

Plymouth

Congregational
Church

Sharing Faith's Journey



Celebration of Worship
January 8, 2023

Celebration of Worship

January 8, 2023

10:30 am

First Sunday of Epiphany

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

Opening Voluntary

Brightest and the Best
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Robert Hobby

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

*Opening Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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*Responsive Sentence

From Psalm 29

One: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength. Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

All: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters. The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

One: The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!" The Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

All: May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

*Response of Praise

Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls

Come, let us join with faith-ful souls our song of faith to raise; One
fam - i - ly in heart are we, and one the God we praise.

Words: William G. Tarrant, 1892, public domain; Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1828, public domain.

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Almighty God, who pours out love upon all who desire the Spirit of grace and compassion, deliver us from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with thoughtfulness and kindled affections, we may worship you in spirit and truth as did the one who taught us to pray ...*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

Matthew 3:13-17 NRSVue

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

Welcoming Song

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

STUTTGART

(Let the children come forward.)

Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.

Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

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A Moment with Our Children

Dr. Robu

Solo

In This Very Room
Jennifer King

Ron and Carol Harris

In this very room
there's quite enough love
for one like me,
and in this very room
there's quite enough joy
for one like me,
and there's quite enough hope
and quite enough power
to chase away any gloom,
for Jesus, Lord Jesus
is in this very room.

And in this very room
there's quite enough love
for all the world.
And in this very room
there's quite enough joy
for all the world.
And there's quite enough hope
and quite enough power
to chase away any gloom,
for Jesus, Lord Jesus
is in this very room.

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Organ Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem

Music Never Dies

Alfred Fedak

In the waking, in the growing,
in the making, in the knowing,
in the living, in the giving, music never dies.

In the sighing and the feeling,
in the crying and the healing,
in the playing, in the praying, music never dies.

In our humming and our singing,
in our drumming and our bringing
all our learning and our yearning, music never dies.

In our voices and our choices,
in our gladness and our sadness,
in the phrasing of our praising, music never dies.

In our starting and our ending,
in our parting and our sending,
in peace and love unending, music never dies.

Sermon

“In Whom I Am Well Pleased”

Dr. Olsen

Hymn of Departure

How Can We Name a Love

(page 7)

Benediction

Closing Voluntary

Dix (As With Gladness, Men of Old)
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Craig Phillips

*Let everyone stand in body or in spirit.

North Entry Greeter John Youle

Communion Table Flowers John Youle

Cover Attribution Public domain. Unknown artist - <http://www.e-codices.unifr.ch/de/sbs/0008/26r> Jesus is carrying water in his lap, after his water jar got broken; other children are watching in surprise. Klosterneuburger Evangelienwerk, fol. 26r.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might-y, the King of cre - a -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign -
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de - fend
 4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nour-ish thy life and re - store
 5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore

tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and sal -
 ing bears thee on ea - gle's wings, e'er in his keep-ing main -
 thee; sure - ly his good-ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at -
 thee, fit - ting thee well for the tasks that are ev - er be -
 him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais - es be -

va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his tem - ple draw
 tain - ing. God's care en - folds all, whose true good he up -
 tend thee. Pon - der a - new what the Al - might-y can
 fore thee. Then to thy need God as a moth - er doth
 fore him! Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a -

near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 holds. Hast thou not known his sus - tain - ing?
 do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 speed, spread - ing the wings of grace o'er thee.
 gain; glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him.

Words: Joachim Neander, 1680, trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, public domain; Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, Praxis Pietatis Melica, 1668; German Choral; Stralsund Gesanbuch, public domain.

How Can We Name a Love

1. How can we name a Love that wak-ens heart and mind,
2. If we a - woke to life built on a rock of care
3. When peo - ple share a task, and strength and skills u - nite
4. So in a hun-dred names, each day we all can meet

in - dwell-ing all we know or think or do or seek or find?
that asked no great re - ward but firm, as - sured, was sim - ply there,
in pro-jects old or new, to make or do with shared de - light,
a pres-ence, sensed and shown at work, at home, or in the street.

With - in our dai - ly world, in ev - ery hu - man face,
we can, with par-ents' names, des - cribe, and thus a - dore,
our Friend and Part-ner's will is bet - ter un - der - stood,
Yet ev - ery name we see, shines in a bright - er sun:

Love's ech-oes sound and God is found, hid in the com-mon-place.
Love un-confined, a fa-ther kind, a moth-er strong and sure.
that all should share, cre - ate, and care, and know that life is good.
In Christ a - lone is Love full grown and life and hope be - gun.

