

**Plymouth**  
Congregational  
Church  
*Sharing Faith's Journey*



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***Celebration of Worship***  
**July 30, 2023**

# Celebration of Worship

July 30, 2023

10:30 am

## Nineth Sunday After Pentecost

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

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### Opening Voluntary

*Elegy*  
Christopher Shaw, organ

James Biery

### Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship

### \*Opening Hymn

*Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

(page 7)

### \*Responsive Sentences

From Psalm 138

One: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise

**All: I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness**

One: On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

**All: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me... you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.**

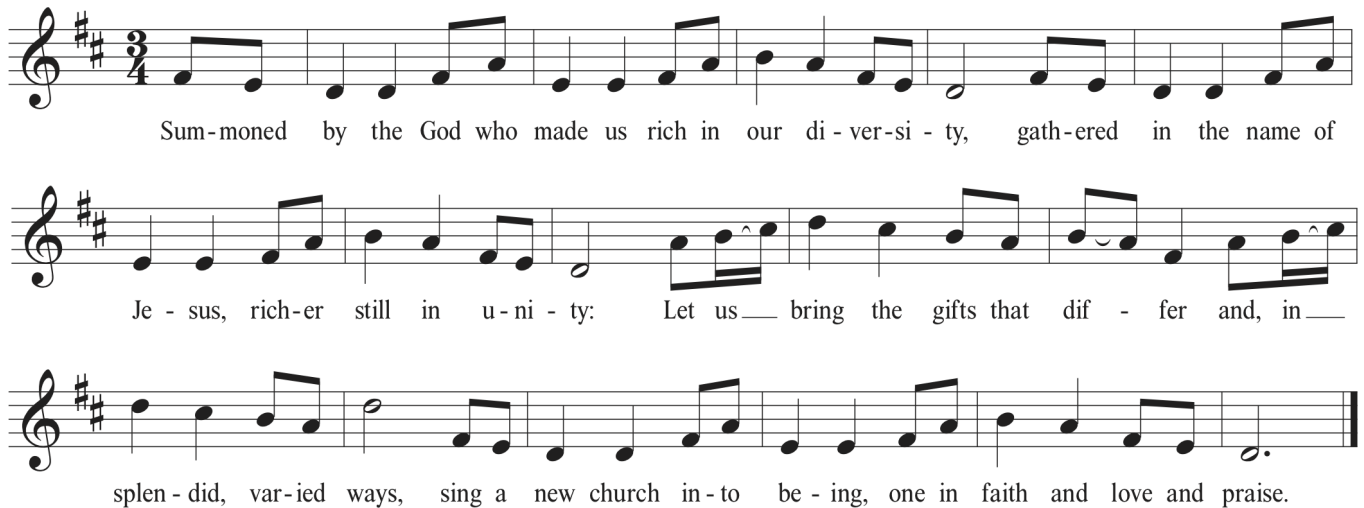
One: The Lord's purpose will be fulfilled for me;

**All: Your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever**

# 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 to you in prayer as one who seeks bread for the journey. Feed us by your presence, teach us by your word, enable us by your Spirit, that we may walk in 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

Ruth 1:1-17

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

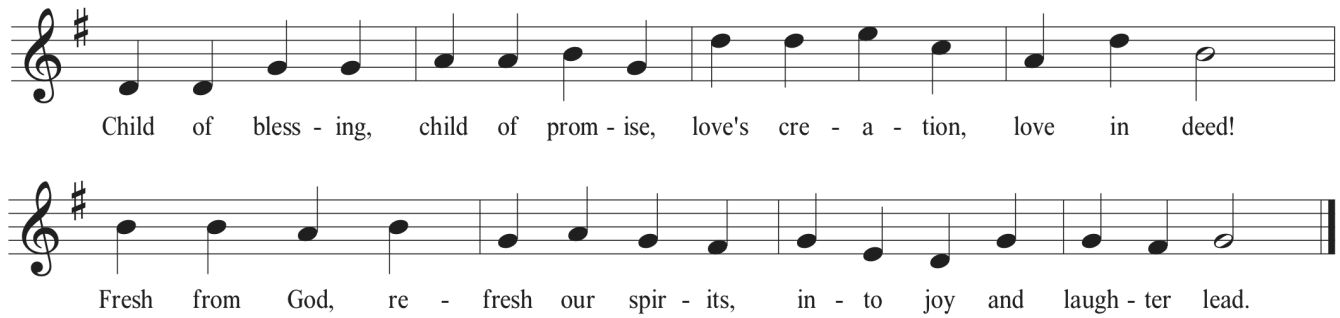
Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me."

Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die -- there will I be buried. May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

**Welcoming Song**  
(Let the children come forward.)

*Child of Blessing*

STUTT GART



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**

*Gather at the River*  
Plymouth Summer Choir  
(Join us! For more info, see page 10)

arr. Susan LaBarr

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.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
let this blest assurance control,  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
and hath shed his own blood for my soul.

