All 6th-12th grade students are invited to a movie night on April 2nd as we begin Holy Week. We'll watch the Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. Dinner will be provided. Friends welcome!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING As we follow Jesus' example, walking alongside the most vulnerable to partner in repairing the harm inflicted upon them, we celebrate that we are the church...Together. Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry and support for the poor and oppressed. **One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be collected on Sunday, April 9, 2023** and throughout the month of April. Please be generous in your giving.



COMMUNITY 3 4 1. On Wednesday, **April 12, 2023**, Southminster will once again act as the hosting meal partner for Community 341, a ministry that offers free weekly take-out meals to individuals & families in neighboring Brookline. There are a variety of ways you can get involved. You can volunteer to help prepare the food in the Kitchen at Southminster beginning at 1:00 p.m. or you can arrive later, at 3:30 p.m., to help assemble and pack the meal bags for transport. One other way to participate would be to ride to the distribution site located at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, on the corner of Brookline Blvd. and Glenarm Ave. in Brookline to help give out the meals in the Hall at 5:00 p.m. For further inquiries or to volunteer, **contact Pastor Laura at info@spchurch.org or call the Church Office.** If you cannot volunteer this time, Southminster will be hosting again on **June 14th, August 9th or October 11th.**

ADULT INTEREST CENTER This ministry to folks aged 55+ meets twice a month in Fellowship Hall. The dates for April are **April 14th (Singer Danny McElroy) and April 21st (A History of Pittsburgh Musicians given by speaker Gail Griffith).** We will *not* meet on April 7th because of Good Friday observances. The entertainment begins at 11 a.m. and lunch is available for \$9.00 at Noon. Invite a friend or neighbor to join the group!

SIGN UP AND BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER THAN YOURSELF! Sign up for the **Annual Spring Southminster Blood Drive on Sunday, April 16, 2023 between 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** in Rec Hall and Save a Life. The Greater Pittsburgh Community needs our help. Walk-ins welcome! To schedule your life saving appointment, go to <https://donateblood.centralbloodbank.org>. At the Schedule your Appointment Today screen, scroll down using the far right scroll bar and **enter the group code: G0010147** to schedule your donation. If you are unable to schedule online, please call 412-209-7000. Let's help as many people as we can and be a part of something bigger than ourselves!



SUPPORT THE YOUTH TRIP TO ALASKA THROUGH THE WALL OF GIVING, Now through April 23. Visit the **Wall of Giving in the Café on the Rec Hall** level to pick up a giving envelope. Envelopes are labelled 1-100, and each one represents a pledge to give that dollar amount (i.e. the #20 envelope is a pledge to donate \$20 to the mission trip). Take the envelope with you and **bring it back by April 30th** to place in the offering plate with your cash or check donation. You may also take an envelope and donate online through the church website. Unable to visit the Wall of Giving? "Pick up" a virtual envelope by contacting Pastor Laura at info@spchurch.org.