



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

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Celebration of Worship July 16, 2023 10 a.m.

Prayer of Preparation

(...for a moment of personal reflection)

Lord, here we are to worship,
Here we are to speak Your praises.
Each day we have looked for Your presence,
And each day we have praised You for Your grace.
Turn off all that seeks to harm us, and cascade
Your love and mercy over our heads and hearts. Amen.

Prelude

Morning is Broken

arr. Wood

Ringing of the Hour

Welcome

Don Ewing

* Call to Worship

Leader: We are together again, coming together because You called us.

People: Today we will speak and hear Your Word,

Leader: Through which You give life beyond measure.

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

Leader: We seek to commit again our lives as disciples.

People: We seek to worship our God. Receive our praise today in Jesus' name.

* 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)*

Lord of life, our hearts ache when we acknowledge our sins;
when the moment comes and we see ourselves as unkind, judgemental, or hopeless.
It is those moments we confess to You today. It is those thoughts which demean
others we confess.
It is those actions which have harmed others we confess.
By Your grace and mercy forgive us, that we may in days ahead,
be agents of reconciliation and harbingers of peace.
(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

Don Ewing

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

Isaiah 55:10-13

p. 598

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

p. 794

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Don Ewing

* **Hymn # 344**

Christ of the Upward Way

SURSUM CORDA

Christ of the upward way, My guide divine,
Where You have set Your feet May I place mine;
And move and march wherever You have trod,
Keeping face forward up the hill of God.

Give me the heart to hear Your voice and will,
That without fault or fear I may fulfill
Your purpose with a glad and holy zest,
Like one who would not bring less than the best.

Christ of the upward way, My guide divine,
Where You have set Your feet May I place mine;
And when Your last call comes serene and clear,
Calm may my answer be, "Lord, I am here."

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

*O Be Joyful in the Lord
Summer Choir*

Don Roach

* **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 #538**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing; Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Thy love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us, Traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration For Thy gospel's joyful sound;
May the fruits of Thy salvation In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, Ever faithful To the truth may we be found;

So that when Thy love shall call us, Savior, from the world away,
Let no fear of death appall us, Glad Thy summons to obey.
May we ever, May we ever Reign with Thee in endless day.

*** Charge and Blessing**

Don Ewing

*** Postlude**

Toccata in F

Pachelbel

*** 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 16, 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 our parents, John and Joy Pople, and Al and Lois Paulus by Andy and Amy Pople.

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 today and throughout the month of July. You can also give online or by mailing a check to the church office.



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** the training dates offered on **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.

APPLICATION FOR THE REPAIR AND RECONCILIATION ALLIANCE.

What are the stories of Black Presbyterian Churches in the Pittsburgh Presbytery? How have we failed as a Presbytery to love them as we love ourselves? How can we heal the breaches with our brothers and sisters in Christ? The Pittsburgh Presbytery created the Repair and Reconciliation Alliance to thoroughly review the historical experiences of these congregations and offer recommendations on actions of repair and reconciliation. Over the next two years,



the Repair and Reconciliation Alliance needs various people to begin this task: leaders, researchers, writers, videographers, accountants, and more. If God has given you a gift the Alliance could use, please contact the church at Info@spchurch.org and we will get the necessary information to you. Thank you for your interest.



THIS WEEK AT SOUTHMINSTER

Monday, July 17 th	6:30 p.m.	Pickleball – Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, July 18 th		
Wednesday, July 19 th		
Thursday, July 20 th	2 p.m.	Youth Advisory Board Meeting – Youth Lounge Endowment Committee – Parlor
Friday, July 21 ST	8 a.m.	Jesus & Joe – Southminster House
	6:30 p.m.	Picnic on the Lawn – Southminster House Lawn
Saturday, July 22 ND		