



Celebration of Worship
April 30, 2023

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April 30, 2023

10:30 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

Opening Voluntary

Meditation from Thais
Christopher Shaw, organ
Joel Boettger, clarinet

Massenet/arr. Afdahl

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

(page 6)

*Responsive Sentences

One: Let us sing a song of praise in unison,

All: for we are not many, but one!

One: Let us praise God in unison,

All: for we are not one but many.

One: We are members all, one of another:

All: the body of Christ, the people of God!

*Response of Praise

Alleluia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the Alleluia response. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff has the following notes and lyrics: G4 (A), A4 (E), B4 (D), G4 (E), F#4 (A), G4 (D), E4 (E), D4 (A), C#4 (E). The second staff has the following notes and lyrics: G4 (A), A4 (E), B4 (Bm), G4 (E), F#4 (A), G4 (D), E4 (E), D4 (A). The lyrics are "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!" for both staves.

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*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Holy Creator, grant us the blessedness of your promise. Give us ears to hear, eyes to see and a heart to understand. We seek your presence in reading of the scriptures, in private prayer and in our interaction with your beloved people. We hear your word kindling the Holy Spirit in us. We see your word in what is true. We experience your word in loving relationships, which Jesus has called us to embrace. And it is in the light of Jesus we offer his prayer ...*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.*

Welcoming Song *These Treasured Children* PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (Let the children come forward.)



Our an - cient sto - ry we shall tell, till these our chil - dren know it well with -
in their souls and minds and hearts, for this is where their jour - ney starts.

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A Moment with Our Children

Lindsay Miller

Solo

It Is Well with My Soul
Jennifer King

arr. McKay Crockett

When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well, with my soul."

But Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul.

It is well, With my soul,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trumpet shall sound, and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.

It is well, With my soul,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem

For This Joy
Joel Boettger, saxophone

Susan LaBarr

Praise for the sun, who by day gives us warmth and enlightens;
Praise for the moon, who the darkest night cheerfully brightens;

Each glitt'ring star shining from ages afar,
Driving away all that frightens.

Praise for the sky under heaven that widely contains us;
Our fertile earth, and her harvest that gently sustains us;
Birds on the wing, lifting their voices to sing,
Free us from all that restrains us.

Our tender hearts, which so wondrously in chambers deeping,
Cherish the joys of new love and, at death's call, the weeping.

Sorry and pain turn to rejoicing again;
Love now in memory keeping.

Praise for this joy in our hearts as we sing of creation!
Wondrous are all things from firmament down to foundation!

Joyful our praise as all our voices we raise,
Singing in glad celebration!

(text by Charles Anthony Silvestri)

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:44-48 (NRSV) - Three Parables

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.

Hymn of Preparation

Great is Thy Faithfulness

(page 7)

Sermon

“The Kingdom of Heaven is Like...”

Rev. Carlson

*Hymn of Departure

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

(page 8)

