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***Celebration of Worship***  
**January 1, 2023**

# Celebration of Worship

January 1, 2023

10:30 am

## First Sunday After Christmas

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

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### Opening Voluntary

*O Come, All ye Faithful*  
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. David Cherwien

### Welcome and Announcements

### Introit

### Call to Worship

### \*Opening Hymn

*Love Has Come*

(page 7)

### \*Responsive Reading

One: We welcome a new year.

**All: O God, light up our way.**

One: We face anxieties and fears.

**All: O God, be a light in our darkness.**

One: We remember the troubled ones among family and friends.

**All: O God, be a warm light of support.**

One: In our world there is abuse, poverty, and fear.

**All: O God, we will bring light to the dark places.**

One: We will journey and venture as a faith community.

**All: O God, your light will lead us forward.**

From: *Prayers to Share: Responsive Prayers for each Sunday of the Church Year A*

## \*Response of Praise

## Hope is a Candle

Christ is the light that the proph-ets a-wait-ed, Christ is the li-on, the lamb, and the child.

Christ is the love and the mys-tery and laugh-ter cand-les, make way! Christ is the day.

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## \*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

**We thank you, O God, for revealing your love in the gift of a child. Stir our hopes. Prepare us for mysteries that can change us. Ready us for dreams that may send us in a different direction. Ground us in our wisdom, and help us to follow your call as did the one who prayed ...*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.***

Invocation From: *Prayers for all Seasons, Year A*

## Welcoming Song

## Holy Child Within the Manger

## JOYOUS LIGHT

(Let the children come forward.)

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.

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## A Moment with Our Children

Lindsay Miller

**Solo**

*Mary Did You Know* Mark Lowry & Buddy Greene  
Maddie Palmer

Mary did you know,  
that your ancient words  
would still leap off our pages?  
Mary did you know,  
that your spirit song  
would echo through the ages?

Did you know that your holy cry  
would be subversive word,  
that the tyrants would be trembling  
when they know your truth is heard?

Mary did you know,  
that your lullaby  
would stir your own Child's passion?  
Mary did you know,  
that your song inspires  
the work of liberation?

Did you know that your Jubilee  
is hope within the heart  
of all who dream of justice,  
who yearn for it to start?

The truth will teach, the drum will sound, healing for the pain  
The poor will rise, the rich will fall. Hope will live again

Mary did you know,  
that we hear your voice  
for the healing of the nations?  
Mary did you know,  
your unsettling cry  
can help renew creation?

Do you know, that we need your faith,  
the confidence of you,  
May the God that you believe in,  
be so true.

(Text by Jennifer Henry)

## Prayer Concerns

## Pastoral Prayer

## Organ Response

## Invitation to Offering

## Anthem

“What Can I Give Him?”  
from *Sing We Now of Christmas*

arr. Howard Helvey

In the bleak mid-winter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak mid-winter  
long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold Him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heav'n and earth shall flee away  
when He comes to reign.  
In the bleak mid-winter  
a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God Incarnate,  
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels  
may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim  
thronged the air;  
but His mother only,  
in her maiden bliss,  
worshipped the Beloved  
with a kiss.

What can I give Him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man,  
I would do my part.  
Yet what I can, I give Him:  
give my heart.

## Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 2:24-26

There is nothing better for mortals than to eat and drink, and find enjoyment in their toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God; for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? For to the one who pleases him God gives wisdom and knowledge and joy; but to the sinner he gives the work of gathering and heaping, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a chasing after wind.

**Hymn of Preparation**      *Love Came Down at Christmas*      (page 8)

**Sermon**      “Pursuing a Happy New Year”      Dr. Robu

**\*Hymn of Departure**      *A New Year Confronts Us*      (page 9)

## **\*Benediction**

**Closing Voluntary**      *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*      arr. David Cherwien  
Christopher Shaw, organ

