



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

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Celebration of Worship

July 9, 2023

10 a.m.

Prayer of Preparation

(...for a moment of personal reflection)

Dear God,

We praise You this morning for the blessings You have given us.

For the journey that we are on, and the love and hope You instill in us.

For the hope that sustains us. Make us one with Your Christ,

In life, thought and actions. Now and forever.

Amen.

Prelude

Allegretto in F

Gray

Ringing of the Hour

Welcome

Don Ewing

* Call to Worship

Leader: Lord, Your love knows no limits. You meet us on our life's journey with healing and forgiveness.

People: Grant us Your Holy Spirit, so that we may faithfully follow and worship You.

Leader: Emptying all debris, all broken pieces of our lives,

People: We seek Jesus to renew us in body, mind, and soul.

Leader: Lord, we are here to worship and sing Your name.

People: We will let nothing interfere or hold back our praise.

* Hymn #361

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,

Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!

What more can be said than to you God hath said,

To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,

For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;

I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,

Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake.

* **Prayer of Adoration**

Don Ewing

Call to Confession

Fred Barnes

Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

L: Lord, this morning we confess that we sometimes apply stereotypes to people who are superficial and wrong.

P: May we be gracious, as you have been gracious to us.

L: Lord, this morning we confess that we sometimes get caught up in the judgments that have already been made about people.

P: May we be gracious, as you have been gracious to us.

L: Let us worship God who gives people new life, a new chance, and a new name.

p: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

The old has vanished. See, everything has become new.

(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

Moment for Mission

Alaska Mission Team

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 145:8-14

p. 506

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

p. 792

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

A Little Refreshment

Don Ewing

* Hymn # 383

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine: Now hear me while I pray,
Take all my guilt away, O let me from this day be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire; As Thou hast died for me,
O may my love to Thee Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread, And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide; Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away, Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

Prayers of God's People

Don Ewing

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

Be Thou My Vision
Summer Choir

Alice Parker

* 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 #408

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

GERMANY

Where cross the crowded ways of life, Where sound the cries of race and clan,
Above the noise of selfish strife, We hear Thy voice, O Son of Man.

In haunts of wretchedness and need, On shadowed thresholds fraught with fears,
From paths where hide the lures of greed, We catch the vision of Thy tears.

From tender childhood's helplessness, From human grief and burdened toil,
From famished souls, from sorrow's stress, Thy heart has never known recoil.

The cup of water given for Thee Still holds the freshness of Thy grace;
Yet long these multitudes to see The sweet compassion of Thy face.

O Master, from the mountainside, Make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
Among these restless throngs abide, O tread the city's streets again;

Till all the world shall learn Thy love, And follow where Thy feet have trod;
Till, glorious from Thy Heaven above Shall come the city of our God.

*** Charge and Blessing**

Don Ewing and Laura Bentley

*** Postlude**

Festive Trumpet Tune

German

*** 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 JULY 9, 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.

THANK YOU to Liz Peters for sharing her music ministry with us today and next week. It is nice to have you with us!

THE FLOWERS in the Sanctuary this morning, are given in loving memory of Al Akers by Darlene Akers.

SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE: is available from 8:45 a.m. – 11:30 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 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 throughout the month of July. You can also give online or by mailing a check to the church office.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) – JULY 24TH – 28TH, 2023! 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! There will be music, crafts, fun activities, and yes, food trucks! Cost: \$20/child, \$40 maximum/family. Visit www.myvbs.org/southminster/ to register. **Registration closes July 10th at midnight**, so make sure you register NOW! For more information, contact the Director of Children's Ministry, Jennifer Stampfel at

info@spchurch.org.

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. We invite you to join us.

VBS – VOLUNTEER TRAINING - ALL VBS Volunteers are **HIGHLY** encouraged to come to one of the two training dates offered. Please choose from either **July 11th from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Chapel**, or **July 16th from 11:30 a.m. -1 p.m. in the Chapel**. If you have any questions, please reach out to the Director of Children's Ministry, Jennifer Stampfel at info@spchurch.org or 412-343-8900.

PICNIC ON THE LAWN All are welcome to a relaxing picnic on Southminster House Lawn on July 21st at 6 p.m. Bring your own dinner and something to sit on (lawn chair, blanket, etc...) to fellowship with one another! Activities

and games will be provided for children. Weather permitting. For more information, please reach out to the church office at info@spchurch.org or 412-343-8900.

THIS WEEK AT SOUTHMINSTER

Monday, July 10 th	7 p.m.	Church Life – Parlor Disciple Making (DMC) – Chapel
Tuesday, July 11 th		
Wednesday, July 12 th		
Thursday, July 13 th	6:30	Pickleball – Fellowship Hall
Friday, July 14 th	8 a.m.	Jesus & Joe – Southminster House
Saturday, July 15 th	9 a.m.	CE Teacher Training - Chapel



Welcome Back, Alaska Mission Team!!!!
Amelia Neemes, Chase Dougherty, Cooper Wertz, Danny Flynn
Eli Usner, Fritz Stengel, Joey Stengel, Lily Neemes, meadow Wlodarczyk
Tyler Dean, Zeke Usner, Laura Bentley, Richard Heyse,
Chris Erskine, Lynn Erskine