

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



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***Celebration of Worship***  
**August 20, 2023**

# Celebration of Worship

August 20, 2023

10:30 am

## Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

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

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### Opening Voluntary

*How Great Thou Art*  
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Michael Burkhardt

### Welcome and Announcements

### Mission Possible

Victory in the Valley

Diana Thomi

### Call to Worship

### \*Opening Hymn

*Bring Many Names*

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### \*Responsive Sentences

From Psalm 65

One: Come, let us worship God. There are different gifts,

**All: But it is the same Spirit who gives them.**

One: There are different ways of serving God,

**All: But it is the same God who is served.**

One: Each one is given a gift by the same Spirit,

**All: To use for the common good.**

One: Together we are the Body of Christ,

**All: And individually members with one another.**

## 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

**You, who gives your people varied gifts and ministries and call women and men to be stewards what is lovely, of good report, of any virtue and worthy of praise. Open us to wholeness by the exercise of each gift and talent you give. Be present with us. In your spirit of joy, we celebrate such gifts among us. Be present with us. In your spirit of love, we recognize one another's talents for the building of this church. Be present with us, as we pray the prayer of the pioneer and perfecter of our faith ...*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

## Selected Verses From Ruth Chapter 3

Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, I need to seek some security for you, so that it may be well with you. Now here is our kinsman Boaz, with whose young women you have been working. See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Now wash and anoint yourself, and put on your best clothes and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, observe the place where he lies; then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do." She said to her, "All that you say I will do."

So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had instructed her. When Boaz had eaten and drunk and was in a contented mood, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came stealthily and uncovered his feet and lay down. At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and there, lying at his feet, was a woman! He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant; ... Remain this night, and in the morning, ...

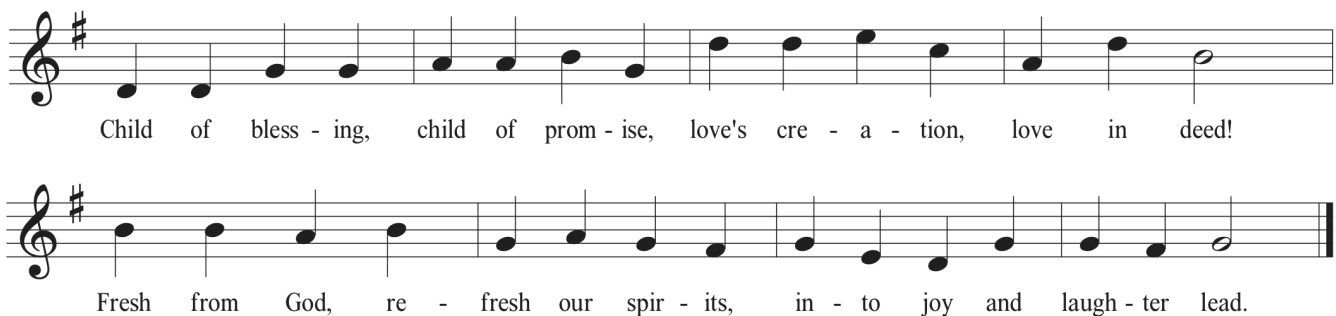
So she lay at his feet until morning but got up before one person could recognize another, for he said, "It must not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." Then he said, "Bring the cloak you are wearing and hold it out." So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her back; then he went into the town.

## 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

## Solo

Prelude No. 1 from *Das Wohltemperierte Klavier*  
Clifford Depew, piano

J. S. Bach

## Prayer Concerns

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Organ Response**

**Invitation to Offering**

**Solo**

*Thy Holy Wings*  
Emily Son

arr. John Ferguson

Thy holy wings O Savior,  
spread gently over me,  
And let me rest securely  
Through good and ill in thee.

Oh, be my strength and portion,  
My rock and hiding place,  
And let me every moment  
Be lived within thy grace.

Oh wash me in the waters,  
Of Noah's cleansing flood;  
Give me a willing spirit,  
A heart, both clean and good,

And take into thy keeping  
Thy children great and small,  
And while we sweetly slumber,  
Enfold us one and all.

