

Order of Worship

**All who are able please stand*

Please contact an usher or greeter to obtain an assisted hearing device

FOR REFLECTION

*Blessed are those who hunger for earth's oneness
For they will be satisfied.
Matthew 5:6*

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Sarah, Aron, and Samuel Racho Koeman

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Matthew 7:7-8

Ask—it'll be given to you;

Seek—you'll find;

Knock—it'll be opened for you.

Everyone who asks receives;

Everyone who seeks finds;

And for the one who knocks it is opened.

*HYMN

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

#629

*GREETING OF PEACE

May the Spirit of peace and wisdom be with you all.

And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of peace.

TIME WITH CHILDREN Seek and Ye Shall Find Josie Torres and Julia Mouzong

*(After the children's time children are dismissed for Godly Play & Joyful Path;
Youth for Connections & Everyday Leadership)*

Parents: If this is your first time at Southminster Sunday School, please go with your children (age 3-4th grade) and sign them in. Thank you.

READING

In the Wilderness

James Simmons

I sit alone on the rocks trying to prepare

a man to teach what the laws of life are.

*Sunlight and silence, nurses against disease,
are busy fighting my infirmities.*

*The life is simple, you could not say rough,
a stream, some cans and firewood are enough
to live on; but a hostile shift of weather
would bring me sharply up on the short tether
of endurance. We haven't survived by strength alone.
We have neither fur nor fangs. I will go home,
just as I rise from sleep, eat and get dressed.
This is one more resort, not last or best.*

*A teacher in the wilderness alone
learns to make bread and sermons out of stone.*

ANTHEM All My Trials Bahamian Spiritual, arr. Norman Luboff
If religion was a thing
That money could buy,
The rich would live
And the poor would die.

All my trials, Lord,
Soon be over.
Too late, my brothers,
Too late, but never mind.
All my trials, Lord,
Soon be over.

Now, hush, little baby,
Don't you cry,
You know that man is born to die.

All my trials, Lord,
Soon be over.
Too late, my sisters,
Too late, but never mind.
All my trials, Lord,
Soon be over.

READING *Luke 4:1-11*
Jesus departed from the Jordan full of holy spirit and was guided by the spirit into the desert, where he was put to the test by the devil for 'forty days.' He ate nothing that whole time; and when it was all over, he was famished.

*The devil said to him, "To prove you're God's son, order this stone to turn into bread."
Jesus responded to him, "It is written,*

'Human beings shall not live on bread alone.'"

The he took Jesus up, and in an instant of time showed him all the empires of the civilized world. The devil said to him, "I'll give you authority over all this and the glory that goes with it; it has been turned over to me, and I can give it to anyone I want. So, if you will pay homage to me, it will all be yours."

Jesus responded, "It is written,

"You shall pay homage to the Lord your God, an him alone shall you revere.'"

Then he took him to Jerusalem, set him on the high point of the temple, and said to him, "To prove you're God's son, jump off from here; remember, it is written,

'To his heavenly messengers he will give orders about you, to protect you,"

and

*With their hands they will catch you,
So you won't even stub your toe on a stone.'"*

And in response Jesus said to him, "It is said,

'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

So when the devil had tried every kind of test, he let him alone, for the time being.

SERMON

The Test

John Shuck

***HYMN**

When We Are Tested

#783

***AFFIRMATION OF LIFE**

Hafiz

**If one
Is afraid of losing anything
They have not looked into the Friend's eyes;
They have forgotten God's
Promise.**

**The jewels you get when you meet the Beloved
Go on multiplying themselves;
They take root
Everywhere.**

**They keep mating all the time
Like spring-warmed
Creatures.**

**Burglars
Hear watchdogs inside of His
Gifts**

And run.

SUNG PRAYER

“Ubi Caritas” – (sing four times)

Ubi caritas

Et amore

Ubi caritas

Deus ibi est

(“Where there is love and kindness, there is God”).

MEDITATION AND NAMING

COMMUNAL PRAYER

The Lord’s Prayer Revised

**Indwelling God, who art infused throughout all existence,
we hallow thee with many names.**

Thy Kingdom is within the human heart.

**We accept life for all that it can be,
on Earth as throughout all creation.**

**May we continue to draw sustenance from this earth,
and may we receive forgiveness equal to our own.**

**May we ever move from separation toward union,
to live in grace, with love in our hearts, forever and ever. Amen**

A TIME FOR OFFERING

INVITATION TO GIVE

MUSIC FOR OFFERING

***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.

***PRAYER OF THANKS**

***HYMN**

Seek Ye First

#175

***BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**

***MUSIC FOR LEAVING**