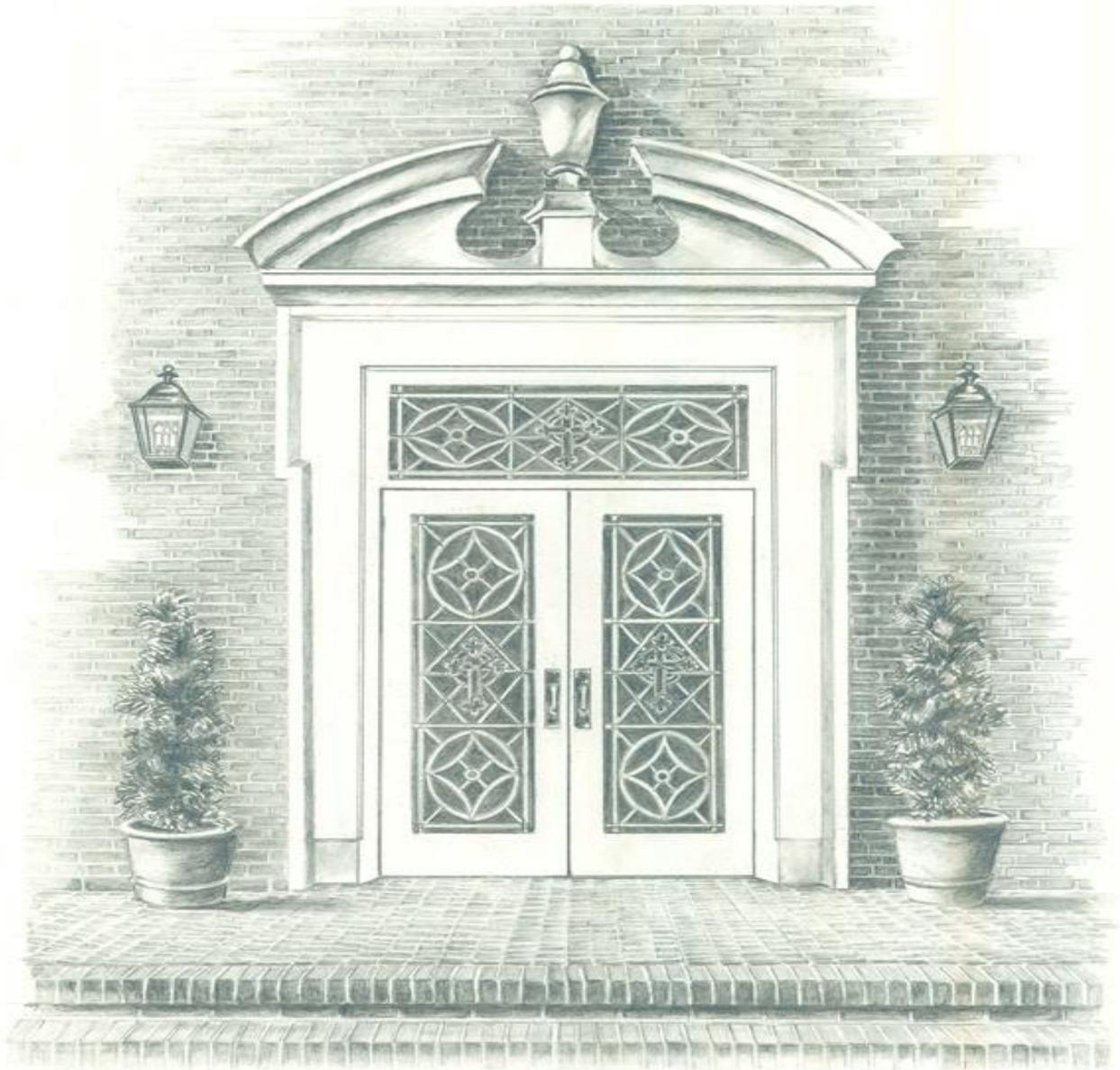


Southminster Presbyterian Church



"Welcome one another, as Christ has welcomed you."

Romans 15:7

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**BEGINNING THE WEEK ON A MOUNTAINTOP WITH GOD
THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

JULY 18, 2021

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10:30 AM

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. Dr. Tom Bryson

PRAYER

CHORAL INTROIT "When Morning Gild the Skies" LAUDES DOMINI

*When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries: may Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer to Jesus I repair: may Jesus Christ be praised!*

CALL TO WORSHIP deNay Kirkpatrick

One: Neighbors and newcomers, families and strangers,
Many: we gather in this place built by God's steadfast love.
One: Strugglers and stragglers, pilgrims almost at the end of the journey,
Many: each of us seeks to follow Jesus, the compassionate One.
One: Builders of bridges in fractured communities,
those who stand on either side of walls of fear,
Many: the Spirit of faithfulness calls us to live as one people – God's people!

