



SOUTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Southminster Presbyterian Church of Springfield, MO, is called by God to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, to minister in love to the needs of members of the congregation and residents of the community, and to promote peace and justice in the world.

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Bill R. Havens

Associates in Education: Andrew & Gaye
Sands

Director of Music: Dr. Rose Mary Owens

Pianist: Lou Howard

Organist: Dr. Lynda Crowder

Administrative Assistant: Brenda Jo Hilburn

Nursery Attendant: Paige Deragowski

"Someone will say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith." James 2:18

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 20, 2009

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Indicates Congregation Standing

Assistant Worship Leader today is Brenda Stone

Southminster...

A community of faith; living and sharing God's love.

PRELUDE

Franz Schubert

"Ave Maria"

Rachel Hoops, Violin

You are invited to let the music and quiet meditation prepare you for a worshipful encounter with God.

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the names of each family member present today on the Ritual of Friendship located in the pews on the center aisle. Please

share any concerns you have by completing a concern card, located in the pew racks, and passing it to the center aisle. Ushers will pick them up during the Children's Sermon so that Pastor may alert the congregation of those in need of our prayers.

The community gathers before God in Worship

INTROIT

Robert

Lau

"Is Your Heart Prepared for a King?"

Lighting of the Candles by Acolyte Michael Lyons

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

People: We have beheld his glory. Alleluia!

Leader: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Alleluia!

People: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them has light shined.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Choir: *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* vs. 1

Liturgist: Last Sunday we lit the candle of joy. We light it and the candles of hope and peace again as we remember that Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfill all of God's promises and bring us everlasting peace and joy. *(The candles of hope, peace, and joy are lit.)*

Reader: The fourth candle of Advent is the Candle of Love. God's love is a perfect love. It holds nothing back. God, in love, gives us everything we need to live a life of hope and peace.

Liturgist: The Bible says that “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life.” Jesus shows us God’s perfect love.

People: This is what love is like: Love is patient, love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offense, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people’s troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face, there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance.

Reader: Love never ends. We light the candle of love to remind us that Jesus brings us God’s love and shows us how to love others. *(The candle of love is lit.)*

Liturgist: Love is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the love we find in Jesus Christ. Let us pray:

People: Thank you, God, for the love you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to be fulfilled and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your love with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

RESPONSE

Sandra Dean

“A Candle is Burning” (To the tune of *“Away in A Manger”*)

A candle is burning, a candle of love,
a candle to point us to heaven above.

A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God’s love to your earth.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 132

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

MUSICAL MOMENT

Arnold Bax

“A Christmas Carol”
Heather Nelson, Soprano

The community hears God's Word

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

New Testament

John 1:1-14

Hymnal Selection 635

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

"NIGHT OF MIRACLES, NIGHT OF GRACE"

A Musical Offering for Christmas

Presented by the Southminster Church Choir

The community responds to God's Word

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (In Unison)**

When the fullness of time came, God sent the son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of his own glory, into the world, who took the nature of humanity by means of the Holy Ghost. And so was born the "just seed of David," the "Angel of the great counsel of God," the very Messiah promised, whom we confess and acknowledge to be Emmanuel, true God and true man. Two perfect natures united and joined in one person. This wonderful union between God and humanity in Christ Jesus arose from the eternal decree of God from which all our salvation springs and depends. Amen.

From THE SCOTS CONFESSION in the BOOK OF CONFESSIONS of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

***GLORIA PATRI**

No. 623

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

(With silent prayer)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Christmas Joy Offering

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Adolphe Adam, Arr. Hayes

“O Holy Night”
Rachel Hoops, Violin

*DOXOLOGY

No. 625

“Praise God”

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)**

O God, as we bring our offering to you, we pray that you will bless both gifts and givers, so that both become proclamations of joy, and testimonies to your grace. We give you thanks for the privilege of being partners with you in your Kingdom, even as we await anew your coming. Amen.

*RESPONSE

J. Berthier

“Alleluia”

The community departs to serve in the Peace of God

*CLOSING HYMN

No. 137

“What Child Is This?”

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

Bob McGee

“Emmanuel”

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us;
His name is called Emmanuel.

POSTLUDE

Traditional 19th Century Melody, Arr. Paxton
“Venite Adoremus”

Please call the church office no later than Thursday with your joys or concerns if you want them in the bulletin. During worship, you may write them on a prayer card or give them verbally when Pastor asks.

**Presbytery Prayer
Support of the Week**

United Presbyterian Church,
Mulberry, KS
has approximately 30 members.
They are being served by
Elder Bob Cuthbertson,
Commissioned Lay Pastor.

JOYS

Birthdays: December 20: Todd Morriss; 21: Lance Barnhardt; 22: Mark Hilburn; 25: Rose Mary Owens.

Anniversaries: December 23: Dick & Virginia Bartley.

CONCERNS

Joann Ryan at St. John's

ONGOING CONCERNS

Members

Helen Calhoun

@ **Elfindale Manor**

Ann Pearson

@ **Jordan Creek**

June Speight

@ **Magnolia Square**

Carolyn Deeds

@ **Montclair**

Pat Porter

@ **O'Fallon, MO**

Alma Baird

Vera Goodall

@ **Waterford**

Ted von Willer

@ **V.A. Mt. Vernon**

Betty Reid

@ **James River Care Center**

Isabel Lairmore

@ **The Gardens**

Mary Shelton

@ **Chicago**

Mescal Kennedy

@ **Maranatha Manor**

Ruth Peterson

@ **Culpepper West**

Lea Barcomb

Dorothy Johnson

Betty Mulford

Sharol Neely

Joann Ryan

Martie Tyree

@ **Home**

Friends & Family

Jan Bennett

daughter of Jean Stokke

Bryan Billenstein

son of Jeanne

Tami Montgomery

daughter of Rich & Toni

Doug Palmer

son of Steve and Patsy

Jack Shuler

grandson of Gondy

Paul Fulkerson

son of Martie Tyree



Mini Scroll



We warmly welcome visitors and invite you to consider membership in our community of faith, if you do not have a church home. For more information

Events this week – December 20 through December 27

TODAY



- 8:10 AM Coffee and Fellowship**
- 8:30 AM** Lamp Lighter Church
- 9:30 AM Sunday School**
- 10:45 AM Second Service (Choir Cantata)**
Blood Pressure Checks following second service.
- 1:30 PM** Ukrainian Church
- 3:30 PM Christmas Caroling**
Deadline for January Scroll

Monday	7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous
Tuesday	6:00 PM Overeaters Anonymous 6:30 PM Sweet Adeline's 7:00 PM Ukrainian Church 7:30 PM 12 Step Group (Closed)
Wednesday	8:30 AM TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Meeting 5:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous No Wonderful Wednesdays Activities
Thursday	Office Closed 7:00 PM Ukrainian Church 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Service (Communion) 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Service (Communion)
Friday	Office Closed 7:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous
Saturday	8:30 AM 12 Step Group (Closed) 12:00 NOON Overeaters Anonymous
Next Sunday	8:10 AM Coffee and Fellowship 8:30 AM First Service (Contemporary) 8:30 AM Lamp Lighter Church 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Second Service (Traditional) <i>Coffee sales following second service.</i> 1:30 PM Ukrainian Church