Yes, we'll gather at the river,  
the beautiful, the beautiful river;  
gather with the saints at the river,  
the river that flows by the throne of God.

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

**Sermon**

“Eight Chapters of Minority Reports:  
Grief”

Dr. Olsen

**\*Hymn of Departure**

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

(page 8)

**\*Benediction**

**Closing Voluntary**

*O Lord, Now Let Your Servant*  
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Mark Sedio

**\*Let everyone stand in body or in spirit.**


**\*\*\* Ushers will seat late-comers.**

**North Entry Greeter** Jeanne Thompson

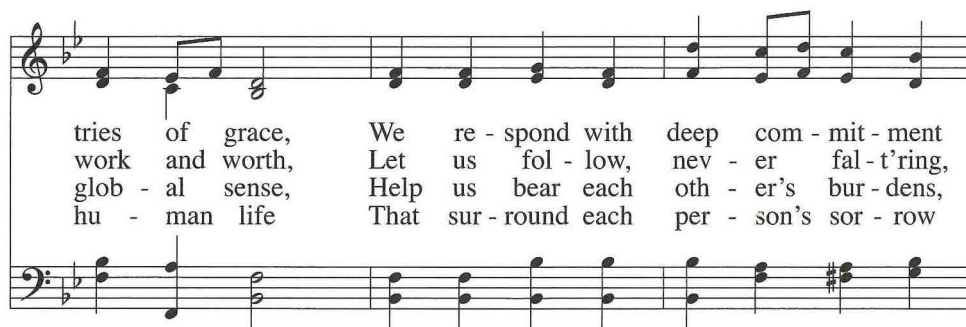
**Communion Table Flowers** Jeanne Thompson



## Called as Partners in Christ's Service



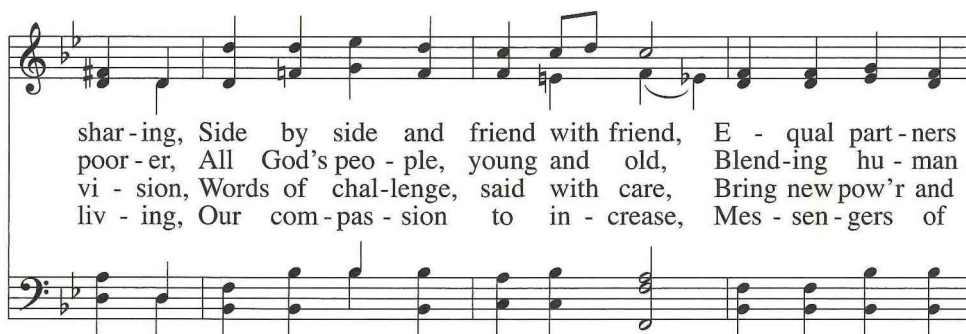
1. Called as part - ners in Christ's serv - ice, Called to min - is -  
 2. Christ's ex - am - ple, Christ's in - spir - ing, Christ's clear call to  
 3. Thus new pat - terns for Christ's mis - sion, In a small or  
 4. So God grant us for to - mor - row Ways to or - der



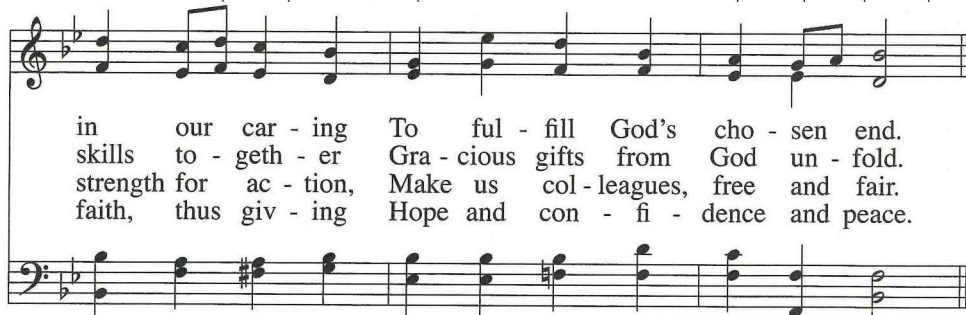
tries of grace, We re - spond with deep com - mit - ment  
 work and worth, Let us fol - low, nev - er fal - t'ring,  
 glob - al sense, Help us bear each oth - er's bur - dens,  
 hu - man life That sur - round each per - son's sor - row