*Benediction

Finley

Closing Voluntary

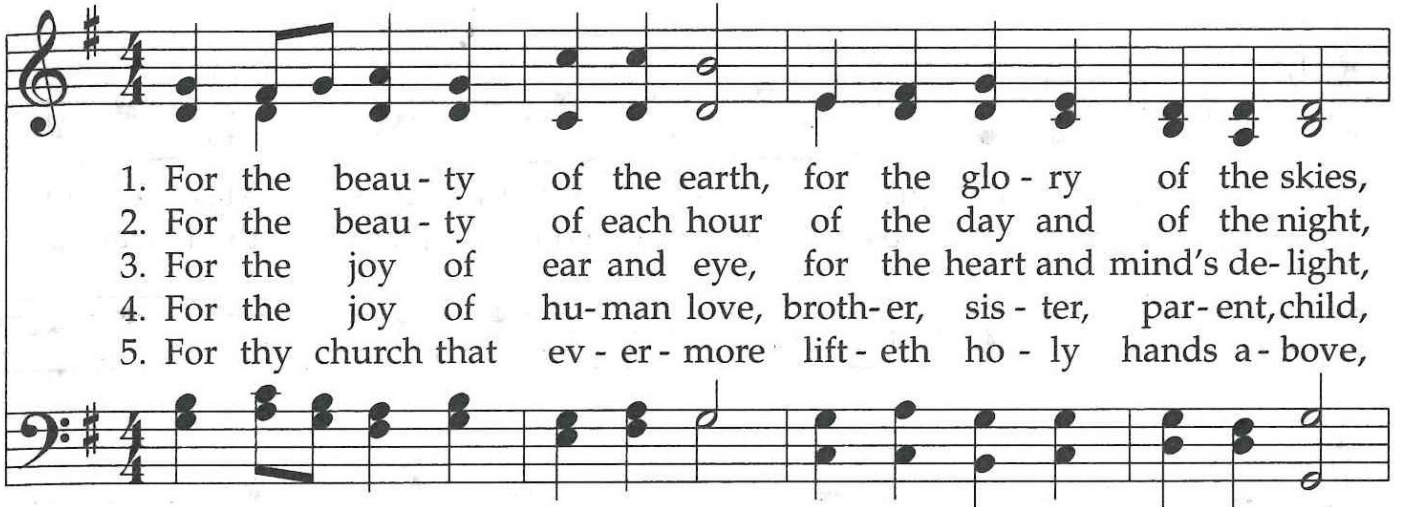
Alleluias
Christopher Shaw, organ

Robert Lau

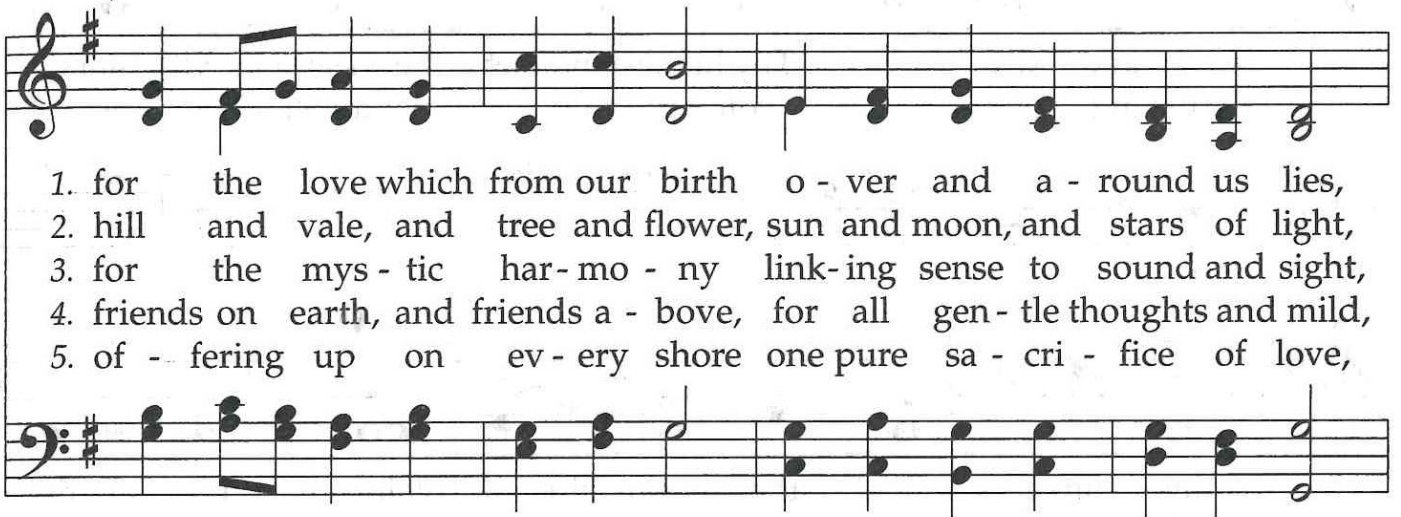
*** Let all who are able please stand.**

