

Plymouth

Congregational
Church

Sharing Faith's Journey



Celebration of Worship
June 18, 2023

Response of Praise

Summoned by the God

NETTLETON



Sum-moned by the God who made us rich in our di-ver-si-ty, gath-ered in the name of
Je-sus, rich-er still in u-ni-ty: Let us bring the gifts that dif-fer and, in
splen-did, var-ied ways, sing a new church in-to be-ing, one in faith and love and praise.

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*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

We come into your presence to gain understanding. We gather together in this congregation to experience community. We sing and pray to express our concern and gratitude. We seek this day the wisdom 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

Luke 15:8-10

"...what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Welcoming Song

Child of Blessing

STUTTGART

(Let the children come forward.)

Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, love's cre - a - tion, love in deed!

Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.

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A Moment with Our Children

Dr. Robu

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Organ Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem

I Choose Love

Mark Miller

In the midst of pain, I choose love.
In the midst of pain, I choose love.
In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,
I await the sun again, I choose love.

In the midst of war, I choose peace.
In the midst of war, I choose peace.
In the midst of war, hate and anger keeping score,
I will seek the good once more, I choose peace.

When my world falls down, I will rise.
When my world falls down, I will rise.
When my world falls down, explanations can't be found,
I will climb to holy ground, I will rise.

In the midst of pain, I choose love.
In the midst of pain, I choose love.
In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,
I await the sun again, I choose love.

Sermon	“Luke’s Mini Gospel: When You Get Dropped”	Dr. Olsen
*Hymn of Departure	<i>O Christ, Our Light</i>	(page 10)
*Benediction		
Closing Voluntary	<i>Fughetta on “Ar hyd y nos”</i> Christopher Shaw, organ	arr. Frank Stoldt

***Let everyone stand in body or in spirit.
*** Ushers will seat late-comers.**

North Entry Greeter Rich Euson

Communion Table Flowers Rich Euson

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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

Celebrating 10 Years of the Plymouth Art Gallery

Yes, it's been ten years since we began showing the artwork of local artists in our once-plain, now-vibrant hallway to our sanctuary. The Fine Arts Board back in 2013 had a brilliant idea – to feature Plymouth artists as well as area artists by creating an art gallery. The members of that Board in 2013 were Steve Kimball, chair; Mary Hunt, gallery coordinator; Michael Morrow, Diane Sorensen, Nadine Stannard, Tom Thompson, and the late RL Wheeler. They sought to give recognition and support to artists, understanding that the visual arts can be part of our spiritual life at Plymouth. A small percentage of sales – though some exhibits were not for sale – stayed with the Fine Arts Board for future use. We have continued to honor this purpose and mission. Recently money was used from this fundraising account to help host the traveling college choir, Nebraska Wesleyan, with their hotel expenses.

Please enjoy and thank our Plymouth artists and artist's family for sharing their works through June and July: Jeanne Shoecraft, Bob Bayer, and Mary Hunt, who is showing the work of her late mother, Julia Bland. Jeanne, Julia, and Bob were all some of our first artists to exhibit. Here are their statements.

Jeanne Shoecraft, mother of our minister Dr Robu, has been an accomplished seamstress and quilter for many years. She and some quilting friends showed their creations in a previous exhibit in our hallway. Jeanne writes this about herself and her quilting history: "I have been a seamstress my whole life. I came by it naturally as my paternal grandfather was a tailor and my mother was a seamstress. I don't think I ever had a store-bought Easter dress when I was little.

I had been sewing garments forever until we moved to Canada in 1976. I took a quilting class and that is where it all began. Someone told me "once you become a quilter you won't enjoy making garments much anymore." And it is true. Quilts are much more fun.

In the beginning I sewed many baby and children's quilts for every occasion. Baby quilts for the NICU at hospitals. Youth quilts for here at church for the graduates and many Quilts of Valor for service men and women. Many quilts for family and friends' birthdays and weddings. And I have kept a few for myself. Every quilter has many unfinished quilt projects to finish someday!"

The Artwork of Julia Bland, written by Plymouth Church member and Julia's daughter, Mary Hunt.

Julia Bland began painting as a teenager. She had little formal training; her expertise comes from years of personal study and practice. Her favorite subjects include Kansas landscapes and historical sites, still life scenes of flowers, and the wonderful products of hard work and time well spent in the vegetable garden or kitchen. She paints primarily with oil and watercolor, but also is masterful with pen and ink.

Married for 68 years, Julia was married to John, a United Methodist minister. She found many ways to serve the Lord and support her husband's ministry with her artistic talents. She is the author and illustrator of a series of 11 books of children's sermons, published by CSS publishing company.

Julia Bland's award-winning artwork has appeared in both private and public collections. Wall murals of Kansas farm scenes have been commissioned of Julia by two Kansas banks. These beautiful scenes depicting harvest, wildlife, and local landscape hang in Lincoln County and Barber County.

Julia passed away on February 18 of this year. She is survived by 6 children, 16 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren, all who continue to reap the blessings of her love, her gentle spirit, and her many God-given talents. In addition, many Kansas communities have benefitted from her service. She gifted a countless number of paintings across the state. Her children and grandchildren are hoping to recover these treasures. If you know the location of any of Julia's works, the family would be pleased to hear from you.

