

Plymouth

Congregational
Church

Sharing Faith's Journey



Celebration of Worship
January 29, 2023

Celebration of Worship

January 29, 2023

10:30 am

Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

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

Opening Voluntary

Prelude on Hyfrydol
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Carol Muehlig

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn

God, Whose Love is Reigning o'er Us

(page 7)

*Responsive Sentences

Psalm 111

One: Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

All: Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

One: God has gained renown by God's wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and compassionate.

All: God has shown all people the power of God's works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

One: The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

All: They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

One: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

All: All those who practice it have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

*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.

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*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

We gather in your presence to sing hymns of faith, join hearts in prayer, declare your way, feel the warm embrace of this place and the kindred spirit of your people. Deepen our commitment, enlarge our vision, and increase our freedom as we follow the ways of 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

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends.

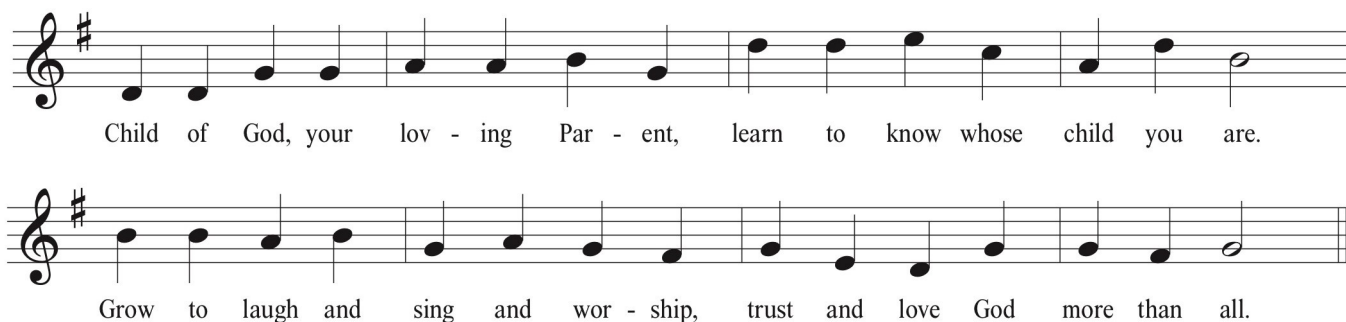
But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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

My Little Soul's Goin' to Shine
Aubrie Culver

arr. Florence B. Price

I'm goin' to join that big 'soc'ation,
I'm goin' to join that big 'soc'ation,
Then my little soul's goin' to shine, shine;
Then my little soul's goin' to shine along.

I'm goin' to climb up Jacob's ladder,
I'm goin' to climb up Jacob's ladder,
I'm goin' to climb up Jacob's ladder,
Then my little soul's goin' to shine, shine,
Then my little soul's goin' to shine along.

I'm goin' to feast off milk and honey,
I'm goin' to feast off milk and honey,
I'm goin' to feast off milk and honey,
Then my little soul's goin' to shine, shine;
Then my little soul's goin' to shine along.

I'm goin' to walk and talk with the angels,
I'm goin' to walk and talk with the angels,
I'm goin' to walk and talk with the angels,
Then my little soul's goin' to shine, shine,
Then my little soul's goin' to shine along.

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Organ Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem

Like a River In My Soul

arr. Tim Osiek
ed. Dan Forrest

I've got peace like a river in my soul.
I've got peace like a river, soothing river, calmly flow.
When the world closes in,
feel the stillness within.
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean in my soul.
I've got love like an ocean, endless ocean, deep and full.
When you're lost and alone,
let the waves bring you home.
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.
When your hope nearly dies,
just remember,
once again you shall rise!

I've got joy like a fountain
Love like an ocean
Peace like a river
in my soul.

Sermon "Living an Examined Life" Dr. Olsen
***Hymn of Departure** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* (page 8)
***Benediction**
Closing Voluntary *Hyfrydol* arr. R. Vaughn Williams
Christopher Shaw, organ

*Let everyone stand in body or in spirit.

North Entry Greeter Alan Fearey
Communion Table Flowers Alan Fearey
Cover Attribution Kendra Craemin, Wichita

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

God, Whose Love is Reigning o'er Us

1. God, whose love is reign-ing o'er us, source of all, the
2. Word of God from na-ture bring - ing spring-time green and
3. Ho-ly God of an-cient glo - ry, choos-ing man and
4. Cove-nant, new a - gain in Je - sus, Star-child born to
5. Lift we then our hu-man voic - es in the songs that

end - ing true; hear the u - ni - ver - sal cho - rus
au - tumn gold; moun-tain streams like chil - dren sing - ing,
wom - an, too; A-br'am's faith and Sa - rah's sto - ry
set us free; sent to heal us, sent to teach us
faith would bring; live we then in hu - man choic - es

raised in joy - ful praise to you: Al - le - lu - ia,
o - cean waves like thun - der bold: Al - le - lu - ia,
formed a peo - ple bound to you. Al - le - lu - ia,
how love's chil - dren we might be. Al - le - lu - ia,
lives that, like our mu - sic, sing: Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, wor - ship an - cient, wor - ship new.
Al - le - lu - ia, as cre - a - tion's tale is told.
Al - le - lu - ia, to your cove - nant keep us true.
Al - le - lu - ia, ris - en Christ, our Sav - ior he!
Al - le - lu - ia, joined in love our prais - es ring!