Plymouth Congregational Church
Annual Corporate Meeting

Dear Plymouth Members and Friends,

Notice of Annual Corporate Meeting

In accordance with the Constitution of Plymouth Congregational Church, notice is hereby given of the Annual Corporate Meeting to be held in the sanctuary on **Sunday, January 22, 2023**, immediately following the regular 10:30 a.m. worship service for the purpose of:

1. Presenting annual reports of church officers and boards.
2. Presenting the John Henry Hornung Award.
3. Transacting such other business as may properly come before an annual meeting of the church membership.

Thank you for your dedication to our church.

In faith,

Alan Fearey, Moderator & Sharon Fearey, Church Clerk

John Henry Hornung Award

Plymouth members should know the origin of the John Henry Hornung award that is presented annually to a member who has rendered outstanding service.

Rev. Dr. John Henry Hornung came to Plymouth Congregational Church as Senior Minister in 1924 and remained in that position until 1949. During his tenure Dr. Hornung oversaw a resurgence of church membership, increased financial stability and a wider representation of Plymouth in civic affairs. He was greatly respected for his preaching style and performed countless weddings and funerals that were widely admired. Dr. Hornung was a progressive leader in the ministerial community and an activist for deeper understanding and cooperation between local Protestant and Catholic churches and the Jewish community. In 1938, Dr. Hornung was a member of a ministerial coalition referred to as the Four Horsemen of Tolerance. These clergymen traveled Kansas to speak out against a pro-Nazi, anti-Semitic candidate for the U.S. Senate who was subsequently defeated: When Wichita's Jewish community needed a place of worship, Dr. Hornung made the Plymouth sanctuary available for their use until a temple was built.

In 1987, the church cabinet decided to institute an award that would be given annually to a member who had provided outstanding service to Plymouth in a variety of capacities, both in leadership and volunteer roles. Naming that award after Dr. Hornung seemed an appropriate way to link Plymouth's dynamic past with the recognition of members who have made a significant impact on our church.

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School is held at 9 am in the Turner Room. We will be reading Jesus of the East by Phuc Luu alongside the Gospel of John.

Reading for week one:
Jesus of the East Chapter One
Gospel of John Chapters 1-3

If your book hasn't come yet or if you don't have time to do all the reading come Sunday anyway!

Adult Ed.

Adult Ed. Beginning Wednesday, January 11: Heaven and Hell: A History of the Afterlife by Bart Ehrman

A New York Times best-selling historian of early Christianity takes on two of the most gripping questions of human existence: Where did the ideas of heaven and hell come from, and why do they endure?

What happens when we die? A recent Pew Research poll showed that 72 percent of Americans believe in a literal heaven and 58 percent believe in a literal hell. Most people who hold these beliefs are Christian and assume they are the age-old teachings of the Bible. But eternal rewards and punishments are found nowhere in the Old Testament and are not what Jesus or his disciples taught.

One of Ehrman's startling conclusions is that there never was a single Greek, Jewish, or Christian understanding of the afterlife, but numerous competing views. Moreover, these views did not come from nowhere; they were intimately connected with the social, cultural, and historical worlds out of which they emerged. Only later, in the early Christian centuries, did they develop into notions of eternal bliss or damnation widely accepted today.

In this "elegant history" (The New Yorker), Ehrman helps us reflect on where our ideas of the afterlife come from. With his "richly layered-narrative" (The Boston Globe) he assures us that even if there may be something to hope for when we die, there certainly is nothing to fear.

Books are available online or in local bookstores.

Plymouth Art Gallery

This is the last two weeks for the gallery art exhibit and the display case pieces. Be sure to stop and enjoy them through Jan 15th.

The kiosk by Hoodoo will remain and some new prints possibly added.

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

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.



January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8 9am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship	9 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	10	11 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 7pm Choir Rehearsal	12 2pm Plymouth Projects	13	14
15 9am Adult Sunday School 9am Fine Arts Mtg. Mission Possible Sunday 10:30am Worship Annual Reports Due to office	16 12pm Present Day Club 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	17 5:30pm Investment Club	18 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 6pm Adult Ed 7pm Choir Rehearsal	19 2pm Plymouth Projects 5:45pm CE Mtg	20	21
22 9am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30am Annual Mtg	23 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers 5:30pm Deacons	24 5:30pm Trustee Mtg	25 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 6pm Adult Ed 7pm Choir Rehearsal	26 2pm Plymouth Projects	27	28

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, January 15th.
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.