



Celebration of Worship July 2, 2023

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July 2, 2023

10:30 am

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

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

Opening Voluntary

A Patriotic Suite

arr. Charles Callahan

 Processional: Eternal Father, Strong to Save
Improvisation: O Beautiful, for Spacious Skies Christopher Shaw, organ

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn

Let's Walk Together

(page 6)

*Responsive Sentences

From Enfleshed. com

- One: In the midst of all that tosses us to and fro, in the heart of what makes us most afraid,
- All: God gathers us together.
- One: Grounding us in our collective power, nurturing our faith, drawing upon wells of wisdom, ancient and new,
 - All: our Spirits are renewed in the presence of God.
- One: We take heart.
- All: We share the load together.

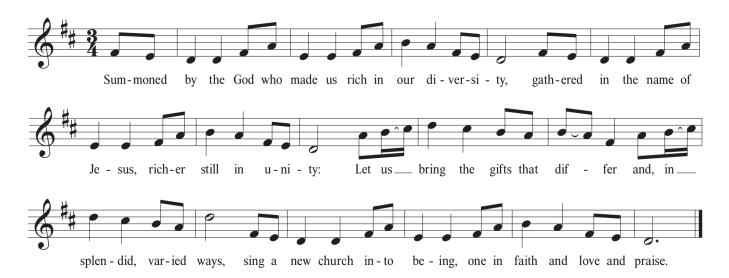
One: We trust that fear will not overpower us.

All: Courage is our inheritance; a legacy of the faithful. Thanks be to God.

*Response of Praise

Summoned by the God

NETTLETON

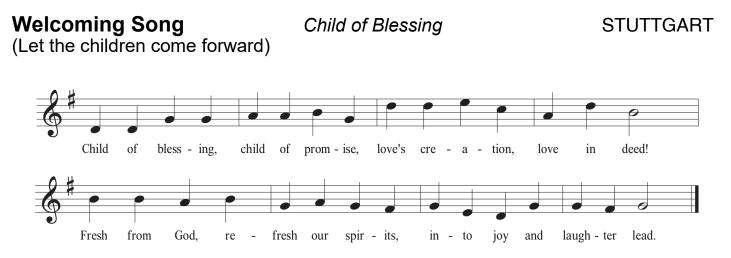


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*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Adapted from Enfleshed.com

Holy Comforter, as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught we crave your gentle and knowing presence. We are rattled by collective losses and shaken by acts of cruelty near and far. Let your Word be a steadying force; a source of confidence in our ability to face our fears together ...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.



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A Moment with Our Children

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem

Amazing Grace Plymouth Summer Choir (Join us! For more info, see insert)

Amazing Grace! how sweet the sound that saved a sinful wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, I once was blind, but now, I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and by His grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the very hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares we have by faith already come;'tis grace that brought us safe thus far, and grace will surely lead us home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise then when we'd first begun! Lindsay Miller

From Enfleshed.com

arr. Jay Rouse

Scripture Reading

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in HebrewBeth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralysed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?' The sick man answered him, 'Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.' Jesus said to him, 'Stand up, take your mat and walk.' At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath. So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, 'It is the sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat.' But he answered them, 'The man who made me well said to me, "Take up your mat and walk." 'They asked him, 'Who is the man who said to you, "Take it up and walk"?' Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there. Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, 'See, you have been made well! Do not sin any more, so that nothing worse happens to you.' The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well. Therefore the Jews started persecuting Jesus, because he was doing such things on the sabbath. But Jesus answered them, 'My Father is still working, and I also am working.' For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the sabbath, but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.

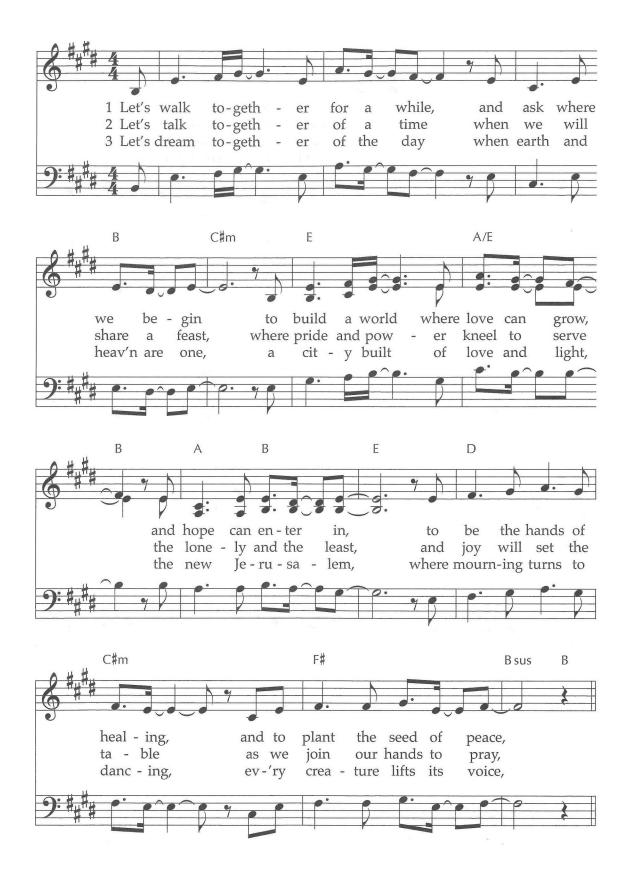
| Hymn of Preparation | Joyful is the Dark | (page 8) |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Sermon | "The Dark Woods, Part One: Uncertainty" | Dr. Robu |
| *Hymn of Departure | America the Beautiful | (page 10) |
| *Benediction | | |
| Closing Voluntary | La Rejouissance, from "Fireworks Music Christopher Shaw, organ | c″ Handel arr. Robert Gower |

