

Plymouth

Congregational
Church

Sharing Faith's Journey



Celebration of Worship
August 6, 2023

Celebration of Worship

August 6, 2023

10:30 am

Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

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

Opening Voluntary

My Lord, What a Morning
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Robert Lau

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn

Morning Has Broken

(page 7)

*Responsive Sentences

Adapted from Enfleshed.com

One: Let us come together rejoicing. For nothing can separate us from the love of God.

All: Not life nor death.

One: Not prejudice nor power.

All: Not our grief nor our fears.

One: Not the wrongs we have done nor the wrongs done against us.

All: Love comes to us still.

One: When nothing feels certain, this truth remains:

All: The Spirit is our constant companion, ushering us toward life.

One: Let every heart be lifted!

All: The kingdom of God is so close. Nothing can keep love from taking root among us.

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

Adapted from Enfleshed.com

Spirit of God, you intercede through us with your sighs too deep for words. In the midst of all that aches, we know that you are with us. As we feel it all. As we hope for more. As we work together to find our way through uncertainties and loss. You accompany us with compassion and wisdom. Encourage us, O God, in the journey before us as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught ...*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

Matthew 13:31-32

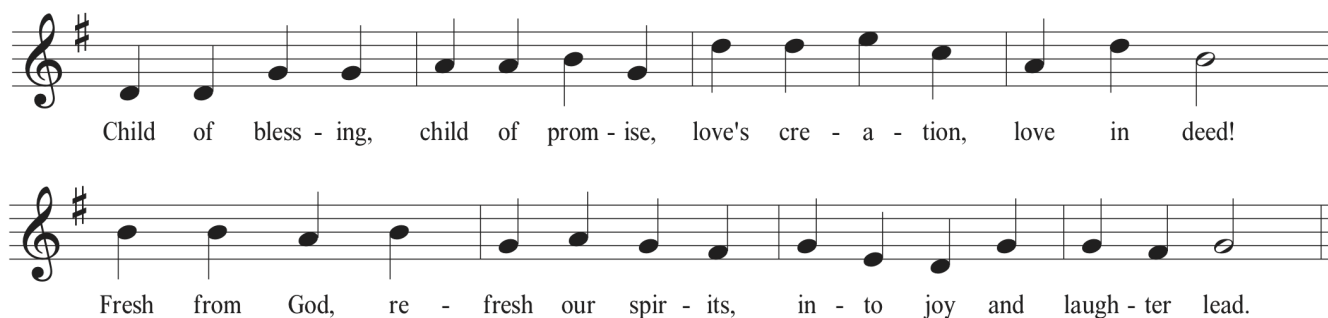
He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

Welcoming Song

Child of Blessing

STUTT GART

(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

Solo

How Great Thou Art

arr. Lauren Daigle

Lindsay Miller
Tom Safley, guitar

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

And when I think that god, his son not sparing
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my savior god to thee
How great thou art! how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my savior god to thee
How great thou art! how great you art!

When christ shall come, with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart
Then i shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my god, how great thou are!

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

From Enfleshed.com

Prayer Response

Invitation to Offering

Solo

In Heaven's Eyes
Jennifer King

Phill McHugh

A fervent prayer rose up to heaven.
A fragile soul was losing ground.
Sorting through the earthly babble,
Heaven heard the sound.
This was a life of no distinction,
No successes, only tries.
Yet gazing down on this unlovely one,
There was love in heaven's eyes.

In heaven's eyes there are no losers;
In heaven's eyes no hopeless cause.
Only people like you with feelings like me,
Amazed by the grace we can find
In heaven's eyes.

The orphan child, the wayward father,
The homeless traveler in the rain.
When life goes by and no one bothers,
Heaven feels the pain.
Looking down God sees each heartache,
Knows each sorrow, hears each cry.
And looking up,
We'll see compassion's fire
Ablaze in heaven's eyes

In heaven's eyes there are no losers;
In heaven's eyes no hopeless cause.
There's only people like you with feelings like me,
And we're amazed by the grace we can find
In heaven's eyes.

Sermon

A Word From Chicago

***Hymn of Departure**

Touch the Earth Lightly

(page 8)

***Benediction**

Closing Voluntary

Postlude on "Azmon"
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Robert Lau

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

North Entry Greeter Steve Kimball

Communion Table Flowers Shelley Closson

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!

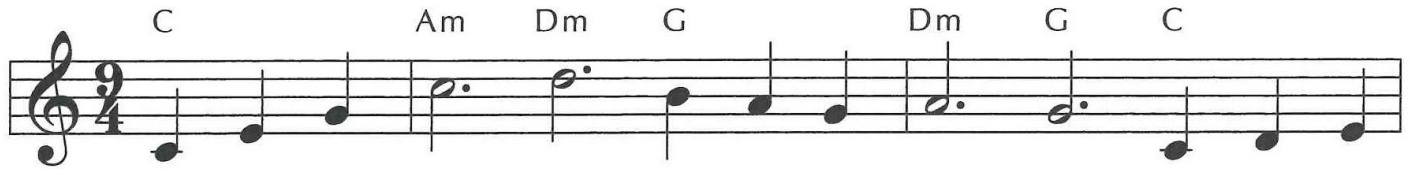
SUMMER CHOIR SCHEDULE – Y'all come!!

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!