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for serv - ing, that your will on
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your
 4 Lend your joy to all our giv - ing, let it light our

end - less store, Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's
 earth be done: All at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the
 grace con - ferred; Ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the
 pil - grim way; From the night of anx - ious keep - ing, loose us in - to

shat - tered door: Gift - ed by you, we turn to you
 Church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor,
 gos - pel Word. O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing
 gen - erous day. Then when years on earth are o - ver,

of - fering up our - selves in praise; Thank - ful song shall
 lest we strive for self a - lone; born with tal - ents,
 as we heed Christ's age - less call, Heal - ing, teach - ing,
 and we've lived our hu - man span, God, ful - fill be -

rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, hon - oring you by lov - ing all.
 yond our dream - ing, all our stew - ard - ship be - gan.

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School – 9 a.m. in the Turner Room
We are discussing the book *Jesus of the East* by Phuc Luu.

New participants are always welcome.

Dr. Luu will be on the Bethel College Campus March 26 & 27. He will give a public lecture Sunday, March 26 at 7 pm in the Bethel College Chapel.

Adult Ed.

Adult Ed. Wednesdays at 6:30pm *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 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.

Plymouth Display Case Art


Sheri Mayes, a life-long Wichitan, graduated from Wichita East High and attended W.S.U. Retired from Wichita Public Schools from the Transportation Department as a scheduler and technical analyst. I made my first necklace when I was in junior high but my real interest in creating jewelry didn't start until 1996. I helped a close friend move to Arizona. I spent a week helping her move in to her new place. She made all her own jewelry and we went shopping at several of the bead stores. After showing me how to put together a necklace, I was hooked on the hobby. My favorite medium to use has always been semi-precious stones. Lately I have expanded into using glass, crystal, and acrylic beads. After over 25 years of beading, I have a large collection of beads. There is only so much jewelry one person can use so I decided to put together a collection of necklaces, bracelets, and earrings and donate them to the church. One hundred percent of the sales of my jewelry will go to the church. I hope it all sells because I don't want to bring it back home. When the weather is nice, I enjoy hiking, camping, fishing, kayaking, and spending time with my Australian Cattle dog, Vixey.

Ways to Give

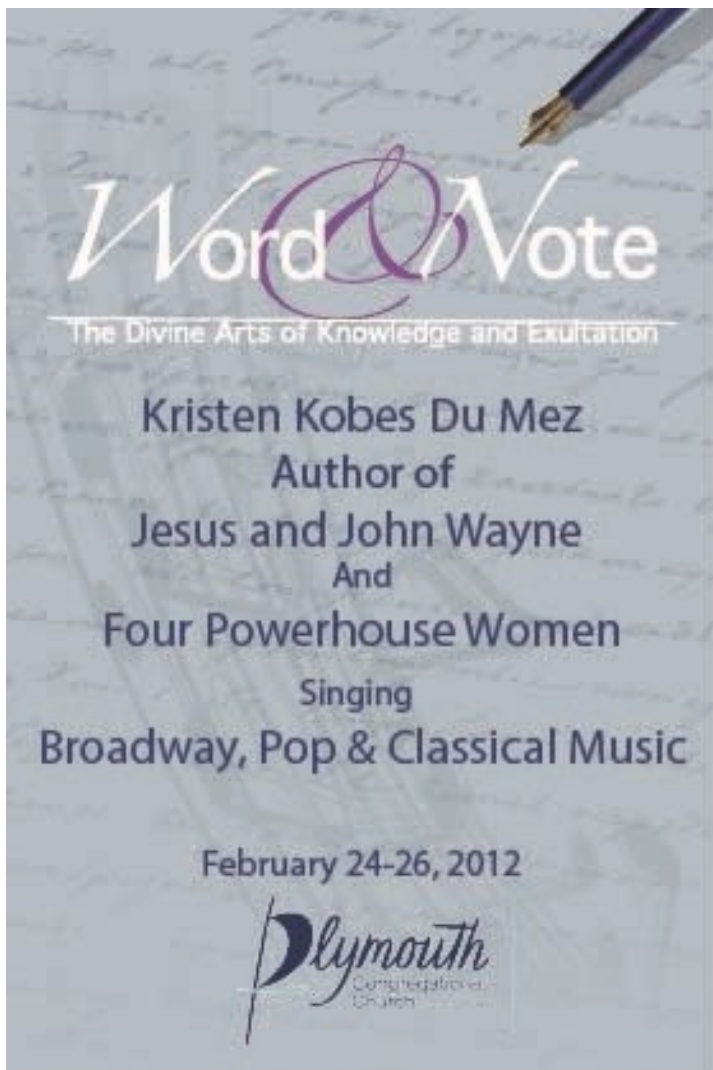
If you would like to make a donation to Plymouth Church's general operating fund or one of their special missions and you don't have a check or cash for the offering plate just scan the QR code to donate using a credit card.



2023 Growth Steering Survey

 Please take a few minutes to complete the 2023 Growth Steering Survey (3 questions). This QR Code will take you to the survey. We need input from our membership as we plan events and advertising opportunities for the church. Your responses will remain anonymous.

Save the Date: Word & Note 2023



January/ February 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship	30 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers 5pm Almost Maine rehearsal	31 5pm Almost Maine rehearsal	1 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 6pm Adult Ed 6:30pm Almost Maine rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	2 2pm Plymouth Projects 5pm Almost Maine rehearsal	3 5pm Almost Maine rehearsal	4
5 8am Blood Drive 9am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship	6 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers 5pm Almost Maine rehearsal	7 5:30pm Cabinet 5pm Almost Maine rehearsal	8 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 6pm Adult Ed 6:30pm Almost Maine rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	9 2pm Plymouth Projects	10 11am Celebration of Life Barbara Craig Queen 7pm Almost Maine	11 7pm Almost Maine
12 9am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Worship	13 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers 5:30pm Growth Steering	14	15 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 6pm Adult Ed 7pm Choir Rehearsal	16 2pm Plymouth Projects 5:45pm CE	17	18

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, February 5th
Dr. Robu 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.