**Sermon**

"Eight Chapters of Minority Reports:  
Seduction"

Dr. Olsen

**\*Hymn of Departure**

*God is Calling Through the Whisper*

(page 7)

**\*Benediction**

**Closing Voluntary**

*Postlude on "St. Denio"*  
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Charles Callahan

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

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

**North Entry Greeter** Shelley Closson

**Communion Table Flowers** Shelley Closson

# Bing Many Names

*Unison*

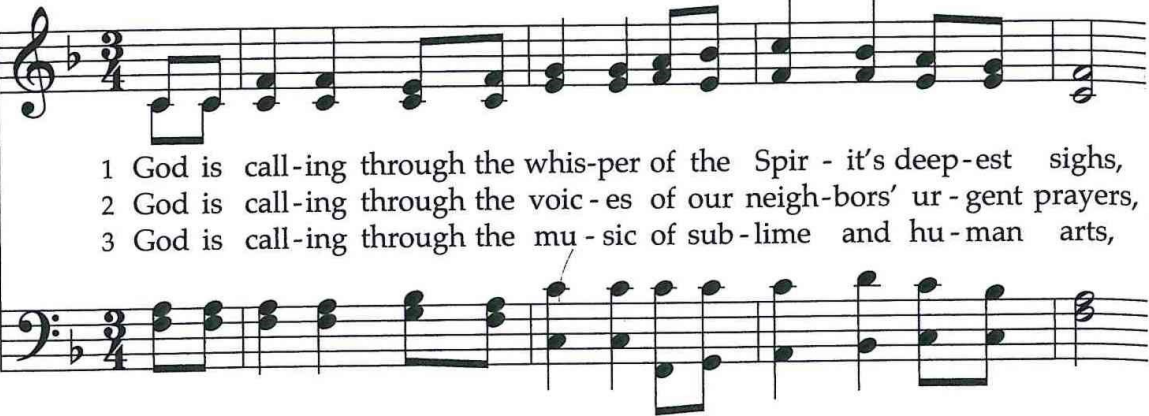
1. Bring man - y names, beau - ti - ful and good,  
 2. Strong moth - er God, work - ing night and day,  
 3. Warm fa - ther God, hug - ging ev - 'ry child,  
 4. Old, ach - ing God, grey with end - less care,  
 5. Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger, on the move,  
 6. Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,

Cel - e - brate, in par - a - ble and sto - ry, Ho - li - ness in  
 Plan - ning all the won - ders of cre - a - tion, Set - ting each e -  
 Feel - ing all the strains of hu - man liv - ing, Car - ing and for -  
 Calm - ly pierc - ing e - vil's new dis - guis - es, Glad of good sur -  
 Say - ing no to false - hood and un - kind - ness, Cry - ing out for  
 Joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing, Clos - er yet than

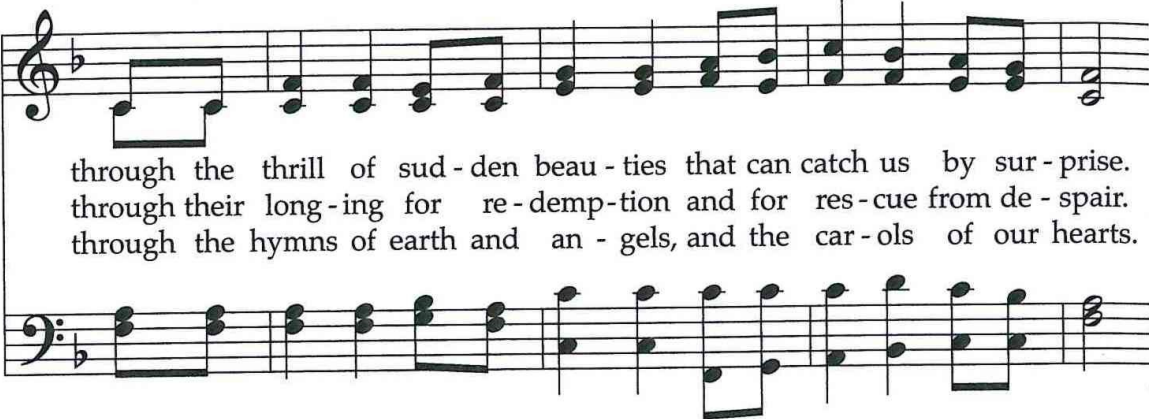
glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God. Hail and Ho - san - na!  
 qua - tion, gen - i - us at play: Hail and Ho - san - na,  
 giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled: Hail and Ho - san - na,  
 pris - es, wis - er than de - spair: Hail and Ho - san - na,  
 jus - tice, giv - ing all You have: Hail and Ho - san - na,  
 breath - ing, ev - er - last - ing home: Hail and Ho - san - na,

bring man - y names!  
 strong moth - er God!  
 warm fa - ther God!  
 old, ach - ing God!  
 young, grow - ing God!  
 great, liv - ing God!