HYMN NO. 361 "O Christ, the Great Foundation" AURELIA

*O Christ, the great foundation on which your people stand
to preach your true salvation in every age and land:
pour out your Holy Spirit to make us strong and pure,
to keep the faith unbroken as long as worlds endure.*

*Baptized in one confession, one church in all the earth,
we bear our Lord's impression, the sign of second birth,
one holy people gathered in love beyond our own,
by grace we were invited; by grace we made you known.*

*Where tyrants' hold is tightened, where strong devour the weak,
where innocents are frightened, the righteous fear to speak,
there let your church awaking attack the powers of sin
and, all their ramparts breaking, with you the victory win.*

*This is the moment glorious when he who once was dead
shall lead his church victorious, their champion and their head.
The Lord of all creation his heavenly kingdom brings:
the final consummation, the glory of all things.*

CALL TO REPENTANCE

deNay Kirkpatrick

PRAYER OF FORGIVENESS (*Unison*)

Steadfast God, we confess that we are so busy putting up walls between ourselves and others, we cannot see the home you are building for all of us. We spend so much time noting the differences between us and others, while you are embracing everyone as your child. We run to welcome those who look, talk, and act like us, and you throw open your doors to the stranger, the alien, in our midst. Forgive us, Faithful Heart. By your grace, help us to see the household you are building for all people: there are no plastic protectors on the furniture; there are no rooms that are off-limits; and even the smallest child is welcome to sit at the big peoples' Table and be fed by your grace. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our peace, our hope, our Lord, our Savior.

SILENT CONFESSION

THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

GLORIA PATRI

***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.***

THE PEACE

The Rev. Dr. Tom Bryson

*Pastor: ...The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.*

(The people may greet one another in peace.)

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

deNay Kirkpatrick

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 2:12-22

¹²Remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **Unison: Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

"It Is Well with My Soul"

Soloist: Heather Benoit

*When peace like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."*

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

*My sin O the joy of this glorious thought my sin, not in part, but the whole
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

*And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll:
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend, "Even so" it is well with my soul!*

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Robert Newman

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Tom Bryson

SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles Creed

The Rev. Dr. Tom Bryson

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 catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

HYMN NO. 378

"We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom"

MERLE'S TUNE

*We wait the peaceful kingdom, when wolf and lamb shall lie
in gentleness and friendship without a fear or sigh,
when lion shall be grazing, when snake shall never strike;
a little child shall lead us both strong and weak alike.*

Where is the peaceful kingdom? When will this new day start?

We long for peace and comfort to reign within each heart.

*Yet not in our lives only, nor simply in our home:
we pray that all creation shall one day find shalom.*

*When wars of desolation and hate come to an end,
when nation meets with nation and calls the other "friend,"
still peace in all its fullness will only have begun:
shalom for all creation begins with justice done.*

*That little child shall lead us to walk the chosen way,
to share the peaceful kingdom, to greet God's newborn day.*

*The child born in a stable is sent to break our chains,
to bring through word and table the day when justice reigns.*

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

All join the Leader in saying, "**Alleluia! Amen.**"

BENEDICTORY RESPONSE

"Go with us, Lord"

TALLIS' CANON

*Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.*

POSTLUDE

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Prayer Concerns

- The Graveside Service for **Dot Daughtry** will be held Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. at Southern Heritage Cemetery on Highway 119.
- Betsy Murphy asks prayers for friends, **Charla and Joe Elliott** in Charla's recent diagnosis of colon cancer
- **Tom Grimes**, husband of Day School Teacher Amy Grimes, in his diagnosis for non-small cell lung cancer. Keep Tom and Amy in your prayers as he meets with his oncologist next week.
- **Pat McKinney**, for recovery from multiple falls recently. Pray for the doctors who are running tests to see what is causing these falls.
- Laura Bannon's friend, **Amanda Walker**, for strength and healing from seizures and a recent brain tumor diagnosis.

Announcements

Children's Bulletins and Large Print Bibles and Hymnals are available in the narthex.

Many thanks to **Rachel Julian** today as she serves as our organist while David Renaker is enjoying a little time away!

The Reluctant Faithful Bible Study will meet this Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in Grace Hall.

The Pentecost CANpaign is under way and will run through August 2nd, so you still have time to get your donations to the church. A box can be found in the gathering area of Grace Hall for canned goods to be placed in. You may also write a check to the church and mark it Pentecost CANpaign. All food and money collected will go to support the Greater Birmingham Ministries.

Mark your Calendars for VBS, July 26th thru 30th. We are still in need of a couple of volunteers. If you have some time and would like to help out, contact Sara Brown at sarabrown2181@gmail.com or Ashley Bryson at ash9552@aol.com.

The Columbarium construction is well under way. If you are interested in receiving an information and policy packet, including an application form to reserve a niche, contact Betsy in the Church Office, (205) 822-1124.

Living River Fun Fact: Shades Creek out of Birmingham enters the Cahaba at the tip of the thumb of the Living River property. If you would like to see the result of urban stormwater runoff, visit Living River a day after heavy rains in Birmingham!



You're Invited

Rally Day

Sunday, August 15th, 2021

9am

Southminster Presbyterian Church

Join us on the Upper Field and in Grace Hall for
breakfast, fellowship, and to learn how you can be
involved at SMPC!