



SOUTHMINSTER

Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 1, 2024

AN INCLUSIVE, WELCOMING COMMUNITY OF CHRISTIAN FAITH.
OUR MISSION IS TO MANIFEST CHRIST'S LOVE IN THE WORLD.

TODAY

*The Courage To Be
Who You Really Are*



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Monday, December 2 at 6 pm
Women's Christmas Potluck
at the home of Jeanne Reinhardt
- Saturday, December 7 from 8:30 to 11 am
Grubby Saturday
- Saturday, December 7 at 7:30 pm
PFS concerts presents
'Brightwell & Moran' in the Sanctuary
- Sunday, December 8 at 11:20 am
Children's Christmas Play
- Sunday, December 8 at 2 pm Water to Wine
Julie and Randy Ray hosting
- Sunday, December 15 at 3 pm
Southminster Christmas Choir Concert
- Tuesday, December 24 at 5 pm
Christmas Eve Family Service
- Tuesday, December 24 at 9 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Scott Dalgarno
Office Coordinator: Rayin Brown
Choir Director: Gabi Marcus
Piano Accompanist Isaac Hoffman
Interim Accompanist: Michael Hawkins
Handbell Choir Director: Dan Anajovich
Technical Director: Moses Ram
Director of Children's Ministry:
Rev. C. Bunny Oliver
Coordinator of Nursery/Preschool:
Audrey Morrow

HOW TO REACH US

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"Courage is found in unlikely places"
-J.R.R Tolkien, *The Lord of the Rings*

PRELUDE
Somewhere In My Memory
John Williams, arr Phillip Keveren

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please sign friendship pads
- TODAY at 11:15 am Advent Fair
- Monday, December 2 at 6 pm Women's Christmas Potluck at the home of Jeanne Reinhardt
- Saturday, December 7 8:30-11 am Grubby Saturday
- Saturday, December 7 at 9 am Children's Play Dress Rehearsal
- Saturday, December 7 at 7:30 pm PFS concerts presents 'Brightwell & Moran' in the Sanctuary
- Sunday, December 8 at 11:20 am Children's Christmas Play
- Sunday, December 8 at 2 pm Water to Wine, Julie and Randy Ray hosting
- Sunday, December 15 at 3 pm Southminster Christmas Choir Concert
- Tuesday, December 24 at 5 pm Christmas Eve Family Service
- Tuesday, December 24 at 9 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- Special Announcement Vicki Lukich
- Lay Reader: Madeline Epstein
- Candle Lighting: Epstein Family

PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

"It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are."
-E.E. Cummings

PROCESSION OF THE CRECHE

CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, and set lights in the sky — sun and moon and stars.

By these stars, our ancestors charted their journeys.

By these stars, they knew God was with them.

Today we light one candle to bring the fire of the stars down from heaven to earth, to nestle among the greens. We name this candle Courage. (Light the candle.) We too are on a journey, and we do not always know the way. But we chart our path forward anyway by the star of Courage. Even when better days seem far away and the weight of the world seems to crush our promises, we set our face steadily towards the light.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us offer signs of Christ's peace to one another.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children and youth are dismissed.

OPENING HYMN

#88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs 1,5,6,7)

GREEK TESTAMENT READING

Luke 21:25-36

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man."



THEME READING

"Yes, the world is full of pain, uncertainty, and injustice. But in this vulnerable human life, every loss is an opportunity either to shut out the world or to stand up with dignity and let the heart respond. Compassion is not foolish. It doesn't just go along with what others want so they don't feel bad. There is a yes in compassion, and there is also a no, said with the same courage of heart. No to abuse, no to racism, no to violence, both personal and worldwide. The no is said not out of hate but out of an unwavering care. Buddhists call this the fierce sword of compassion." — Jack Kornfield

SPECIAL MUSIC

Where the Light Begins
Music by Susan Labarr
Text by Jan Richardson

SERMON

The Courage To Be Who You Really Are
Rev. Scott Dalgarno

RESPONSIVE HYMN

#357 The Days Are Surely Coming

OFFERTORY

Here's That Rainy Day
by Jimmy Van Heusen

DOXOLOGY

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
We belong to God.
We belong to God.
We belong to God.
We belong to God.

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE



GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, God of time and space.
Heaven is here and earth, too, and the space between them, thin. Here are those bound by time and those blessed by eternity, the Church above and the Church below, Abraham and Sarah, Miriam and Moses are here, Amos and Jeremiah, Simeon and Anna, Peter and Paul, Martha and all the Marys, Stephen and Perpetua, Bonhoeffer and Romero, Francis of Assisi and Hildegard of Bingen, Martin Luther King and Mother Theresa, saints from far back and those who left not long ago,
Only sight prevents our seeing them.
here at your table.
Heaven is here, and earth, and you, great God, who made them!
And so, we join in the unending hymn of praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRESENTATION OF THE ELEMENTS

CLOSING HYMN

#205 Ubi Caritas

PRAYER IN OUR CLOSING CIRCLE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sing and Rejoice Fanfare –
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Brent Pierce – Jill Jackson, & Sy Miller

FELLOWSHIP

ADVENT FAIR