Robert P. "Bob" Bayer, Artist Statement

I am an uninhibited artist. I was born in a little house on a farm near Garden City. I came to Wichita to attend Wichita Business College and have been in the area since then. I started decorative painting when I was about seventy-five years old. That was fifteen years ago. I have painted realistically an elephant, a lion and a self-portrait. Mostly I do splash painting. I have exhibited at Plymouth, Unity Church of Wichita, and a solo show at City Arts.

My method is to put paint on a surface until I like it. Sometimes this takes very little effort and sometimes I can't seem to get enough paint to make it look good. That yields a do-over, or a throw-away. My work is colorful and abstract, but often images appear within the colors and textures. I love seeing what turns up on the canvas.

I am presently writing a true story about an incarcerated man who really did have some artistic talent but found it difficult to stay out from behind bars until he was about sixty-five years old. I hope to exhibit some of his work soon. He painted with such emotion that his work deserves to be shown.

Come, Great God of All the Ages

1 Come, great God of all the a - ges; make your earth - ly
 2 Come, Christ Je - sus, flesh and spir-it, sure foun - da - tion,
 3 Come, great Spir - it, in and with us, tune our ears to
 4 Come, O come, in cel - e - bra-tion, house - hold of the

mis - sion known; speak through ev - ery deed and per - son;
 cor - ner - stone; help us form the church e - ter - nal;
 hear your call; through the mov - ing of your pres - ence,
 one true God; in com - mit - ment and re - joic - ing

let your way and will be shown. Guide the church to true com -
 may your vi - sion be our own. Send a mes - sage to each
 let re - deem - ing love re - call min - is - try in ded - i -
 let us go where Christ has trod; as we act in faith and

mit - ment; give di - rec - tion now, we ask; fit us for the
 fol - lower; lead all peo - ple to your way; urge us to strong
 ca - tion, love em - bod - ied in our deeds; chal - lenge us to
 rev - erence, let us, Lord, the fu - ture see; place us in the

work of build - ing; ded - i - cate us to the task.
 faith and ac - tion as we build the church to - day.
 do your bid - ding, see your pur - pose, fill all needs.
 church tri - um - phant, now and for e - ter - ni - ty.

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O Christ, Our Light

1. Christ, our light and our sal - va - tion, Whom shall we
 2. Dai - ly we will seek Your bless - ing Ex - pect - ant -
 3. Keep us calm with - in Your pres - ence, O Christ, our
 4. Teach us, Lord, the road to fol - low, Grant what we

fear? Close be - side to guard and guide us, Lord
 ly, Then re - ly up - on Your good - ness Con -
 Light. Hide us in Your spe - cial fort - ress, Safe
 pray. Lead us up the straight and nar - row, To

al - ways near. Noth - ing now need make us an - xious;
 fi - dent - ly. En - e - mies may try to in - jure,
 in Your sight. Draw us high up on Your moun - tain,
 bright - er day. Shine Your face on all who love You,

You will shine in all our dark - ness. Fie - ry Pil - lar,
 Tri - als grow or pres - sures ling - er, None will tri - umph
 Guard our steps, so prone to fall - ing, By the beau - ty
 Smile on us that we may shine, too. Guide us safe - ly,

Star of bril - liance, Glow bright - ly here.
 since You or - der Sov - er - eign - ly.
 of Your dawn - ing, Lead us a - right.
 all our lives through, Light up our way. A - men.

SUMMER CHOIR SCHEDULE – Y'all come!!

I would like to invite you to come sing in the choir this summer (June, July, August)! How it works: come to the choir room at 10 AM (directly below the sanctuary near the Commons) to rehearse a simple anthem that we will sing during the service that Sunday! I'll have music and a folder ready for you. You don't have to wear a robe and no processing – just come and sing!

Below are the Sundays where choir will be in worship. There is no commitment. You can come sing for one Sunday or ALL SUNDAYS!! There is always confidence in numbers so bring a friend!!

Sunday, July 2
Sunday, July 16
Sunday, July 30
Sunday, August 13
Sunday, August 27

SPECIAL MUSIC

Are you interested in singing a solo or duet, or even playing something? We'd love for you to share your gift of music.


Email Henry at musicdirector@plymouth-church.net.

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.



June/July 2023

18 Sunday	19 Monday	20 Tuesday	21 Wednesday	22 Thursday	23 Friday	24 Saturday
Father's Day Mission Possible Sunday 9am Fine Arts Brd 10:30am Sunday Worship	2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	5:30pm Investment Club	6pm Summer Wednesday Night Dinner	11:30am Walk & Lunch Plymouth Projects		
25 10:30am Sunday Worship	26 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	27 5:30 pm Trustee	28 7pm Elisa Bickers & Sett Bott Hymn Festival	29 11:30am Walk & Lunch Plymouth Projects	30	1
WAGO Camp						
2 10:30am Sunday Worship	3 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	4 Office Closed 	5	6 11:30am Walk & Lunch Plymouth Projects	7	8

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, June 25th
Guest Preacher Peter Goerzen 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.