



**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)

---

## **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Celebration of Worship**

**June 25, 2023**

**10 a.m.**

### **Prayer of Preparation**

*(...for a moment of personal reflection)*

Teach us, Good Lord,  
to serve You as You deserve; to give and not to count the cost;  
to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest;  
to labor and not to ask for any reward, save that of knowing that we do Your will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **Prelude**

*Meditation on “Amazing Grace”*

arr. Fred Swann

### **Ringing of the Hour**

### **Welcome**

Fred Barnes

### **\* Call to Worship**

Leader: Through our baptism, we are dead to sin.  
**People: Now we are alive to God in Christ Jesus.**  
Leader: Let the redeemed of the Lord rejoice;  
**People: For the steadfast love of God, give thanks!**  
Leader: As a deer longs for flowing streams,  
**People: So my soul thirsts for the Living God.**

### **\* Hymn #343**

*Called As Partners In Christ's Service*

BEECHER

Called as partners in Christ's service, Called to ministries of grace,  
We respond with deep commitment Fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing, Side by side and friend with friend,  
Equal partners in our caring To fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
Let us follow, never faltering, Reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer, All God's people, young and old,  
Blending human skills together Gracious gifts from God unfold.  
Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, In a small or global sense,

Help us bear each other's burdens, Breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision, Words of challenge, said with care,  
Bring new power and strength for action, Make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow Ways to order human life  
That surround each person's sorrow With a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living, Our compassion to increase,  
Messengers of faith, thus giving Hope and confidence and peace.

## \* Prayer of Adoration

Fred Barnes

## Call to Confession

Jennifer Stampfel

## Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

**God of grace, love, and communion, we confess that we have  
failed to love You with all our heart, soul, and mind;  
and to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

**We ignore Your commandments, stray from Your way,  
and follow other gods.**

**Have mercy on us.**

**Forgive our sin and raise us to new life that we may serve You  
faithfully and give honor to Your holy name.**

*(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

Jennifer Stampfel

## 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

## Prayer for Illumination

Fred Barnes

## Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 86: 1-10, 16-17

p. 473

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## New Testament Lesson

Matthew 10: 24-39

p. 791

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

*"Discipleship Is A Journey"*

Fred Barnes

\* **Hymn #357**

*O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

MARYTON

O Master, let me walk with Thee In lowly paths of service free;  
Tell me Thy secret; help me bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear, winning word of love;  
Teach me the wayward feet to stay, And guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me Thy patience; still with Thee In closer, dearer company,  
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, In trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray Far down the future's broadening way;  
In peace that only Thou canst give, With Thee, O Master, let me live.

**Prayers of God's People**

Jennifer Stampfel

**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.**

**Invitation to the Offering**

Fred Barnes

**Offertory**

*It Is Well With My Soul*  
Summer Choir

arr. Daniel Muroki

\* **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 #388**

*O Jesus, I Have Promised*

ANGEL'S STORY

O Jesus, I have promised To serve Thee to the end;  
Be Thou forever near me, My Master and my friend;  
I shall not fear the battle If Thou art by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway If Thou wilt be my Guide.

O let me feel Thee near me! The world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle, The tempting sounds I hear;  
My foes are ever near me, Around me and within;  
But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer And shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear Thee speaking In accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion, The murmurs of self will;  
O speak to reassure me, To hasten or control;  
O speak, and make me listen, Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, Thou hast promised To all who follow Thee  
That where Thou art in glory There shall Thy servant be;  
And, Jesus, I have promised To serve Thee to the end;  
O give me grace to follow, My Master and my friend.

**\* Charge and Blessing**

Fred Barnes

**\* Postlude**

*A Joyous Acclamation*

Lani Smith

**\* 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  
Mrs. Lea Anderson-Smith, Clerk of Session  
Mr. H.K. Hilner, Crossings Music Director  
Ms. Valerie Wilson, Director of Administrative Operations & Assistant to Senior Pastor  
Ms. Trish O'Connell, Bookkeeper  
Mrs. Sue Remely, Church Hostess  
Mrs. Cheryl Polito, Wedding Coordinator  
Mr. Raymond Clayton, Facilities Superintendent  
Ms. Eileen Kinner, Coordinator of Communication Technologies and Facilities Associate  
Mr. Anthony Maiorano, Facilities Associate  
Mrs. Lori Guenther, Director Southminster Early Learning Academy  
Ms. Bonnie Kline, Director Southminster Child Care Center

# ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JUNE 25, 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 dear friends Ed and Rene Brungraber and parents of Bruce and Nancy Leverett by Bruce and Nancy Leverett.

**SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE:** is available from 8:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. in Room 409 for infants to 4 yrs. old.

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

**SUMMER WORSHIP** begins today. 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. Both services can be viewed via Livestream.

**LEMONADE IN THE BREEZEWAY** will immediately follow 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.

**THE JULY HUNGER OFFERING.** Christ calls us to love with the same overflowing abundance he showed when he shared life with us on earth and poured out the same grace & forgiveness on everyone. We can do this with the **July Hunger Offering** which will support **City Mission** in Washington, PA. Their cafeteria provides hot, nourishing meals to the homeless and the hungry, who are some of the most vulnerable people in Southwestern PA. Those meals can be where hunger ends and hope begins for many. The Hunger Offering will be received at worship beginning on **Sunday, July 2**, and throughout the month of July. You can also give online or by mailing a check to the church office.



**CHANCEL FLOWERS.** Would you like to honor or memorialize someone with flowers on the chancel? We have openings next month, on July 2, 9, and 30. The cost is \$60. Please contact Gwen Hepler at [eslgwen@yahoo.com](mailto:eslgwen@yahoo.com) for details.



## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) – JULY 24<sup>TH</sup> – 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 -**

**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! 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.



**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).

**SERVING THE TABLE.** Southminster will host the meal at **The Table** at **Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community** on the South Side on **Thursday, July 6, 2023**. The meals are served inside their dining room and volunteers have a choice in how they assist on-site. They can dish the food out onto the plates or act as the servers to deliver the filled plates to the diners at their tables. There's opportunity for interaction with the diners and everyone helps with clean up after dinner. If you don't want to travel to the South Side, you can volunteer to help prepare the food here in the kitchen at Southminster at 1:00 p.m. before it's then transported to Hot Metal at 4:30 p.m. If interested in helping with any part of this ministry, contact **Pastor Laura** at [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org) or call the Church Office



**COMPASSIONATE CARE FUND UPDATE.** The names and faces change from season to season but the need to help never changes. Rent payments, utilities, food, and prescription costs are all on the rise leaving many folks unable to afford them. Our Compassionate Care Fund continues to try and help people through these tough times. Thanks to a generous grant from our Outreach Committee and individual gifts to this fund we are able to help in a time of need. Thanks to everyone who has supported this fund in the past. Your gifts are very much appreciated by those who have received help from Southminster.