



Celebration of Worship
December 5, 2021

Celebration of Worship

December 5, 2021

10:30 am

Second Sunday of Advent

Enter in Prayer, Worship with Gratitude, Go Forth to Serve

Opening Voluntary *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* arr. David Cherwien
Christopher Shaw, organ

Welcome and Announcements

Stewardship Moment Kurt Watson

* **Opening Hymn** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* (page 8)

* **Responsive Reading** Psalm 122:6-9

One: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

All: Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."

One: For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."

All: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

* **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

The Candle of Peace

Libby Tamas, Sam, Luke, and Oliver

* **Light the Candle** *Hope is a Candle*



Peace is a can-dle to show us a path - way, threat - ened by gusts from our rage and our greed.



Friend, feel no en - vy for those in the shad - ows vio - lence and force their dead - end course.

Words: Richard Leach © 1996, Selah Publishing Co., Inc.; Music: GALLOWAY TAM, Scottish folk melody, adapt. and arr. David Ashley White © 2010, Selah Publishing Co., Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-722558. All rights reserved.

* Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Comfort, O comfort, my people, says the Lord. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and we will live the prayer that Jesus taught ... *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.*

Scripture Reading

Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of God's glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from God.

Welcoming Song

Holy Child within the manger

Tune: Joyous Light

(Let the children come forward.)

The image shows three staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Ho-ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us ev - er in your way, so we see in ev-'ry
stran - ger how you come to us to - day. In our lives and in our liv - ing give us
strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for - giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

Words: Marty Haugen © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.; Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-722558. All rights reserved.

A Moment with Our Children

Rev. Robu

Solo

See, Amid the Winter's Snow
Jennifer King

arr. Dan Forrest

Alleluia.

See, amid the winter's snow,
Born for us on earth below,
See, the tender Lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years.

Hail, thou ever blessed morn,
Hail redemption's happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."

Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the lofty skies,
He, who, throned in light sublime,
sits amid the cherubim.

Hail, thou ever blessed morn,
Hail redemption's happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."

Sacred infant, all divine,
what a tender love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss,
down to such a world of this.

Hail, thou ever blessed morn,
Hail redemption's happy dawn,
Sing through all Jerusalem:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Alleluia.

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Organ Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem

Once in Royal David's City
Carson Gubitz, solo

arr. Bern Herbolzheimer

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed.
Mary was the mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and mean and lowly
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood
He would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden
In whose gentle arms he lay.
Christian children all should be
Kind, obedient, good as he.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above:
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

Sermon

"It's a Beautiful Illusion"

Dr. Olsen

* **Hymn of Departure**

Comfort, Comfort O My People

(page 9)

* **Benediction**

Closing Voluntary

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. David Cherwien

***Let everyone stand in body or in spirit.**

***** Ushers will seat late-comers.**

Operation Holiday

Since 1961, Operation Holiday has made holidays brighter for families in need. The program distributes non-perishable food, fresh food vouchers, winter wear and blankets to low-income families and individuals.

We at Plymouth have an opportunity to help again this year. We will be collecting non-perishable food items, pet food, as well as new and gently used coats and blankets for the next 5 weeks. In order to get a wide variety of the items we will focus on one item per week.



Nov. 7—Protein Sunday (Canned meats, Peanut Butter, etc.)

Nov. 14—Cereal Sunday (Bring on the healthy breakfast cereal)

Nov. 21—Pet Food Sunday (Small bags of dog food and cat food)

Nov. 28—Be a Peach Sunday (Bring in those cans of fruit and veggies)

Dec. 5—Soupy Sunday (Let's finish it off with canned soups)

Meet Our Scholarship Students

Welcome Callie Cooper, the contralto member of our WSU Scholarship Singers. Raised in Vienna, Virginia, a suburb of Washington D. C., Callie graduated from the University of Minn. in 2021 with a B.A. in Vocal Performance. She and Cole McClquham, our tenor soloist, are good friends, having each graduated from the U. of Minn. Callie is in her first year of the two year program, as a candidate for the M. A. degree in Vocal Performance, studying with Mr. Alan Held, Director of Opera Studies at WSU. Callie is the middle one of three sisters, and works part time at Starbucks while she lives in Wichita. We are delighted to have her join us