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

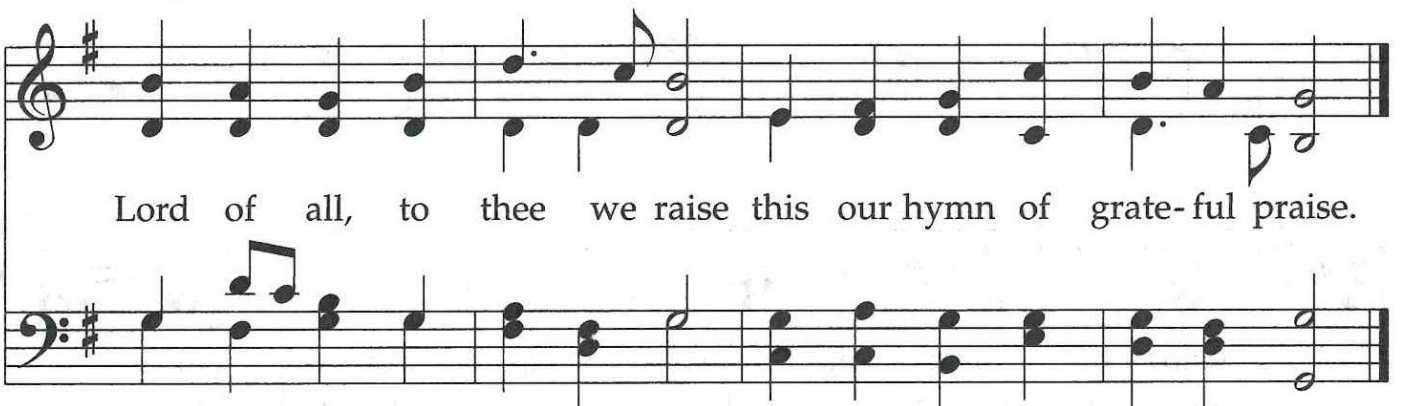
For the Beauty of the Earth



1. For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,
2. For the beau-ty of each hour of the day and of the night,
3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,
4. For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
5. For thy church that ev-er-more lift-eth ho-ly hands a-bove,



1. for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
2. hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
3. for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight,
4. friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
5. of-fering up on ev-ery shore one pure sa-cri-fice of love,



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Great is Thy Faithfulness

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther, there is no shad-ow of
 2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon and stars in their
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thy own dear pres-ence to

turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
 cours - es a - bove, join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

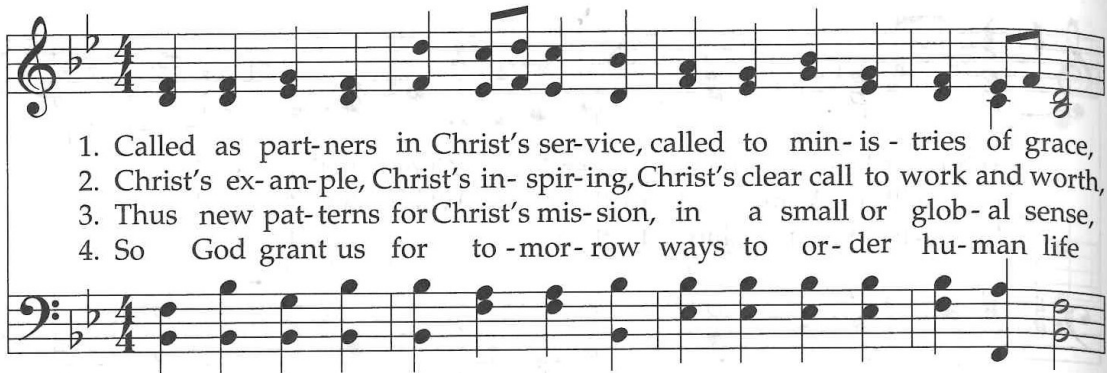
Refrain

as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be. Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