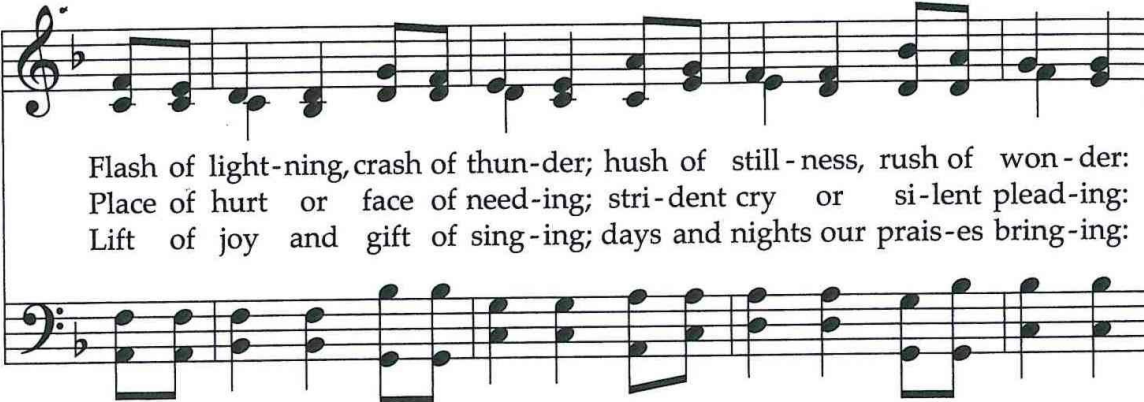
# God is Calling Through the Whisper



1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,  
2 God is call-ing through the voic - es of our neigh-bors' ur - gent prayers,  
3 God is call-ing through the mu - sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,



through the thrill of sud - den beau - ties that can catch us by sur - prise.  
through their long - ing for re - demp - tion and for res - cue from de - spair.  
through the hymns of earth and an - gels, and the car - ols of our hearts.



Flash of light - ning, crash of thun - der; hush of still - ness, rush of won - der:  
Place of hurt or face of need - ing; stri - dent cry or si - lent plead - ing:  
Lift of joy and gift of sing - ing; days and nights our prais - es bring - ing:



God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?  
God is call - ing—can you hear? God is call - ing—can you hear?  
God is call - ing—and we hear! God is call - ing—and we hear!

## **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](http://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.

## **One Great Hour of Sharing: Hawaii**

Our hearts go out to the people in Maui where wildfires have caused overwhelming destruction. The death toll, already at 96, is expected to rise. While there are no National Association of Congregational Christian Churches (NACCC) on the island, the Mission and Outreach Ministry Council is working to identify partners responding to the disaster. Toward that end, contributions to the NACCC should include the notation OGHS-Hawaii. We are grateful for your generosity and concern.



## **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."

## **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

## **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 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!

## **School Supply Collection for College Hill Elementary**

Collection baskets will be on the Fellowship Hall stage for any member wanting to purchase supplies for the school. Items needed include crayons, colored pencils, backpacks (neutral colors), children's shoes (any size) and clothing (mainly pants - any size). The school also needs sensory items for classroom calm corners like putty, stress balls, coloring books, Pop-its, fidget spinners and other fidget toys.

Thank you for your ongoing support of College Hill Elementary School.

## Mission Possible

The Mission Possible speaker on Sunday, August 20, will be Diana Thomi, Executive Director of Victory in the Valley, an independent non-profit cancer support organization. Its mission is: To encourage cancer patients and families on their journey by offering hope through emotional and spiritual support, while providing practical services to improve the quality of their lives. Charitable donations in the form of individual gifts, grants or memorials are their only source of funding. More information can be found at: [www.victoryinthevalley.org](http://www.victoryinthevalley.org)

## 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](https://tinyurl.com/justiceministrytraining)

# August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>20</b> 9am Fine Arts Brd Mtg.  Mission Possible Sunday  10:30am Sunday Worship  2pm Bunny TNT	<b>21</b> 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>22</b> 5:30pm Trustee	<b>23</b> 7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 11:30am Walk & Lunch  2pm Plymouth Projects	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 8:30am Justice Ministry Training
<b>27</b> 10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>28</b> 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers  5:30pm Deacon	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>31</b> 11:30am Walk & Lunch  2pm Plymouth Projects	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>4</b> Labor Day  Church Office Closed	<b>5</b> 5:30pm Cabinet	<b>6</b> 7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>7</b> 11:30am Walk & Lunch  2pm Plymouth Projects	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, August 27th  
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.