Plymouth Fine Arts Hallway Gallery

TALLGRASS PRAIRIE PRESS PRINTMAKERS

The Plymouth hallway art gallery currently features prints by **Tallgrass Prairie Press Printmakers**. Based at *Mark Arts Art Center*, formerly the *Wichita Center for the Arts*, they are an association of local artists who are actively creating original fine art prints. The different types of printmaking methods and techniques they use include: stone and polyplate lithography, copperplate and solar plate etchings, drypoint intaglio prints, linoleum and woodcut relief prints, collagraph prints, monoprints and monotypes.

All members are encouraged to develop their own individual styles and techniques. As a result, their exhibitions show a high diversity in choices regarding color, processes, and subject matter.

Members include artists who have taken printmaking classes at or artists who are currently enrolled in printmaking classes at *Mark Arts*.



Plymouth Fine Arts Display Case

JOHN BUCKNER, *Fine Woodturning*

The Plymouth art display cabinet currently features works by John Buckner, *Fine Woodturning*. Dr. Buckner creates beautiful, useful objects from domestic and exotic hardwoods. Each piece is unique, a one-of-a-kind collaboration of nature and human skill.

Dr. Buckner takes pride in his finishes. He allows weeks for varnishes and lacquers to cure. Then he triple-buffs and hard-waxes the finishes. The result is a durable, visual and tactile delight, a creation of heirloom quality.

John Buckner has been turning wood for 70 years. His father was an expert woodworker and built most of the family's furniture from walnut wood harvested from their southwest Missouri farm. Some of that wood is still being shaped.

With degrees from the University of Northern Colorado and the University of Kansas, Dr. Buckner taught at Washburn University, Topeka, Kansas, where he retired as Professor Emeritus of Music. He lives and turns in North Newton, Kansas. He's a member of the American Association of Woodturners.



Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates;
 2. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart;
 3. Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide
 4. So come, my Sov - 'reign; en - ter in!
 5. O blest the land, the cit - y blest,

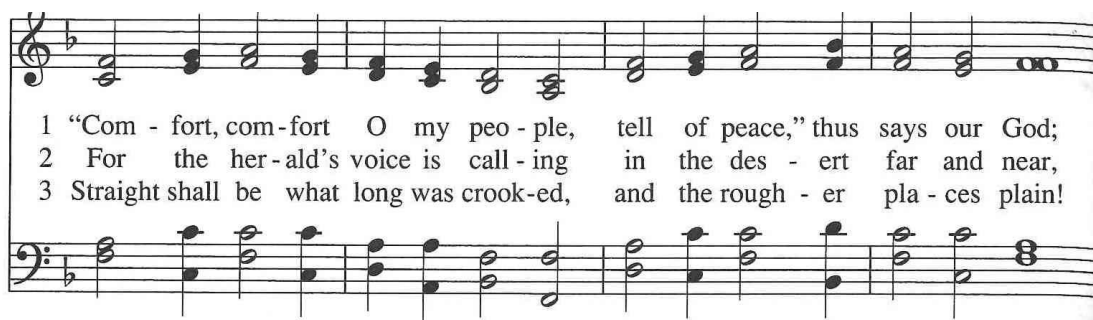
Be - hold the King of glo - ry waits!
 Make it a tem - ple, set a - part
 My heart to Thee; here, Lord, a - bid!
 Let new and no - bler life be - gin;
 Where Christ the rul - er is con - fest!

