



# Southminster Presbyterian Church

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

799 Washington Road · Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania 15228  
412-343-8900 · [www.spchurch.org](http://www.spchurch.org) · [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org)

## Trinity Sunday Celebration of Worship Graduate Sunday June 4, 2023 11 a.m.

### Prayer of Preparation

(...for a moment of personal reflection)

God, Your grace reaches out to all of us.  
You call us to live as citizens of heaven,  
working together with one heart and mind.  
Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy  
of the Good News we have received,  
offering our lives in service of Your kingdom,  
where the last are first, and the first are last,  
and there is grace enough for all. Amen

### Prelude

*Toccata on “Hyfrydol”*

Craig Phillips

### Ringing of the Hour

### Welcome

Laura Bentley

### \* Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to worship the one who created the universe.

People: **God is in this place, continuing to form and re-form all creation.**

Leader: We gather to learn how to be disciples of Christ.

People: **Christ is in this place, showing us the way and sending us into the world.**

Leader: We gather to be inspired by the Holy Spirit

People: **The Holy Spirit is in this place, infusing us with new hope, giving us the Words to speak to our world. Let us worship God.**

### \* Hymn #455

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along, O sing ye! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening, find a voice!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
Make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou fire so masterful and bright, That givest us both warmth and light,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All creatures, your Creator bless,  
And worship God in humbleness, O sing ye! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, Three in One!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## \* **Prayer of Adoration**

Laura Bentley

## **Call to Confession**

Fred Barnes

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

**We confess that we have not lived as you instructed us. Entrusted to be the caretakers of your world, we choose instead to live selfishly. Sent into the world to proclaim the good news of Christ, we shy away and remain silent. Called to live peacefully with one another, we favor paths of division and discord. Help us to remember your desires for our lives and ways of living. Call us back to your path and teach us how to be your sent people. In the name of Jesus our brother and Savior, we pray.**

*(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**

Fred Barnes

## **Old Testament Lesson**

Psalm 8

p. 427

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **New Testament Lesson**

Matthew 28:16-20

p. 812

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **Sermon**

*“Blah, Blah, Blah, Blah - Love”*

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**

*God, What's the Shape of Mission*

AURELIA

God, what's the shape of mission — the work that we embrace —  
and what will be our vision for living in this place?  
What words will help and guide us? What service will we do?  
As you walk here beside us, how shall we live for you?

You molded your creation, you placed it in our care.  
You shape our deepest longings for justice everywhere.  
You sent your Son to save us — a gift from heaven above!  
The mission that you give us is grounded in your love.

Sometimes, O Lord, we've struggled with our own busy plans.  
We've tried to shape the gospel to fit our hearts and hands.  
We've trusted our own culture to be the guiding way.  
Yet you are still the potter and we are still the clay.

We see the work you're doing; it's not ours to control.  
You're building and renewing! You make the wounded whole!  
God, may your Spirit guide us to live in Jesus Christ,  
till love shapes all our mission and gives your church new life.

## **A Blessing Litany for Graduates**

Laura Bentley

## **Invitation to the Offering**

### **Offertory**

*Come My Way, My Truth, My Life*  
Chancel Choir

Malcolm Archer

## \* **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**

### **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

### \* Hymn #288

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

ELLACOMBE

I sing the mighty power of God That made the mountains rise;  
That spread the flowing seas abroad And built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained The sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at God's command, And all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord That filled the earth with food;  
God formed the creatures with a word And then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, Where'er I turn my eyes;  
If I survey the ground I tread, Or gaze upon the skies!

There's not a plant or flower below But makes Thy glories known;  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow, By order from Thy throne;  
While all that borrows life from Thee Is ever in Thy care,  
And everywhere that we can be, Thou, God, art present there.

### \* Charge and Blessing

Don Ewing

### \* Postlude

*Fugue in D*

Charles Zeuner (1795-1857)

### \* *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 JUNE 4, 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 my husband, Alan from Bonnie Renton, and our children.

**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 Sanctuary entrances and Crossings worship. Please return the bags and books at the end of worship.

**PENTECOST COIN BOXES DUE TODAY!** Don't forget to return your Pentecost coin box to the collection plates during the time of offering today at both 9 and 11 a.m. worships.

**SUMMER WORSHIP.** On **Sunday, June 11**, we will move to summer worship hours. Crossings Worship will be held at 9 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and the Celebration of Worship will move to 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary (Livestreaming at both services).

**OUR CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES** are extended to Meghan Wells and Erick Gilbert who were married at Southminster on Sunday, May 28 by Pastor Laura Bentley. Meghan is the daughter of Steve & Jennifer Wells, granddaughter of Will & Peg Wells and Erick is the son of Malcolm & Laura Gilbert.

**THE JUNE HUNGER OFFERING** will support **Community 341** which provides free weekly meals to the community in Brookline. In addition, free clothing & hygiene products are also offered along with conversation and fellowship. The gathering is held each Wednesday at St. Mark's Lutheran Church Hall on Brookline Blvd. The **Hunger Offering** will be received on **Sunday, June 4**, and throughout the month of **June**. You can give online using the Donate Now button or mailing a check to the Church Office.



**YOUTH MISSION TRIP BAKE SALE:** This final fundraiser for the youth and college mission trip to Alaska will be on June 4 before and after worship times! Baked goods will be available for purchase outside of Fellowship Hall.

**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!

Ready to cook up some fun? This year's VBS, Food Truck Party, invites children ages 4 years old through 5th grade to get on a roll with God as Food Trucks roll into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party! Kids will learn from the food truck's Chefs, Sous Chefs, and DJ Cupcake (an adorable cupcake puppet), about the Daily Specials (Daily Lessons), which are lines from the well-loved prayer that teaches us to turn to God to meet our needs. There

will also be music, crafts, fun activities, and food! Take advantage of early registration now! Cost: \$15/child, \$30 maximum/family. (Now through June 12, 2023). After June 12th VBS Cost: \$20/child, \$40 maximum/family. To register, please go to [www.myvbs.org/southminster/](http://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](mailto:info@spchurch.org). Registration closes July 10, 2023.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VBS.** We are looking forward to a fun-filled time at VBS, and we're planning for a crowd! So, 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](mailto:info@spchurch.org). We invite you to join us.

**LEMONADE IN THE BREEZEWAY** will be served on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, immediately following the 10 a.m. Celebration of Worship. Stop by for a cool drink, a cookie, and fellowship. Children are encouraged to play on the playground, but please keep food in the Breezeway.



**COMMUNITY 341**- On **Wednesday, June 14, 2023**, Southminster will again be 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 along 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](mailto:info@spchurch.org) or **call the Church Office**.

**MOVIE ON THE LAWN, FRIDAY, JUNE 16** beginning at dusk: "The Princess Bride." All are welcome for our first summer movie on the lawn! We'll show the classic family, tween, and teen movie, "The Princess Bride." Please bring your own chair or blanket. Bug spray and snacks are also encouraged. This is a free event, open to the public. Spread the word!



### **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](mailto:bbrown1381@gmail.com)) or the church office ([info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org); 412-343-8900).



**PASTOR LAURA'S SUMMER BOOK CLUB:** Join Pastor Laura in reading the book, "The Very Good Gospel" by Lisa Sharon Harper, then meet at KingView (101 Beverly Rd) on Thursday, July 6 at 5 p.m. to talk about it! You are responsible for purchasing or borrowing your own book but, ask Pastor Laura if you want help getting a copy. And let us know if you plan to join by emailing [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org).