



Southminster Presbyterian Church

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

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Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

Celebration of Worship
Sacrament of Holy Communion

November 5, 2023

11 a.m.

All Saints' Sunday

Prayer of Preparation

(...for a moment of personal reflection)

God of gentle, loving guidance, who brought the Israelites into a new land,
filled with new hope and promise:

Be with us today, opening our hearts and spirits to an awareness
of your abiding love and presence with us.

Help us to place our trust solely in you; for we ask this in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Prelude

Elegy

Brenda Portman

Ringing of the Hour

Welcome

Fred Barnes

* Call to Worship

Leader: Give thanks to God, for God is good.

People: God's love endures forever!

Leader: God has come to God's people with blessings and hope.

People: Praise God for the many ways God touches our lives. Amen.

* Hymn #326

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art, and make me love Thee as I ought to love.

Hast Thou not bid us love Thee, God and King; all, all Thine own: soul, heart, and strength and mind?
I see Thy cross; there teach my heart to cling. O let me seek Thee, and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh; each me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh; teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love, one holy passion filling all my frame;
The baptism of the heaven-descended Dove, my heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

Call to Confession

Fred Barnes

Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

Holy and merciful God,

**In your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings,
and our offenses against you.**

**You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.**

Have mercy on us, O Lord,

For we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you.

**Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light, and walk in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

(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

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

Rev. Marsha Sebastian

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 3:1-12

p. 44

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson

I John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

p. 990

p. 785

Leader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Be of Good Cheer”

Rev. Marsha Sebastian

* **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.

Invitation to the Offering

Fred Barnes

Offertory

How Firm a Foundation
Chancel Choir

arr., Dale Wood

* 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

A Time of Remembrance

Fred Barnes
Jennifer Stampfel

Walt Sapp
November 6, 2022

Mary Ann Wucher
November 16, 2022

Henry R. Crooks
December 14, 2022

Nancy Nordin Rohrich
February 6, 2023

John Frederick Wagner
March 1, 2023

Elizabeth Holroyd
February 8, 2023

Jean Bridgers
July 10, 2023

Marilyn Harrison
September 18, 2023

* Hymn #505

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

ST. FLAVIAN

Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread Thy table in our heart.

There sup with us in love divine; Thy body and Thy blood,
That living bread, that heavenly wine, be our immortal food.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation

Prayer

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

(*We will serve by intinction.*)

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*** Hymn # 526**

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

For all the saints, who from their labors rest, who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine! We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Alleluia! Alleluia!

*** Benediction**

Rev. Marsha Sebastian

*** Postlude**

God of Grace

arr., Paul Manz

**** If you are able, please stand.***

***We thank Barbara Hois
for sharing her musical talent during Communion.***

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 NOVEMBER 5, 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 our grandparents, William and Marguerite Kinner, from Danny Flynn, Katherine Paus and Emily Paus.

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.

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

OUR CONGRATULATIONS and best wishes are extended to Denise Villanueva and Shane Hefferin who were married at Southminster on Saturday, October 28, 2023. Denise is the daughter of Jesus Villanueva and Venensy Polanco and Shane is the son of Stacy Hefferin and the late Edward Hefferin.

ADULT INTEREST CENTER (AIC): All seniors are invited to attend our Adult Interest Center (AIC) which will be held on November 17th, 2023, at 11 am in Fellowship Hall. 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!



BLOOD DRIVE – TODAY!!! 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 between 8 AM and 1 PM. Be a part of something bigger than yourself!



ANGEL TREES 2023!!! It's hard to believe Christmas is just around the corner! Please help us provide gifts for children and seniors from our area. There are two ways to be an Angel this year: 1) Take tag from the trees which are in the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall. Purchase the gift requested and return unwrapped items, with tag attached to the collection box at Main Entrance (glass doors) to the Church by November 28, 2023. 2) Make a monetary donation by using the DONATE NOW link on church website or use The Angel Tree envelopes found in the pews. Please note on the check or on the website that it is for The Angel Tree. Place envelopes in the collection plate of mail to church office. This year's gifts will go to East Liberty Family Health Care Center children and the men and women of Washington Presbyterian Senior Care System. Questions? Contact: Carol Bengston or Sue Robinson or email info@spchurch.org

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 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).



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) or Samantha DeFurio (psurn99@gmail.com). No voice is too small to glorify the Lord and celebrate Jesus's birth!

HALLOWEEN CANDY! If you have leftover Halloween candy, please donate it to the South Hills Food Pantry. The Food Pantry will make sure that the candy finds a good home. Our clients love the extra treats, and it provides a nice accent to our Thanksgiving deliveries. Please drop the candy in the designated food Pantry collection boxes inside the double glass doors and the two Castle Shannon Blvd. entrances to the Sanctuary. Only candy in sealed, manufacturer packaging will be distributed.



YOUTH BELL TEAM: Are you interested in learning how to ring handbells? Do you want to find a new way to express yourself through music? Youth from 2nd grade on up are welcomed! Please let Samantha DeFurio (psurn99@gmail.com) know if you are planning on attending.

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 29th. 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 by November 8th at 3pm.

NOVEMBER HUNGER OFFERING: In November the Hunger Offering will be directed to Family Promise of Southwestern Pennsylvania. This family-oriented organization connects homeless children and their families with a network of community services and resources, all focused on providing them with shelter, meals, hospitality, and support until they are able to return to sustainable, independent lives in their own homes. The Hunger Offering will be collected at the worship service on Sunday, November 5th and throughout the month of November. You can also give online at the web site spchurch.org or mail a check to the church office.

FRESH START BIBLE STUDY: All members and friends of the church are welcome to join our Fresh Start Bible Study which will meet on Mondays at 11 am in the Chapel. It is a wonderful way to start your week off right. We will be studying a wonderful book entitled “The Good and Beautiful God” by James Bryan Smith. This deep, loving, and transformative book will help you discover the narratives that Jesus lived by – to know the Lord he knew and the kingdom he proclaimed. My hope is that we all will be encouraged as we journey with our faith together.