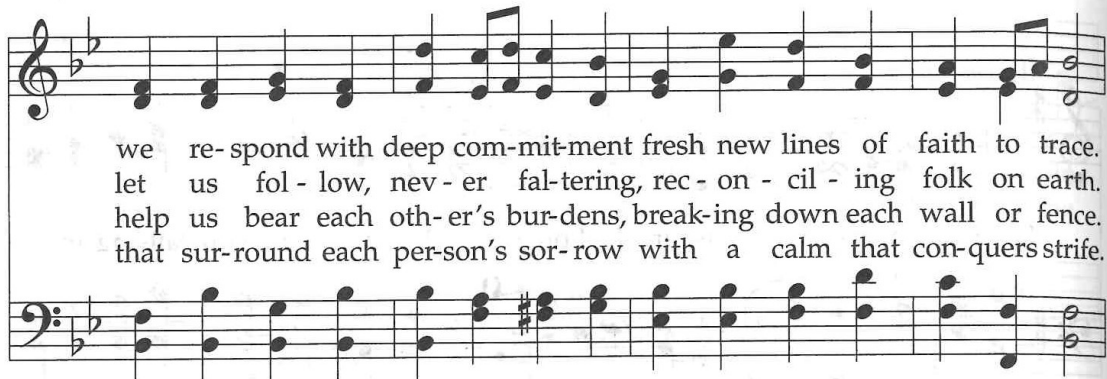
Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have

need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed—Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

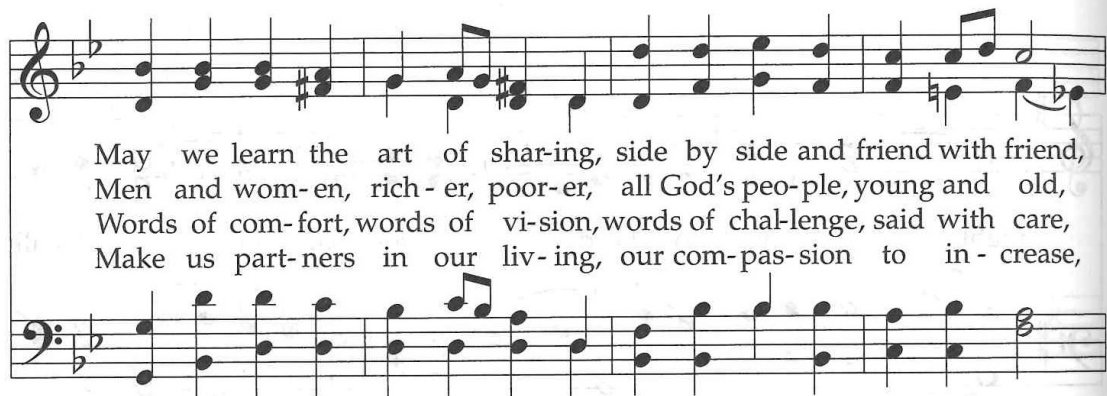
Called as Partners in Christ's Service



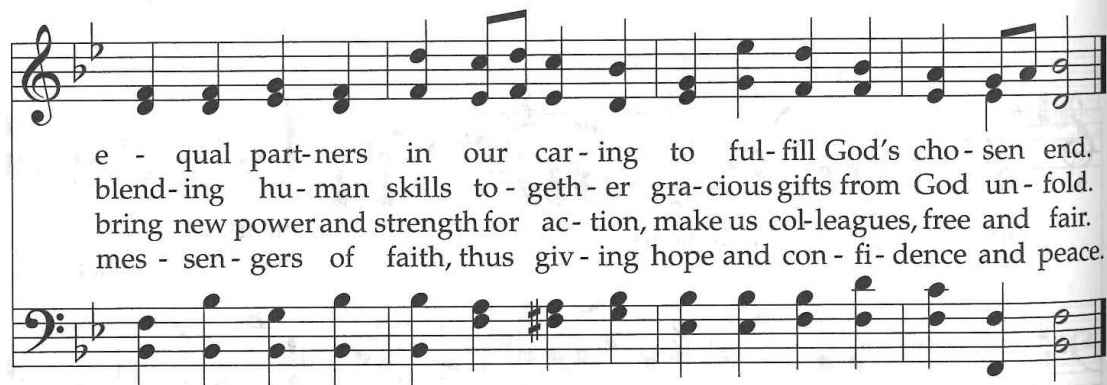
1. Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is - tries of grace,
2. Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in- spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3. Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
4. So God grant us for to -mor-row ways to or -der hu-man life