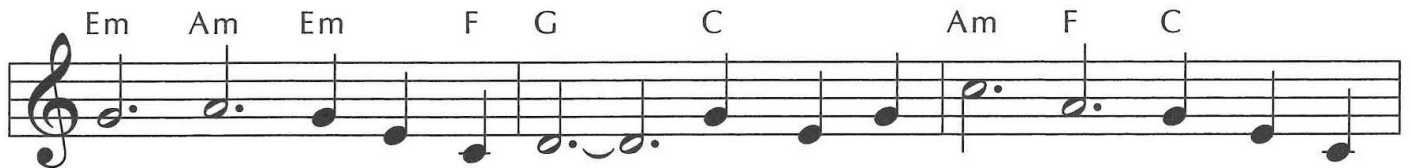
Below are the Sundays where choir will be in worship. There is no commitment. You can come sing for one Sunday or ALL SUNDAYS!! There is always confidence in numbers so bring a friend!!

Sunday, August 13
Sunday, August 27

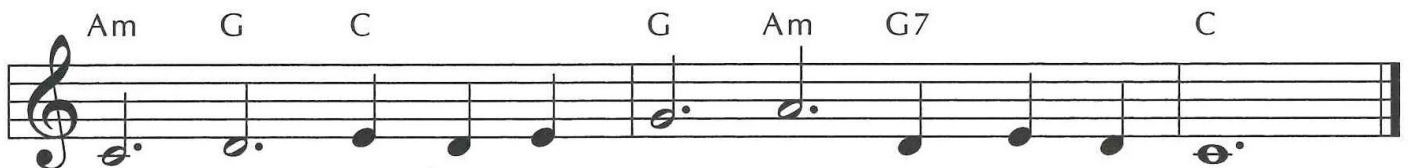
Morning Has Broken



1 Morn-ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black-bird has
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet-ness of the wet
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion; praise ev - ery



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Touch the Earth Lightly

F C/E Dm Am

1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gen - tly,
 2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
 3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
 4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,

Bb C/Bb F/A Gm9 C7

nour - ish the life of the world in our care:
 a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
 wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,
 God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,

F C/E Dm Am

gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,
 we who still fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter,
 health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
 teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,

Bb C/Bb F/A Bb/C F

trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
 God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
 re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
 us - ing us gen - tly and mak - ing us one.

Justice Ministry Training

*I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19*

God is doing a new thing in Sedgwick County! A multifaith justice organization is forming now, and we're invited to be a part of this new thing that God is doing. This organization will join together congregations from multiple faith traditions to identify where people are suffering in our community and to research some viable and proven solutions to fix those problems. Then next spring we'll gather together to use the power of a large group of people to ask our elected leaders to implement those solutions. What might God accomplish if 40 congregations worked together to end homelessness? Or expand mental health care? Or reduce gun violence? Or create affordable housing? When our various different voices are gathered into one loud voice, we become too big to be ignored, and change will happen. This model of faith-based organizing has been used by faith communities throughout the U.S., and the results are incredible. If you want to learn more about the DART process (Direct Action and Research Training), you can read more on their website - <https://thedartcenter.org/>

For our congregation to be involved, we need some volunteers who will help lead us through this process and form our justice ministry. There will be training sessions on August 24 at Aldersgate UMC from 6 – 9 pm or right here at Plymouth on August 26 from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. for the team leaders from all the participating congregations. If you are interested in being a team leader, please contact Rev. Dr. Karen Robu. Use the following link to register for training tinyurl.com/justiceministrytraining

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!

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."

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 Art Gallery Hallway Art

Virgil Penner, a resident of North Newton KS, is known for his detailed, architectural ink drawings of homes and buildings. However, since retiring in 2009 as the CEO of the Newton Chamber of Commerce, he has focused on acrylic landscape paintings.

Virgil studied art under Marie Orr for four years at Newton High School. Miss Orr turned out professional students in her teaching career at NHS. After college Virgil taught Physical Education and coached in Wichita high schools (Northwest and Heights, from 1971-1983) and at Bethel College.

Virgil's acrylic paintings are bright, colorful, and whimsical. He constructs his paintings from memory as he does not paint on location or from photographs. By doing this he feels he can develop balance and movement in his paintings. His landscape paintings experiment with color, perspective, and creative composition.

Since October 2009 Virgil has painted over 690 paintings and sold over 580. Two of his most recent exhibitions were at CityArts in Wichita and the Graceful Arts Gallery in Alva OK. A recent quote from the Alva Review-Courier newspaper concludes with some of Mr. Penner's thoughts on his paintings: "For me art is not what you see, it's what makes you feel. Like music, you don't see anything in music, you feel. And art is a feeling experience."

On his website, virgilapennerart.com, you may view additional paintings and ink drawings for purchase. Virgil's exhibit will run from Aug 2 – Sept 30, 2023, at Plymouth Church.

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 10:30am Sunday Worship	7 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	8 5:30pm Growth Steering	9	10 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth Projects	11	12
13 9:45am Facility Committee Mtg. 10:30am Sunday Worship	14 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	15 5:30pm Investment Club	16	17 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth Projects 5:45pm CE Mtg	18	19
20 9am Fine Arts Brd Mtg. Mission Possible Sunday 10:30am Sunday Worship 2pm Bunny TNT	21 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	22 5:30pm Trustee	23 7pm Choir Rehearsal	24 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth Projects	25	26 8:30am Justice Ministry Training

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, August 13th
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.