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

**North Entry Greeter** Joe Henderson

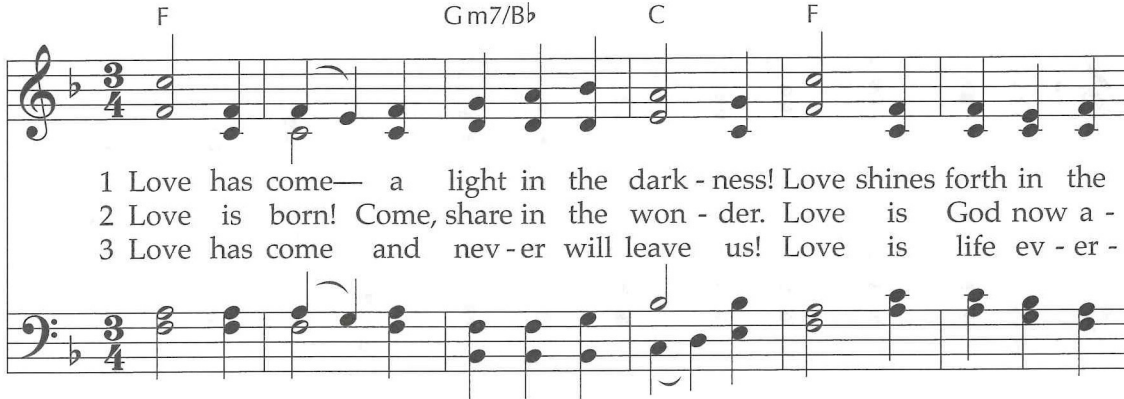
**Communion Table Flowers** Joe Henderson

## **Plymouth Staff**

Rev. Dr. Donald P. Olsen, Senior Minister  
Rev. Dr. Karen Robu, Associate Minister  
Dr. Henry Waters, Director of Music  
Christopher Shaw, Organist  
KD Keim, Financial Secretary/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

# Love Has Come

F Gm7/Bb C F



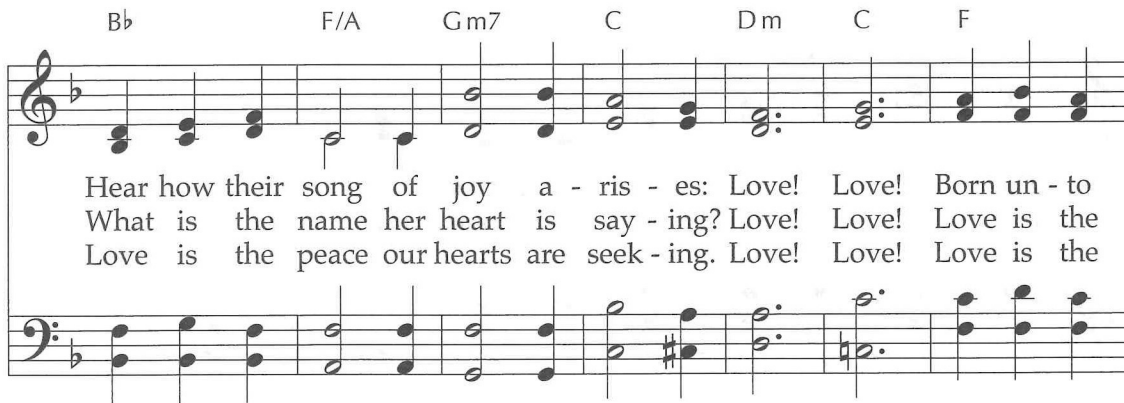
1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -

Gm/Bb C7 F F/A Bb C7



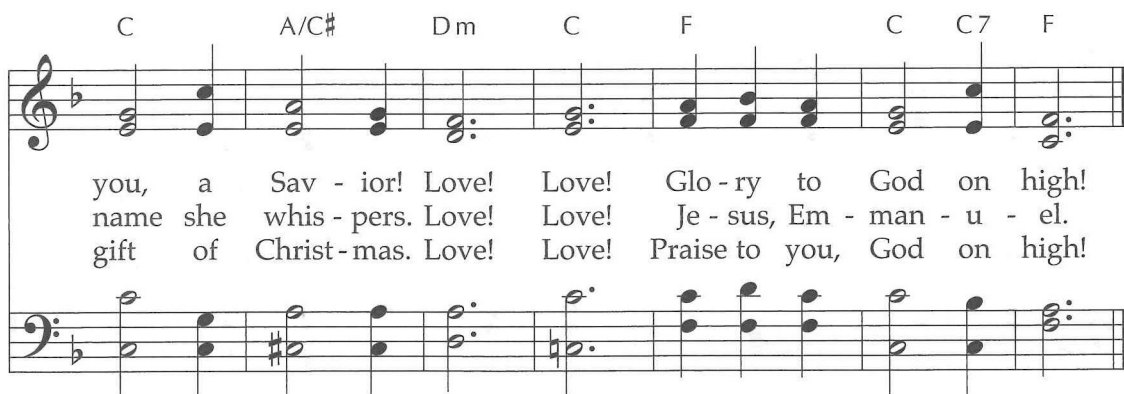
Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it.  
sleep in the . hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er.  
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.