we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
let us fol - low, nev - er fal-tering, rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth.
help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-que-ers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
Men and wom-en, rich - er, poor - er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-enge, said with care,
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in - crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
blend-ing hu-man skills to - geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
mes - sen - gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

North Entry Greeter Rich Euson

Communion Table Flowers Rich Euson

Thank you to Rev. Leigh Carlson for joining us today.

Rev. Leigh Carlson graduated with a Master of Divinity from Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa in 2010 and was ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in 2011. Leigh served as associate pastor at Pine Valley Christian Church in Wichita from 2008 to 2012. After completing internship and residency for chaplaincy at Wesley Medical Center, Leigh transitioned to serving as a hospice chaplain. She also offers pulpit supply at churches in south central Kansas. Leigh has three daughters and four grandchildren.

Plymouth Art Gallery

The photographs in the hallway are from the Centennial Celebration of the Sanctuary that was held last October. The photographer, Kendra Cremin, did a fantastic job capturing the beauty of our sanctuary. The photographs are for sale as marked and will be on display through the month of May. If you would like to order a photo you can find an order form in the Sunday bulletins. Please contact Holly Yager at holly.yager@gmail.com if you would like a size that is not on the order form. All orders are due by June 4th. Proceeds will be used to promote Plymouth Congregational Church in the community.

Numana at Plymouth

Plymouth will again be hosting a Numana food packaging event on Sunday, October 15, following the worship service that day. The goal will be to package 15,000 meals for shipment to Ukraine. We will need about 50 volunteers that day, plus some team leaders who will oversee each assembly table. More information will be communicated closer to the event, but go ahead and put the date on your calendars. Anyone can volunteer, including families with children, and it is not limited to Plymouth members.

This is a great way for Plymouth to engage in supporting an important outreach program, both financially and with volunteer involvement. Anyone who has done this in the past will confirm that it is a fun way to work together for the needs of people who are struggling with having enough food to feed their families.

Plymouth Congregational Church May Day Brunch

May 7, 2023

Brunch following church

(Brunch will include quiche, fruit, muffins & mimosas)

RSVP by May 4th

By calling the office at 684-0221

A photographer will be present to update members' photos for the church directory

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING GUESTS!

There will be a fun activity for the kids

Free-will donation



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



Save the Dates!

Vacation Bible School | July 17 – 21 | 5:30 – 8 p.m.

This year Plymouth Congregational Church will join forces with College Hill United Methodist, Grace Presbyterian, and St. James Church for a College Hill Community Vacation Bible School

Location for the event will be College Hill United Methodist Church (The plan is to have a different church host the event each year)

More details to come!



May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8am Blood Drive 10:30am Sunday Worship	1 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	2 5:30pm Cabinet	3 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 7pm Choir Rehearsal	4 2pm Plymouth Projects	5	6
7 10:30am Graduation Sunday 11:30am May Day Brunch	8 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	9 5:30pm Growth Steering	10 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 7pm Choir Rehearsal	11 2pm Plymouth Projects	12	13
14 Mother's Day 10:30am Sunday Worship	15 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	16 5:30pm Investment Club	17 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 7pm Choir Rehearsal	18 2pm Plymouth Projects	19	20

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, May 7th.
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.