The King of kings is draw - ing near;
 From earth - ly use for heav'n's em - ploy,
 Let me Thy in - ner pres - ence feel;
 Thy Ho - ly Spir - it guide us on,
 O hap - py hearts and hap - py homes

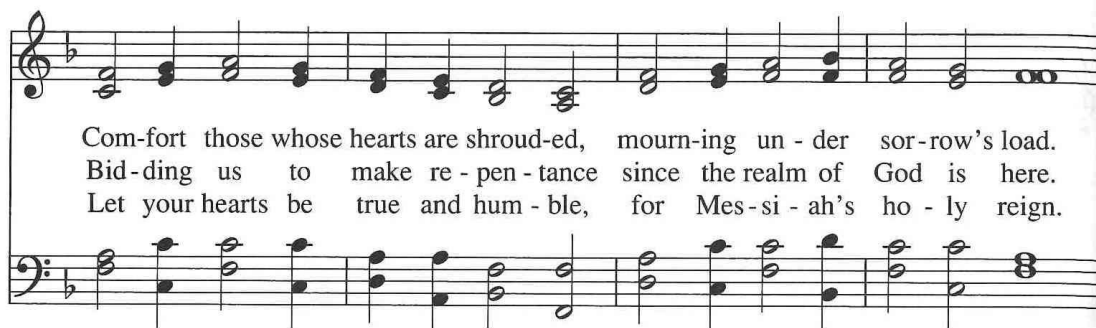
The Sav - ior of the world is here.
 A - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 Thy grace and love in me re - veal.
 Un - til the glo - rious crown be won.
 To whom this King of tri - umph comes! A - men.

TRURO
LM

Comfort, Comfort O My People



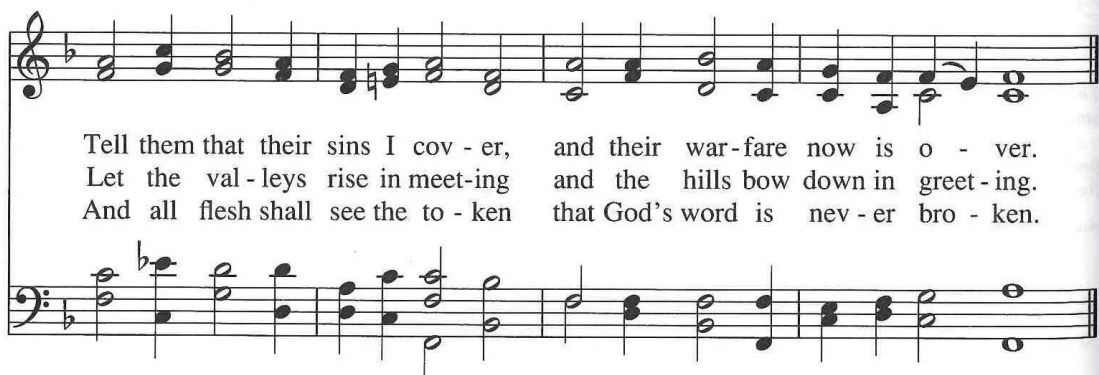
1 "Com - fort, com-fort O my peo - ple, tell of peace," thus says our God;
 2 For the her - ald's voice is call - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook-ed, and the rough - er pla - ces plain!



Com-fort those whose hearts are shroud-ed, mourn-ing un - der sor-row's load.
 Bid-ding us to make re - pen - tance since the realm of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, for Mes-si - ah's ho - ly reign.



Speak un - to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre-pare for God a way;
 For God's glo - ry ev - er - more shall be known o'er all the world;



Tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war-fare now is o - ver.
 Let the val - leys rise in meet-ing and the hills bow down in greet - ing.
 And all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Written for John the Baptist's Day, June 24, this hymn clearly reflects the Isaiah text. Johannes Olearius, a Lutheran pastor, held a faculty appointment at Wittenberg University as well as church administration positions in his region.

Tune: PSALM 42 8.7.8.7.7.8.8.
 (FREU DICH SEHR)
 Trente quatre Pseaumes, Geneva, 1551

The Christmas Story

Annual Multigenerational Christmas Pageant
Wednesday, December 8th | 5:30 pm Dinner | 6:30 pm Pageant

Christmas cookies in Fellowship Hall following the performance.
There will be a collection that evening to benefit the Plymouth Fine Arts Series.