Bb F/A Gm7 C Dm C F



Hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
What is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the

C A/C# Dm C F C C7 F



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high!  
name she whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.  
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!



# Love Came Down at Christmas

F C Dm C F

1 Love came down at Christ - mas, love all love - ly,  
 2 Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car - nate,  
 3 Love shall be our to - ken, love be yours and

Bb C F C Dm A7

love di - vine. Love was born at Christ - mas—  
 love di - vine. Wor - ship we our Je - sus—  
 love be mine, love to God and neigh - bor,

Bb F C F Refrain Bb

star and an - gels gave the sign.  
 what shall be our sa - cred sign? Sing no - el,  
 love the u - ni - ver - sal sign. Sing no -

F Bb F

sing no - el, sing no - el.  
 el, sing no - el.

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*A New Year Confronts Us*

By Fred Pratt Green

Tune: LYONS

A New Year confronts us: and must it be true  
'Whatever it brings us, it brings nothing new'?  
Let cynics be silent - salvation is near!  
God send us a happy and peaceful New Year!

'How quickly time flies!' is a cry from the heart;  
We need all our courage to make a fresh start,  
To track in life's jungle a path that is clear:  
God send us a happy and peaceful New Year!

How easy the greeting! It slips off the tongue  
As if we forgot the world's measureless wrong.  
We stumble to find it, a prayer that's sincere:  
God send us a happy and peaceful New Year!

How happy God's children, the makers of peace!  
Too slowly, yet surely, their numbers increase;  
Their patience in loving is casting out fear:  
God send us a happy and peaceful New Year!

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## Plymouth Hallway Art Gallery

### Tallgrass Prairie Press Printmakers.

Founded by Doug Billings at Mark Arts Art Center in Wichita, this is a group of contemporary local artists who have chosen to focus their artistic abilities in producing hand pulled original prints.

They work primarily out of the printmaking studio at Mark Arts, producing a wide range of different printmaking processes such as: stone & poly plate lithographs, copper plate etchings, solar plate etchings & relief prints, collagraphs, wood & linoleum relief prints and monotypes & monoprints.

Their styles range from the abstract to realism, and from impressionism to modern or contemporary styles.

The object of the TPPP is to raise the visibility & interest in printmaking locally and regionally by exhibiting their prints in a wide range of different venues in and around Wichita, as well as in different places within the state of Kansas.

Currently, Doug & Marcia Scurfield are members of the Society of American Graphic Artists, who are exhibiting at this time in the Salmagundi Art Club and the Print Gallery at the MET in NY. Also, Doug Marcia & Connie Cofer are members of the American Color Print Society. Connie just recently took the 3rd Place Award at the ACPS Annual exhibition in Philadelphia; Marcia won the 2nd Place award last year in Connecticut.



# Nebraska Wesleyan University Choir

presents

## How Can We Keep From **SINGING?**

**TOUR**

**Tom Trenney**  
*conductor*

**Samuel Eschliman**  
*conductor and percussionist*

**Anne Wilson**  
*accompanist*



[music.nebrwesleyan.edu](http://music.nebrwesleyan.edu)

**Wednesday, January 4 at 7 p.m.**

Plymouth Congregational Church  
202 N. Clifton Avenue, Wichita, KS

***with guest choir Goddard High School Madrigals***



# January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>New Years Day</b>  10:30am Worship, (Sanctuary)	<b>2</b> Office Closed	<b>3</b> 12pm Preschool ECDO  5:30pm Cabinet Mtg	<b>4</b> 6pm Wednesday Night Dinner  7pm Nebraska Wesleyan Choir Concert	<b>5</b> 2pm Plymouth Projects  2pm Cooking food for Shelter  5:30pm Serving at the Shelter	<b>6</b> 7pm Folk Concert	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9am Adult Sunday School  10:30am Worship, (Sanctuary)	<b>9</b> 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner  7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>12</b> 2pm Plymouth Projects	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9am Adult Sunday School  9am Fine Arts Mtg.  Mission Possible Sunday  10:30am Worship, (Sanctuary)  <b>Annual Reports                      Due to office</b>	<b>16</b> 12pm Present Day Club  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>17</b> 5:30pm Investment Club	<b>18</b> 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner  6pm Adult Ed  7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>19</b> 2pm Plymouth Projects  5:45pm CE Mtg	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, January 8th.  
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.