* Let all who are able please stand. *** Ushers will seat late comers.

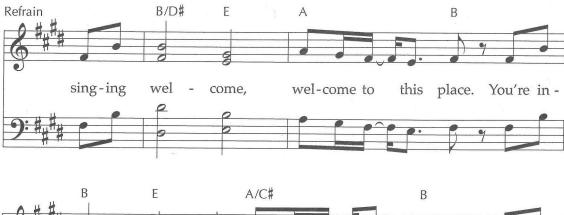
North Entry Greeter Katy Brammer

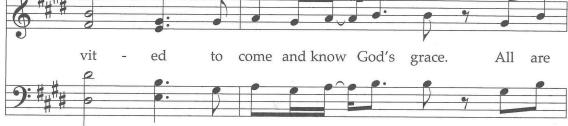
Communion Table Flowers Nadine Stannard

Let's Walk Together



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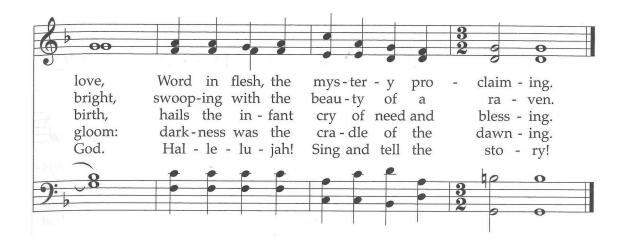


Joyful is the Dark



as with ex - ul - ta - tion, Nev - er was that mid - night touched by dread and gloom: ho - ly, haunt-ing beau - ty,

Mar - y, giv - ing birth, liv-ing, lov-ing God.



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America the Beautiful



Words: Katharine Lee Bates, 1893, public domain, ed. by Rev. Dr. Karen Robu; Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1882, public domain.

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.



Health as a Spiritual Practice

Join us at Plymouth on Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. and bring a healthy sack lunch. We will spend 30 minutes walking at our own pace in Fellowship Hall. It's a nice flat surface, with air-conditioning, and benches to sit if you need to rest. Corinne Depew will be there to take blood pressures for anyone who would like. When we're finished walking we will all sit and eat lunch together. Bring a friend!

Wednesdays in Summer

Join us for dinner, drinks, and dialogue in the homes of Plymouth members at 6 pm on select Wednesdays this summer. Cost of the meals will vary from week to week but will not exceed \$15 per person. BYOB.

Sign-up sheet and weekly discussion topics will be posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

July 12 | Host: Corinne & Clifford Depew | Meal: Build your own fajitas Conversation Starter | https://sojo.net/articles/want-combat-climate-change-donttear-down-your-church

July 26 | Host: Bob Blackburn & Linda Morgan | Meal TBA

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

| July 2023 | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|---|--|----|----------------|--|--|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | | Fr | riday Saturday | | | |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | | | |
| 10:30am Sunday Worship | 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers | Office Closed Happy July 4th | | 11:30am Walk & Lunch Plymouth Projects | | | | | |
| 9 10:30am Sunday Worship | 10 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers | 11 5:30pm Growth Steering | 12 6pm Summer Wednesday Night Dinner | 13 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth Projects | 14 | 15 | | | |
| 16 7am Blood Drive Mission Possible Sunday | 17 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers | 18 5:30pm Investment Club | 19 | 20 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth | 21 | 22 | | | |
| 9am Fine Arts Brd 10:30am Sunday Worship | | | | 2pm Plymouth Projects | | | | | |
| | | Youth T | rip—Be the Neig | ghbor | | | | | |

Please join us for worship next Sunday, July 9 Dr. Robu will be Preaching, "The Dark Woods, Part Two: Emptiness"

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.