

Southminster Presbyterian Church



A Service for the Worship of God Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

PREPARATION

- *Please set out a candle that you can light as we light the Christ Candle during worship.*
- *Please print out the last page, called “Children’s Page,” if you have a child. Pastor Nancy’s dog, Cody, will make an appearance for the children’s time in worship today!*

Gathering Around God’s Word

Prelude

Jim Pera

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Josh Sweeney

Call to Worship

One: Welcome to this new day that God has given us!

All: We come, bearing burdens and cares.

One: We place our lives in the loving hands of God.

All: May God heal our spirits and strengthen our faith.

One: We trust that God is always with us.

All: We gather together to praise the One who brings us peace.

Hymn # 624

“I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art”

verses 1, 2, and 4

See next page.

1 I greet thee, who my sure Re - deem - er art,
 2 Thou art the King of mer - cy and of grace,
 3 Thou art the life, by which a - lone we live,
 4 Thou hast the true and per - fect gen - tle - ness;
 5 Our hope is in no oth - er save in thee;

my on - ly trust and Sav - ior of my heart,
 reign - ing om - ni - po - tent in ev - ery place;
 and all our sub - stance and our strength re - ceive;
 no harsh - ness hast thou and no bit - ter - ness.
 our faith is built up - on thy prom - ise free;

who pain didst un - der - go for my poor sake;
 so come, O King, and our whole be - ing sway;
 sus - tain us by thy faith and by thy power,
 O grant to us the grace we find in thee,
 Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,

I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.
 shine on us with the light of thy pure day.
 and give us strength in ev - ery try - ing hour.
 that we may dwell in per - fect u - ni - ty.
 that in thy strength we ev - er - more en - dure.

Prayer of Confession

Josh Sweeney

Amazing God, your love is like a never-ending stream of blessing that sustains us and gives us life. We admit that our love stops flowing when self-interest, pride and insensitivity get in the way. We are harsh with others when they need our gentleness. We become fixated on our own opinions and agendas— forgetting that you ask us to be agents of Christ’s peace. Through the guidance of your Spirit, help us to live humbly and love freely. Teach us how to be a part of the river of your love that flows to all people through the heart of Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession.) Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: When we come before God in humility and honesty,

All: God draws near to us with forgiveness and renewed blessing.

One: Thanks be to God!

Response to Forgiveness “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Might Gates”

Hymn # 93, verse 3

**Redeemer come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in me reveal.**

Passing of the Peace

Josh Sweeney

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Hearing God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

James 3:13-18

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Children’s Time

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

*(The Children’s Page at end of bulletin can be used
for discussion with your child after worship.)*

Scripture Reading

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Anthem

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit” -
traditional spiritual

Ruth Whatley, soloist

Sermon

“Wag More, Bark Less”

Rev. Dr. Nancy Birdsong

Responding to God’s Word

Hymn # 183

“Come to Me, O Weary Traveler”

See next page.



1 "Come to me, O wea - ry trav - eler; come to me with your dis - tress;
 2 "Do not fear, my yoke is eas - y; do not fear, my bur - den's light;
 3 "Take my yoke and leave your trou - bles; take my yoke and come with me.
 4 "Rest in me, O wea - ry trav - eler; rest in me and do not fear.