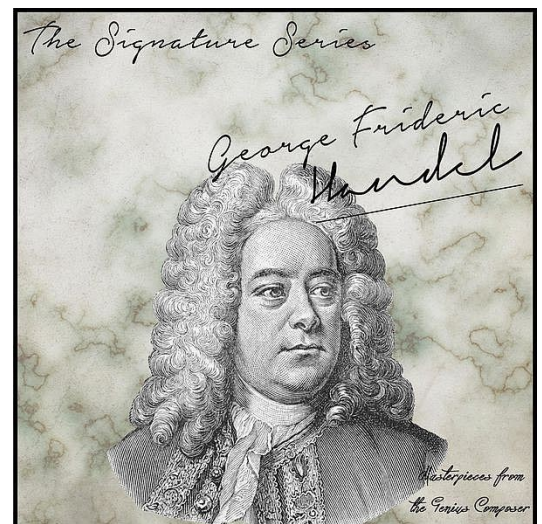



These three magi insist that you fill those empty pews and attend the Christmas pageant!

Handel's *Messiah* Singalong

On Tuesday, December 14, at 7 PM, the church will host its inaugural **Handel's *Messiah* Singalong** complete with guest soloists, orchestra, and YOU, the choir. Music will include most of Part I and conclude with the magnificent "Hallelujah Chorus." This singalong is FREE to the public. Listeners are welcome, too! Please bring your own music score. You can order a copy online through various outlets like Amazon, but we have added an edition in the public domain on the church's website. You may print the edition or access it through an electronic device.

We want your voices to ring joyously to the beautiful music of Handel as we anticipate the birth of Christ. We will have you sit in SATB sections in the sanctuary. As we want people to continue to be safe during the ongoing pandemic, we kindly ask that you wear a mask for this event.





CHRISTMAS ORGAN CONCERT

CHRISTOPHER SHAW, ORGAN

Tuesday, December 21st, 2021; 7:30 PM

Guest Musicians:
Evan Koch, trumpet
Jonathan Wiebe, cello
Kelsey Wise, organ

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 202 N. CLIFTON AVE.
 WICHITA, KS

Christmas Poinsettia

If you would like to give a plant in honor or in memory of a loved one, please send a check for \$15 and list the name on the memo line. The names will be listed in the worship bulletin December 12th and the 19th. Please place order by Thursday, December 9th by calling the office at 684-0221 or you can email us at office@plymouth-church.net



Plymouth Staff

Rev. Dr. Donald P. Olsen, Senior Minister
 Rev. Karen Robu, Associate Minister
 Dr. Henry Waters, Director of Music
 Christopher Shaw, Organist
 KD Keim, Administrative Assistant
 Lindsay Miller, Sunday School Teacher
 Tim Robu, Maintenance Engineer
 Erik Breckenridge, Video Tech
 John Palmer, Video Tech Assistant
 Bill Berry & Ramikia Stevenson, Custodians

December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 8am Blood Drive 10:30am Worship, (Sanctuary)	6 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	7 5:30pm Cabinet Meeting	8 2pm Plymouth Projects (Chapel) 5:30pm Wednes- day Night Dinner 6:30pm Christmas Pageant 7pm Choir Rehearsal	9 Poinsettia orders due	10	11
12 Special Music Sunday 10:30am Worship, (Sanctuary)	13 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers 7pm Orchestra Rehearsal	14 5:30 Tuesday Night Dinner 7pm Handel's Messiah Singalong	15 2pm Plymouth Projects (Chapel) 7pm Choir Rehearsal	16	17	18
19 10:30am Worship, (Sanctuary)	20 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	21 2pm Winter Shelter 5:45pm Winter Shelter 7:30 pm Christmas Organ Concert	22 2pm Plymouth Projects (Chapel) 7pm Choir Rehearsal	23	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed 9 pm Service of Darkness	25 Christmas

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, December 12th.
Dr. Olsen will be Preaching.**

The Plymouth Covenant

Believing in Jesus Christ, the Interpreter of God to humankind, we accept His teachings as the guiding principles of our lives and consecrate ourselves and our church to their fulfillment. We therefore join in covenant, one with another, to worship, work, and serve together that we may express through our Church and our individual lives the love and faith taught by Jesus Christ.