Fresh new lines of faith to trace. May we learn the art of  
 Rec - on - cil - ing folk on earth. Men and wom - en, rich - er,  
 Break - ing down each wall or fence. Words of com - fort, words of  
 With a calm that con - quers strife. Make us part - ners in our



shar - ing, Side by side and friend with friend, E - qual part - ners  
 poor - er, All God's peo - ple, young and old, Blend - ing hu - man  
 vi - sion, Words of chal - lenge, said with care, Bring new pow'r and  
 liv - ing, Our com - pas - sion to in - crease, Mes - sen - gers of

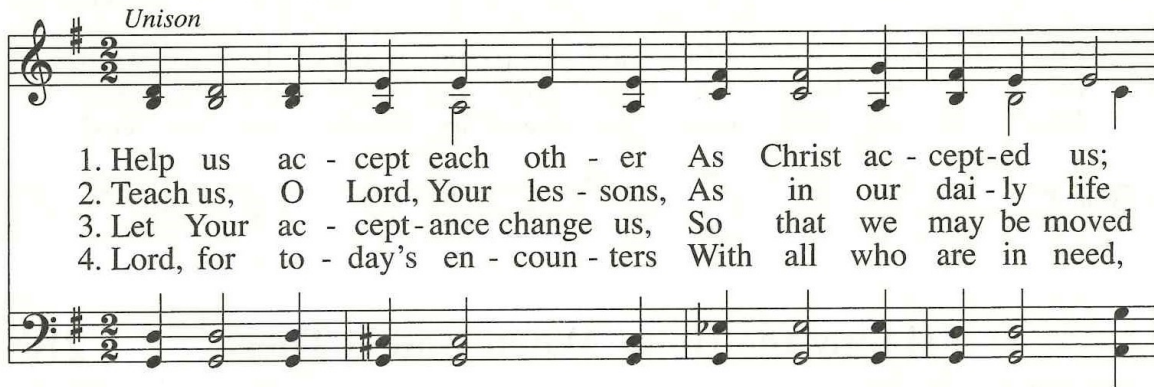


in our car - ing To ful - fill God's cho - sen end.  
 skills to - geth - er Gra - cious gifts from God un - fold.  
 strength for ac - tion, Make us col - leagues, free and fair.  
 faith, thus giv - ing Hope and con - fi - dence and peace.

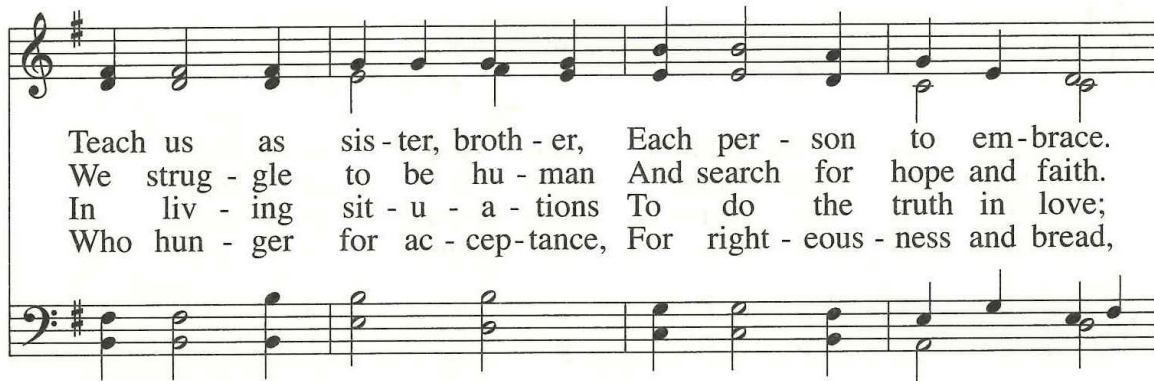
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# Help Us Accept Each Other

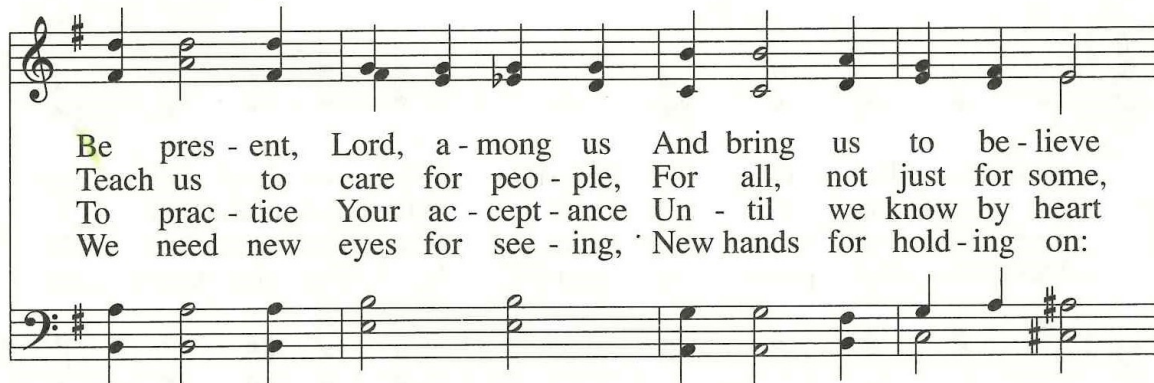
*Unison*



1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er As Christ ac - cept - ed us;  
2. Teach us, O Lord, Your les - sons, As in our dai - ly life  
3. Let Your ac - cept - ance change us, So that we may be moved  
4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters With all who are in need,



Teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, Each per - son to em - brace.  
We strug - gle to be hu - man And search for hope and faith.  
In liv - ing sit - u - a - tions To do the truth in love;  
Who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, For right - eous - ness and bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us And bring us to be - lieve  
Teach us to care for peo - ple, For all, not just for some,  
To prac - tice Your ac - cept - ance Un - til we know by heart  
We need new eyes for see - ing, ' New hands for hold - ing on:



We are our - selves ac - cept - ed, And meant to love and live.  
To love them as we find them, Or as they may be - come.  
The ta - ble of for - give - ness, And laugh - ter's heal - ing art.  
Re - new us with Your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!



## **Plymouth Art Gallery Display Case**

The Fine Arts Board is happy to introduce a new exhibitor to our art display case. Dani's Handmade appeals to several of our senses with handmade bath and body products, so with a little stretch of your imagination you will enjoy this 'fine arts' experience. 85% of sales will return to our artist and 15% will support our Plymouth Fine Arts Fund. We thank Dani for sharing some of her sales with us.

Danielle began her handmade company in October 2005. She has a neighborhood store at 105 N Grove (Douglas & Grove) as well as selling her items at Saturday markets. She has been in business for 18 years now and is still going strong. She loves what she does and hopes you will love it too!

A recent customer review reads: "We met Dani at the Sedgwick County Extension Office Farmer's Market and bought a selection of soaps, shampoo and lotions and love them all! Her fragrances are beautiful, and we are obsessed with the quality and texture of her hand soaps! We will be a repeat customer for sure."

In Dani's words: "Dani's Handmade all-natural bath and body products are locally handmade with lots of love and care by me, Dani. I use only high-quality luxury ingredients. Several of my oils are organic, virgin & cold-pressed and are sustainably sourced. Essential oils and blends are used for natural aromas. No GMO's, synthetic or harmful chemicals are used--i.e., no petroleum or mineral oil-based products, no soy oil or products, no parabens, no sulfates, no phthalates, no synthetic fragrances, and of course no animal testing of any kind. No animal fats are used in any of my soaps or other body products, with the exception of a handful of goats milk options. The full-cream goats milk soaps impart a more moisturizing bar that works wonders for dry skin. My ultra-luxe hand and body creams also contain goats milk, as well as shea butter, and many other luxury moisturizing oils and naturally skin-renewing ingredients."

"I love getting customer feedback and am so delighted when people are thrilled with their products and tell their friends and family about their favorite things! Developing new products is a passion of mine, and I am very excited about some new facial care and men's care products I've added this year! It is my pride, joy & privilege to continue to provide a full line of high-quality, skin-pampering products."

## 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, August 13  
Sunday, August 27

## 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!

## 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



# Plymouth Fine Arts Series

Presents

## 2023/2024 Season

September 23, 2023 | “Songs of Wisdom”  
With guest director Dr. Tim Seelig  
Concert followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall \$20

October 28, 2023 | Bach, Beer, & Brats

March 17, 2024 | A Taste of Ireland  
An evening of Irish food and music

**Entertain • Educate • Inspire • Transform**

## Sponsorships

**Up to \$249** – You will get your name in the program for all three events.

**\$250 to \$499** – You will get your name in the program for all three events and two season tickets.

**\$500 and above** – You will get your name in the program for all three events and four season tickets. Plus, a stein with the Plymouth Logo.

If you would be interested in sponsoring the cost of an entire event, or sponsoring specific costs relating to one of the events, contact Dr. Robu for specific pricing. Tickets are available in the church office, or by calling 316-684-0221. Cash, Check, Visa or MasterCard accepted. Tickets are also available on Eventbrite.com

# July/August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b>  10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>31</b>  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>1</b>  Voting Day  5:30pm Cabinet	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  11:30am Walk & Lunch  2pm Plymouth Projects	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>  10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>7</b>  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>8</b>  5:30pm Growth Steering	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  11:30am Walk & Lunch  2pm Plymouth Projects	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>  10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>14</b>  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>15</b>  5:30pm Investment Club	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  11:30am Walk & Lunch  2pm Plymouth Projects  5:45pm CE Mtg	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, August 6th  
 Members of the Plymouth Youth group will be speaking about their  
 recent Chicago Trip**

## 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.