



Southminster Presbyterian Church

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

799 Washington Road · Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania 15228
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Sixth Sunday of Easter Celebration of Worship Sacrament of Holy Communion May 14, 2023 11 a.m.

Prayer of Preparation

(...for a moment of personal reflection)

God of all time and space,
you initiated the relationship of love and generosity with creation
at a time before and beyond all knowing.
Through the Word and the Spirit,
you continue in eternal love for all beings.
Fill us with a deep and abiding awareness of your presence,
your call, and your grace in our lives and in our world.
Shape us into the people you have made us to be –
poured out in creative mercy for the sake of Jesus Christ
in all creation. Amen.

Prelude

Processional

Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Ringing of the Hour

Welcome

Don Ewing

* Call to Worship

Leader: Come and celebrate! Shout joyfully to the Lord, your God!
Glorify him with your praise!

**People: Everything on earth will worship you; they will sing
Your praises, shouting your name in joyful songs.**

Leader: Come and see what our God has done, what awesome things
he has done for us!

**People: Let the whole world bless our God and sing his praise.
For our lives are in his hands, and he keeps our feet
from stumbling.**

* Hymn #464

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us, Joining all in heaven's plan.
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

* Prayer of Adoration

Don Ewing

Call to Confession

Fred Barnes

Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

Loving God,
In Jesus you offer life to the world and love to its people.
When we see life only for ourselves, forgive us.
Help us to hear your transforming love speaking to us
of respect, dignity and worth,
telling us that we are loved and that we are to love
one another.
In the knowledge of this love work through us to bring your
justice to the world, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(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.

Announcements

Fred Barnes

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

Laura Bentley

Old Testament Lesson

I Samuel 1:1-18

p. 213

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Mother’s Day Sermon”

Don Ewing

*** Apostles’ Creed**

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 again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

*** Hymn #335**

Though I May Speak

O WALY WALY

Though I may speak with bravest fire, And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain; As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within, The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, Our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; By this we worship and are freed.

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord’s Prayer (*In Unison*)

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.

The Words of Institution

The Receiving of the Elements

Please hold elements and commune together.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Invitation to the Offering

Laura Bentley

Offertory

If Ye Love Me
Chancel Choir

Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

* 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

Laura Bentley

* Hymn #386

O for a World

AZMON

O for a world where everyone Respects each other's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done With justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared And misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared, Equality achieved.

We welcome one world family And struggle with each choice
That opens us to unity And gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, The foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn; Outcasts belong, Who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more, And all but love will cease.

* Charge and Blessing

* Postlude

Toccata on Old Hundredth

Michael Burkhardt

* *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.

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 B. Pinkerton, Minister of Music

Ms. Jennifer Stampfel, Director of Children's Ministry

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 14, 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 of C.J. and Dee Matthiessen and Carol Kline from Marilee, Steve and James Kline.

SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE: There is No Sunday Morning Childcare this week. Children are invited to remain in worship with their families. Room 409 will also remain open for parents/guardians and their children under 4 to use. Children must remain with their parent/guardian while in Room 409.

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.

THE CONGREGATION is called into meeting on Sunday May 28th immediately following the 11 a.m. worship. This is the Annual Meeting as indicated in the Bylaws. The agenda includes Election of Officers, report of 2022 financials and Bylaws updates.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE BAKERS!! Shortbread is vital to a successful Scottish Sunday. To everyone who baked shortbread, the Worship and Music Committee would like to say thank you. You helped to make our Scottish Heritage Sunday a success! Thank you to all of those who participated!

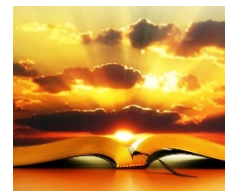


SUNDAY SEMINARS FOR ADULTS – IN MEMORY OF ED SELL. This group is open to all adults and meets during the 10 a.m. church school hour in our Chapel. Donuts and coffee are available in the Parlor as well. Here's what's coming up:

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

May 28th 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!

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. Now through May 22nd, 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.



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 Today** and throughout the month of May. You can give online through the Donate Now button or by mailing your gift to the Church Office.

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

YOUTH MISSION TRIP CAR WASH! ON SATURDAY, MAY 20TH we will have a carwash fundraiser in the **church parking lot from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.** 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. More information to come!

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 or calling the church office.**



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. Here are upcoming Dates:

Wednesdays @ 1 p.m.
5/17, 5/24

Mondays @ 6:30 p.m.
5/22

Thursdays @ 6:30 p.m.
5/18

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!

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 (8:30-11 a.m.) and in the Parlor (10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.).

BAKERS NEEDED FOR THE YOUTH MISSION BAKE SALE: Our students will bake items for the bake sale, but we need your help, too! Sign up to donate your favorite baked goods, whether cookies or muffins or cake or whatever you can dream up by emailing 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.



SUNDAE SUNDAY. We invite you to stay for ice cream on June 4, 2023 following the 11 a.m. Celebration of Worship on the lawn of Southminster House (weather permitting). We will celebrate our graduates and enjoy make-your-own ice cream sundaes and fellowship. We hope you will join us.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! VBS will be July 24 – 28, 2023! This year's theme is "Food Truck Party." Children ages 4 years through 5th grade are welcome to attend! Take advantage of early registration, happening right now! Cost: \$15/child, \$30 maximum/family. (May 12, 2023 through June 12, 2023). After June 12th VBS Cost: \$20/child, \$40 maximum/family. To register, please go to

www.myvbs.org/southminster/ or contact the church office for assistance. For more

information, contact the Director of Children's Ministry, Jennifer Stampfel at info@spchurch.org. Registration closes July 10, 2023.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VBS. We are looking forward to a fun-filled time at VBS. We are planning for a crowd! But we need volunteers to help us make this a success. We need YOU! Children who have completed 5th grade may volunteer to be a junior leader. We also need adult volunteers! If you are interested in volunteering for VBS, please contact info@spchurch.org. We invite you to join us.

VACANCY AT THE FOOD PANTRY—WE NEED YOU!

The South Hills Food Pantry is looking for a volunteer to fill a vacancy as one of our 3 monthly delivery coordinators. This position rotates on a monthly basis so that each volunteer is on duty every third month. The job is performed completely from home. The coordinator takes messages left by clients on the Food Pantry Hot Line and identifies a delivery driver from our existing list of volunteer drivers. If you are interested in taking on this opportunity to help food insecure individuals and families in the South Hills, please contact Bob Brown (bbrown1381@gmail.com) or the church office (info@spchurch.org; 412-343-8900).