



# 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)

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## Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost Celebration of Worship October 29, 2023 11 a.m.

### Prayer of Preparation

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

Almighty God,

be with us this day as we have gathered to hear your word.

Help us open our hearts to the commandments to love, even when loving is difficult.

Give us the courage to be people who will commit their whole lives in your service.

For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

### Prelude

Fugue and Fantasia on "Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott"

Johann Pachelbel

### Ringing of the Hour

#### Welcome

Fred Barnes

### \* Call to Worship

Leader: Our hearts are lifted up toward.

**People: God created all that is!**

Leader: We celebrate that great love of God.

**People: God gifted us with God's only son, Jesus the Christ.**

Leader: Rejoice and be glad today!

**People: Our hearts and spirits praise God for all God's blessings. Amen.**

### \*Hymn #191

*God is Our Refuge and Our Strength*

WINCHESTER OLD

God is our refuge and our strength, our ever-present aid,  
And therefore, though the earth remove, we will not be afraid;

Though hills amid the seas be cast, though foaming waters roar,  
Yea, though the mighty billows shake the mountains on the shore.

Where God abides a river flows; that city will rejoice.  
But nations fear and kingdoms shake before God's thundering voice.

Since God is in the midst of it, the city walls shall stand,  
Secure and safe with God's sure help, when trouble is at hand.

## Call to Confession

Fred Barnes

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

**Merciful God,  
In your gracious presence  
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.  
Although Christ is among us as our peace,  
we are a people divided against ourselves  
as we cling to the values of a broken world.  
The profit and pleasures we pursue  
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.  
The fears and jealousies that we harbor  
set neighbor against neighbor  
and nation against nation.  
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,  
of intellect and reason,  
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us;  
heal and forgive us.  
Set us free to serve you in the world  
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.**

*(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 90: 1-6; 13-17  
Deuteronomy 16: 13-17

p. 476  
p. 152

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

“Harvest Feasts”

Fred Barnes

## \* Hymn #55 I

*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home:  
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied;  
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto God's praise to yield;  
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown;  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;  
From each field shall in that day all offenses purge away;  
Give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
But the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest home;  
Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin;  
There forever purified, in Thy presence to abide:  
Come, with all Thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest home.

## 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

*O How Amiable*  
Chancel Choir

R. Vaughan Williams

## \* 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 #525

*Here I Am, Lord*

HERE I AM, LORD

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send? Refrain.

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts are satisfied.  
I will give My life to them Whom shall I send? Refrain.

### \* Benediction

Fred Barnes

*\* 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

Mr. Frederic D. Barnes, Pastoral Care Associate & Director of AIC  
Ms. Jennifer Stampfel, Director of Children's Ministry  
Mr. H.K. Hilner, Crossings Music Director  
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 & 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 OCTOBER 29, 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** are given to the glory of God in loving memory of my parents, James and Marguerite Forquer, from Judy Sutton.

**SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE** for infants to 4 yrs. is available from 8:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Childcare Room of the Kingdom Keepers Wing which is located off Rec Hall.

**THE SHEAF OF WHEAT AND THE CLUSTER OF GRAPES** in worship today are in memory of former member Diana (Dee Dee) Gibbs Bryce who went home to the church triumphant on October 5, 2023. Dee Dee is the sister of Valerie Moll.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** A brief congregational meeting will be held today following the conclusion of the 11 AM service for the purpose of electing the following for the church nominating committee: Claire Biggs, Jeff Bragdon, John Erskine, Chris Poretta, Karen Rossi, Chris Schnatterly, and Marcie West. The transition team that is looking for a new, short-term, interim pastor, the Director of Music search team, and the Senior Pastor nominating committee will also provide brief updates of their progress. Session will also provide an update of its work, including present and future opportunities for spiritual growth, fellowship, and mission.



**HARVEST FEST IS TODAY AT 4 PM!** Join us as we celebrate God's bountiful harvest before heading into the colder months! There will be delicious food, pumpkin painting, straw maze prayer labyrinth, music, children's activities, and much more! The main dish will be a selection of either fried or baked chicken.

**ADULT INTEREST CENTER (AIC):** All seniors are invited to attend our Adult Interest Center (AIC) which will be held on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 11 am in Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker on November 3<sup>rd</sup> will be Cyndie Carioli from Allegheny County's "Fraud Squad". She will inform us on what to be aware of when it comes to telephone scams and frauds that are currently happening. On November 17<sup>th</sup> we will be entertained by singer Joe Collincini who always gives us great music and classic standards. We have lots of fun and fellowship as well as food (meal cost \$9.00) when we gather together. Please join the group!