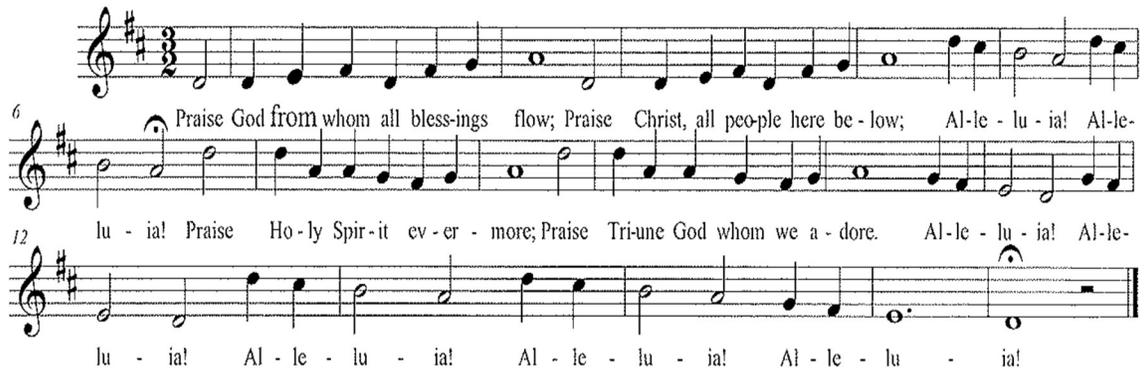
come to me, you heav - y bur - dened; come to me and find your rest."
 do not fear the path be - fore you; do not run from me in fright."
 Take my yoke, I am be - side you; take and learn hu - mil - i - ty."
 Rest in me, my heart is gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care."

Presentation of Offerings

Josh Sweeney

If you would like to give online, please go to www.sminster.com/give where you can give once or set-up a reoccurring monthly offering to the church.

Presentation Hymn *Sung to the tune of "All Creatures of Our God and King."*



Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymn # 291

"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

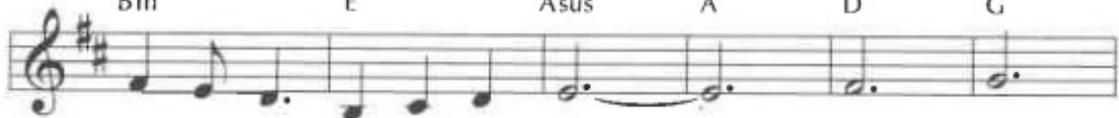
omit verse 2

See next page.

“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” *(omit verse 2)*



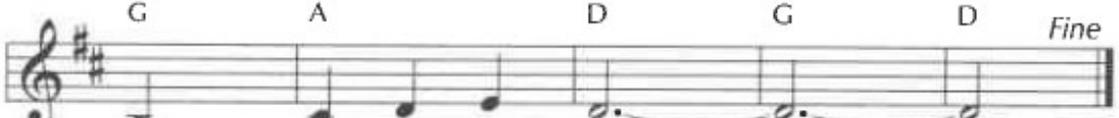
Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the



wil - der-ness, call - ing and free. Spir - it,



spir - it of rest - less - ness, stir me from plac - id-ness,



wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters; you called to the
- 2 You swept through the des - ert; you stung with the
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble; you cried from a
- 4 You call from to - mor - row; you break an - cient



deep; then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the
 sand; and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a
 hill; then you whis-pered in si - lence when the
 schemes; from the bond - age of sor - row the

(Continued on the next page.)

val - leys of sleep; and o - ver the e -
 law and a land. When they were con - found -
 whole world was still. And down in the cit -
 cap - tives dream dreams. Our wom - en see vi -

ons you called to each thing, "A -
 ed with i - dols and lies, then you
 y, you called once a - gain when you
 sions; our men clear their eyes. With

wake from your slum - bers and
 spoke through your proph - ets to
 blew through your peo - ple on the
 bold new de - ci - sions your

rise on your wings."
 o - pen their eyes.
 rush of the wind.
 peo - ple a - rise.

to Refrain

Benediction

Josh Sweeney

Postlude

Children's Page



A dog wags his tail when he is happy. What makes a dog happy?
Did you know that God wants you to be happy? What makes you happy?



A dog sometimes barks to get attention or because he wants to play.
What do you do when you want to get attention?



A dog sometimes barks because he is afraid or worried or stressed, and sometimes the bark sounds scary to us. What makes you feel like “barking” at others? Can you think of better ways to share your feelings? What might happen if you prayed for God to help you to be more at peace?



God asks us to be **gentle** with each other and kind to each other instead of yelling and fighting and saying mean things to each other. What are some ways that you can “wag more” and “bark less?”