



# Southminster Presbyterian Church

“A Christ-centered ... intentionally missional congregation ...”

799 Washington Road · Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania 15228  
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## Third Sunday of Easter Scottish Heritage Sunday Celebration of Worship May 7, 2023 11 a.m.

### Prayer of Preparation

(...for a moment of personal reflection)

God of the ages,  
We praise you and thank you.  
You have given your gifts of grace for every time, every place, and every season.  
You have equipped your people to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed,  
And this day, you call us anew to join a great cloud of witnesses,  
In worship, in discipleship, in evangelism, and in service.  
Form us and send us in your everlasting love. Amen.

### Prelude

*Loch Lomond*

Scottish Folk Song

### Ringing of the Hour

### \* The Procession

### Welcome

Laura Bentley

### Call to Worship

Nancy Brumfield

Leader: In You, O Lord, we seek refuge;

**People: You are our deliverer and hope.**

Leader: In You, O Lord, we find strength;

**People: You are our fortress and joy.**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord our God,

**People: For God is faithful throughout all time!**

### \* Hymn #191

*God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength*

WINCHESTER OLD

God is our refuge and our strength, Our ever-present aid,  
And therefore, though the earth remove, We will not be afraid;

Though hills amid the seas be cast, Though foaming waters roar,  
Yea, though the mighty billows shake The mountains on the shore.

Where God abides a river flows; That city will rejoice.  
But nations fear and kingdoms shake Before God's thundering voice.

Since God is in the midst of it, The city walls shall stand,  
Secure and safe with God's sure help, When trouble is at hand.

## \* Prayer of Adoration

### Call to Confession

Fred Barnes

### Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

**Almighty God,**  
in raising Jesus from the grave,  
you shattered the power of sin and death.  
**We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,**  
bound by the ways that lead to death.  
**We overlook the poor and the hungry,**  
and pass by those who mourn;  
we ignore the cries of the oppressed,  
and are indifferent to calls for peace;  
we despise the weak, and abuse the earth you made.

**Forgive us, God of mercy.**  
**Help us to trust your power to change our**  
lives and make us new, that we may know the  
joy of life abundant given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.

*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.

### Announcements

Laura Bentley

### 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

Jennifer Stampfel

### Anthem

*Medley*  
Colin Swett, Bagpipes

### Prayer for Illumination

Fred Barnes

### Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

p. 439

### New Testament Lesson

1 Peter 2:2-10

p. 984

**\* Affirmation of Faith***The Scots Confession, I. God*

We confess and acknowledge one God alone,  
 to whom alone we must cleave,  
 whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship,  
 and in whom alone we put our trust.

Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible;  
 one in substance and yet distinct in three persons,  
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

By whom we confess all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible,  
 to have been created, to be retained in their being,  
 and to be ruled and guided by His inscrutable providence  
 for such end as His eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed,  
 and to the manifestation of His own glory.

**\* Hymn #356***Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessings*

NETTLETON

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
 Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise.  
 Teach me some melodious sonnet, Sung by flaming tongues above;  
 Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, Mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I'm come;  
 And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.  
 Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wandering from the fold of God;  
 He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be!  
 Let that grace now, like a fetter, Bind my wandering heart to Thee:  
 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, Prone to leave the God I love;  
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.

**Prayers of God's People**

Fred Barnes

**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.

**Invitation to the Offering**

Fred Barnes

**Offertory***Psalm 1*  
Chancel Choir

Mark Hayes

**\* 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 #280

*Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that Grace appear The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.

## \* Charge and Blessing

### \* Postlude

*Voluntary*

Michael Burkhardt

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

We thank *Carnegie Mellon University Pipes and Drums, Andrew Carlisle, Director, for sharing with us in worship this morning.*

## THE PROCESSION

### Pipes and Drums

#### ~ The Flags ~

The Christian Flag

The American Flag

The General Assembly Flag of the PC(USA)

The Pennsylvania State Flag

### The Southminster Chancel Choir

#### The Session

#### The Deacons

#### The Ministry Staff

#### The Clergy

## CHURCH STAFF

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 Pinkerton, Minister of Music

Ms. Jennifer Stampfel, Director Children's Ministry

# ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 7, 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.

**THE FLOWERS** in the *Sanctuary* this morning, are given in loving memory Betsy's parents, Charles M. and Anne E. Lynn, and Tom's father, Ronald R. Teti.

**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.

**PRAISE PACKS** for children are available at all entrances to the Sanctuary and at Crossings worship. Please return the bags and books at the end of worship.

**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. Here's what's coming up:

5/7 – "Words of Love – The Ten Commandments – Fred Barnes

5/14-5/28 – Minor Prophets of the Old Testament – Dr. Stephen Tuell

May 28<sup>th</sup> will be the final meeting of the Sunday Seminars for the spring. We will reconvene in September. Come and take advantage of this time to learn more about our faith and how to put it into action!



**SCOTTISH SUNDAY FESTIVITIES.** Please join us after 11 a.m. worship on the Southminster lawn for Scottish music, dance, and refreshments, including homemade shortbread. *In case of rain, we will meet in Fellowship Hall.*

**THE MAY HUNGER OFFERING** will be taken in order to **purchase McDonald's Gift Cards**, given by the church, along with winter kits of warm outerwear, to the homeless in Pittsburgh each year. The gift cards will be distributed through our partners at East Liberty Family Health Center and Shepherd's Heart. The Hunger Offering will be received on Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> and throughout the month of May. You can give online through the Donate Now button or by mailing the Church Office.