**FLEECE SCARF MAKING PROJECT:** We need your help! Please join the Outreach Committee for a day or two of fun, fellowship, and service. We will be making fleece scarves for the homeless on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. from 10 am - 4pm in the sewing room of Sue Robinson at 332 Oak Forest Dr, Mt Lebanon.

Come for a few hours - or spend the day! Lunch will be provided. No sewing experience needed - if you can cut with scissors, we need you! Please let me know when you can help. Contact Sue Robinson at 412 849-3936 or at [sbr611@comcast.net](mailto:sbr611@comcast.net).



**BLOOD DRIVE – NOVEMBER 5:** Both nationally and locally, blood supplies are critically low. If you can donate, please consider making a blood donation during the blood drive in Recreation Hall on November 5 between 8 AM and 1 PM. To schedule an appointment, go to [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) and search using the account code UG0010147 or call 877-25VITAL.



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS NEXT WEEK!!!** Don't forget to turn your clocks back next Saturday before you go to bed.



**SERVING AT THE TABLE:** Southminster will host the meal at The Table at Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community on the South Side on Thursday, November 2, 2023. The meals are served inside their dining room and volunteers have a choice in how they assist on site. They can plate the food in the kitchen 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 cleaning 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 pm before it's then transported to Hot Metal at 4:30 pm. If interested in helping with any part of this ministry, contact Pastor Fred at [info@spchurch.org](mailto:info@spchurch.org) or call the Church Office.

**TIME OF THANKSGIVING:** Please join us as we come together for a "Time of Thanksgiving" on Tuesday, November 14th at 6pm in Fellowship Hall for our traditional delicious SPC Thanksgiving Feast! No cost to attend but a free will offering will be taken. After dinner, Fred Barnes will lead a short program in which we'll sing hymns and Fred will lead a discussion on gratitude. During this time there will be supervised activities for children in Rec Hall. **Make Your Reservation Now! Please RSVP by Wednesday November 8th** by emailing [SPChurchLife@gmail.com](mailto:SPChurchLife@gmail.com) with the number of adults and children in your party, as well as any guests' names and ages of the children. You can also sign up at our Welcome tables in either the Narthex or Crossings entrance. Your RSVP will assist us in preparations and ensure that we have enough food for everyone. We have so much for which to be thankful!!



**SOUTH HILLS FOOD PANTRY: THANKSGIVING DELIVERIES**—During November Food Pantry Deliveries will include an extra bag of seasonal Thanksgiving items (turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce and cake mix). **CHRISTMAS BAGS**—Once again the South Hills Food Pantry will be providing special items to its clients for the Christmas season. In addition to the usual array of fresh and packaged goods, each client will receive a ham and a bag of seasonal items. Please participate in this mission effort by providing a bag of food. At the conclusion of each worship service on October 29 and November 5 labeled bags will be made available for you to take and fill the bag with the items on the label attached to each bag. Bring the filled bag to the SPC Thanksgiving Dinner on Tuesday November 14 or place them in the SHFP Collection boxes at the various entries to the church. The filled bags will be delivered as part of the Christmas "Blast" delivery of the Food Pantry on December 10. **DRIVERS**--If you want to participate in the delivery of food to the food insecure in our community, please contact the Church office or Bob Brown ([bbrown1381@gmail.com](mailto:bbrown1381@gmail.com)).



**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!** Calling all angels, shepherds, and shining stars! Our Christmas Pageant needs you! Anyone from preschool through high school may participate in the Southminster Christmas Pageant for the 5pm Christmas Eve service. If you are interested in participating, please contact Betsy Charles ([betsyhcharles@gmail.com](mailto:betsyhcharles@gmail.com)) or Samantha DeFurio ([psurn99@gmail.com](mailto:psurn99@gmail.com)). No voice is too small to glorify the Lord and celebrate Jesus's birth!

**THE ADULT SUNDAY SEMINAR – IN MEMORY OF ED SELL:** Dr. Jim Davison will be talking for four consecutive weeks about "We Three Kings...Plus One" starting on October 29<sup>th</sup>. He will discuss three of the most fascinating personalities in the Old Testament- the first three kings of Israel: Saul, David, and Solomon. These complex characters and their fluctuating faith are instructive for how we live today. The fourth king we know as the King of Kings. All adults and senior high school students are welcome to join the discussion.

**WHO IS THE VETERAN IN YOUR LIFE?** Southminster Presbyterian Church will be honoring the Veterans in our lives the weekend of Veterans Day. If you would like to be honored, or would like to have someone honored, please send their name, branch of service, and era in which they served to Jennifer Stampfel at [Jennifer@spchurch.org](mailto:Jennifer@spchurch.org) by November 8th at 3pm.