**SPECIAL COMMUNION CLASS SUNDAY, MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>.** Pastor Don and Pastor Laura will teach a special class entitled "What Is Communion". This special class is for 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents / guardians. The class will take place during the regular Sunday School hour.

**THE EVENT—PITTSBURGH YOUTH GATHERING FOR 6TH-12TH GRADERS:** All middle and high school students are invited to The Event, taking place at Hampton Presbyterian Church on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. We will meet in Southminster's parking lot at 5:30 p.m. to carpool to Hampton. We will return at 9 p.m. The Event gathers youth groups from across the Pittsburgh Presbytery for one giant youth group experience. There will be worship, speakers, games, and more! There is no cost, but we need to know if you're coming! RSVP by emailing Pastor Laura at [laura@spchurch.org](mailto:laura@spchurch.org).

**FRESH START BIBLE STUDY.** This is a great way to get your week off on a "fresh start". This time of fellowship and study starts at 11 a.m. on Monday mornings in the chapel. Starting tomorrow through May 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will be looking at "The Belonging Project" which is an outreach program featured in "The Presbyterian Outlook" magazine. Questions can be directed to Fred Barnes.





**PICKLEBALL AT SPC.** You are invited to play in SPC's fellowship hall with members and guests who are 18 yrs + or High School students with a parent. Four players minimum are required per session and up to eight can be accommodated. Please sign up in advance on SPC Team Snap or [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org). Here are upcoming Dates:

**Wednesdays @ 1 p.m.**  
5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24

**Mondays @ 6:30 p.m.**  
5/8, 5/22

**Thursdays @ 6:30 p.m.**  
5/4, 5/18

**OUR WOMEN'S RETREAT** is from dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, May 12, until lunch at noon on Saturday, May 13 at Sandscrest Retreat and Conference Center, in Wheeling, West Virginia. It's an easy one-hour drive from Pittsburgh. Many women choose to gather at our church parking lot around 11:30 a.m. on Friday and carpool to lunch in Wheeling and kick off our time together. Hope to see you there!

**ADULT INTEREST CENTER (AIC)** This ministry to folks aged 55+ meets twice a month in Fellowship Hall. On May 19<sup>th</sup> we will Pursue Trivia! The entertainment begins at 11 a.m. and lunch is available for \$9.00 at noon. May 19<sup>th</sup> will be the final meeting of the Spring. We will not meet June through August. The 49<sup>th</sup> year of AIC will begin in September. Make sure you are on the mailing list or visit our website at [spchurch.org](http://spchurch.org). Invite a friend or neighbor to join the group!

**BIBLE STUDY BUDDIES** will meet again on Friday, May 19, from 4:15–5:15 p.m. All first through third graders are welcome! Meet the teachers at the glass doors at 4:15 p.m. This is a time for learning and fun!

**THE ALL CHURCH PROGRESSIVE DINNER** returns Saturday, May 20, 2023 from 5 – 9 p.m. (early departure fine, of course!). You're invited, and friends and family are welcome! Cost per person is \$10 for non-hosting guests. Meal addresses (four stops over the evening) will be provided per guest at the opening appetizer location. Please RSVP and if willing to host, please indicate your preferred course to serve and the number of people you can host (between 8 and 12 guests per course average). Please RSVP to [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org) by May 12<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to seeing you there!

**YOUTH MISSION TRIP CAR WASH** will be Saturday, May 20, 10am-2pm. Stop by the church parking lot to get your car washed and tell your neighbors, too! Can't get your car here that day? You can still support the youth's efforts by pledging a flat donation or per car donation. Students will be reaching out to the congregation for pledges leading up to the car wash. You can also email Pastor Laura to pledge at [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org).

**SAFE CHURCH AND CPR TRAINING—MAY 21** following 11 a.m. worship until 2 p.m. in Fellowship Hall: Our Safe Church Training and Luncheon is for all volunteers who work with children, elders, ushers, staff, and anyone who would like to learn more about how we keep children safe at SPC. As a part of the Safe Church training, a CPR overview will be provided. Please RSVP by May 14 by emailing [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org) or calling the church office.

**JOIN THE SPC WORSHIP TECH TEAM!** We are creating a Worship Technology Team to run our slides, livestream, and audio. Help is needed at both worship times. Learn a new skill or hone your craft! We will provide training. We need Tech Team members to commit to serving during worship at least 1/month. Interested? Want more information? Contact Pastor Laura at [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org).

**YOUTH MISSION TRIP BAKE SALE:** This final fundraiser for the youth and college mission trip to Alaska will be June 4 before and after worship times! Baked goods will be available for purchase outside of Fellowship Hall (8:30-11am) and in the Parlor (10:30am-12:30pm). Students will bake many of the items, but we need your help, too! Sign up to donate your favorite baked good by emailing [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org).

**SENIOR RECOGNITION, JUNE 4:** Do you have a graduating senior in your family? We want to celebrate them! Please send in your graduate's name, school they are graduating from, their plans following graduation, and an optional photo. We will feature our graduates in the June 4 bulletin. This includes high school, college, and graduate school students. Send information and photos by May 26 to Pastor Laura at [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org)