

Plymouth
Congregational
Church
Sharing Faith's Journey



Celebration of Worship
September 24, 2023

Celebration of Worship

September 24, 2023

10:30 am

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

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

Opening Voluntary

Prelude on THAXTED
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. David Cherwien

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn

Canticle of the Sun

(page 6)

*Responsive Sentences

From Psalm 138

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

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

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

All: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

*Response of Praise

Praise to God, Immortal Praise

DIX



Praiseto God,im-mor-tal praise, For the love that crowns our days! Boun-teous source of ev-ery joy,



Let thy praise our tongues em-ploy: Sing-ing thus through all our days, Praiseto God,im-mor-tal praise.

Words: Anna L. Barbauld, 1772, altered, public domain; DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1838, public domain.

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

The sun of Your compassion shines upon us all. The soft rains of Your guidance gently sustains us all. The gifts You enable within us, make better the world for all, as did the word and work of one who gave life to us all, and prayed...*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

Jonah 2:1-10

Then Jonah prayed to the Lord his God from the belly of the fish, saying, "I called to the Lord out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; how shall I look again upon your holy temple?' The waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped around my head at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the Pit, O Lord my God. As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the Lord; and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. Those who worship vain idols forsake their true loyalty. But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Deliverance belongs to the Lord!" Then the Lord spoke to the fish, and it spewed Jonah out upon the dry land.

Welcoming Song

O Little Children Gather

BEAUTIFUL FLOWER

(Let the children come forward.)

O lit-tle chil - dren, gath - er near and learn of Je - sus' glo - ry. Now come and of his
good - ness hear, his love and pow'r; come list - en to ___ his sto - ry. ___

Words: Christopher Dock, trans. by Alice Parker, 1962 © 1991 Alice Parker; Music: BEAUTIFUL FLOWER, Alice Parker *The Philharmonia*, 1875; arr. Alice Parker © 1991 Alice Parker. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-722558. All rights reserved.

A Moment with Our Children

Dr. Robu

Solo

"God is my shepherd"
from *Biblical Songs*, Op.99
Wesley Kelley

Antonín Dvořák

God is my shepherd, I want for nothing.
My rest is in the pleasant meadows.
He leadeth me where quiet waters flow.
My fainting soul doth He restore
and guideth me in the ways of peace,
to glorify His name.

And though in death's dark valley
my steps must wander,
my spirit shall not fear,
for Thou art by me still.
Thy rod and staff are with me,
and they shall comfort me.

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Organ Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem

My Eternal King
Dr. Tim Seelig, guest conductor

Jane M. Marshall

My God, I love Thee;
not because I hope for heav'n thereby,
Nor yet because who love Thee not
Must die eternally,

Thou, O my Jesus, Thou didst me
Upon the cross embrace;
For me didst bear the nails, the nails and spear,
And manifold disgrace.

Why, then why, O blessed Jesus Christ,
Should I not love Thee well?
Not for the hope of winning heav'n,
Or of escaping hell;

Not with the hope of gaining aught,
Not seeking a reward;
But as Thyself hast loved me,
O ever-loving Lord!

E'en so I love Thee, and will love,
And in Thy praise will sing;
Solely because Thou art my God,
And my Eternal King.

Sermon	“Eight Chapters of Minority Reports: The Inescapable Presence of God”	Dr. Olsen
*Hymn of Departure	<i>Creator of the Intertwined</i>	(page 8)
*Benediction		
Closing Voluntary	<i>Postlude on THAXTED</i> Christopher Shaw, organ	arr. David Cherwien

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

Thank you Dr. Tim Seelig for joining us in worship as guest conductor.

North Entry Greeter Steve Kimball

Communion Table Flowers Steve Kimball

Cover Attribution 5 Ridiculous Representations of Jonah and the Whale in Art History, <https://www.jewishboston.com/read/5-ridiculous-representations-of-jonah-and-the-whale-in-art-history/>, “Jonah and the Whale” by Pieter Lastman, 1621

Canticle of the Sun

Refrain D7 G C D G

The heav-ens are tell-ing the glo-ry of God, and

Bb F Am7 D G

all cre-a-tion is shout-ing for joy. Come, dance in the

C D Eb Am7

for-est, come, play in the field, and sing,

G/B C D G GSUS4 G

Last time to Coda † *To verses*

sing to the glo-ry of the Lord.

† Coda Am7 G/B C D Am7 G/B C

Lord. Sing, sing to the glo-ry

D G GSUS4 G GSUS4 G GSUS4 G

of the Lord.

Verses
tacet

1. Praise for the sun, the bring - er of day, He car - ries the
2. Praise for the wind that blows through the trees, The seas' might - y
3. Praise for the rain that wa - ters our fields, And bless - es our
4. Praise for the fire who gives us His light, The warmth of the
5. Praise for the earth who makes life to grow, The crea - tures You
6. Praise for our death that makes our life real, The knowl - edge of

D C G C

light of the Lord in His rays; The moon and the stars who
 storms, the gen - tl - est breeze; They blow where they will, they
 crops so all the earth yields; From death un - to life her
 sun to bright - en our night; He danc - es with joy, His
 made to let Your life show; The flow - ers and trees that
 loss that helps us to feel; The gift of Your-self, Your

C/E G G/B D Am7 D7 D.C.

light up the way Un - to Your throne.
 blow where they please To please the Lord.
 mys - t'ry re - vealed Springs forth in joy.
 spir - it so bright, He sings of you.
 help us to know The heart of love.
 pres - ence re - vealed To lead us home.

Creator of the Intertwined

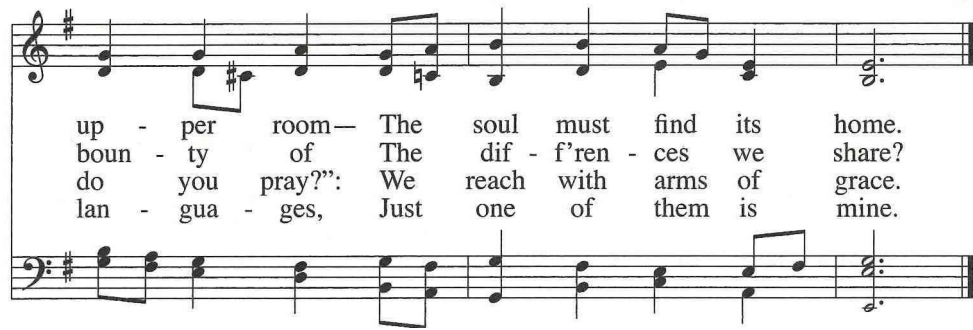
1. Cre - a - tor of the in - ter - twined, You made each
 2. The song of peace best sung by all, Strength born of
 3. In e - vil's wake we all are hurt; When pricked, all
 4. Teach us to cher - ish what is strange And so the

soul u - nique: Each one with ears to hear faith's call, Each
 u - ni - ty. In har - mo - ny we cel - e - brate Your
 hu - mans bleed. With com - mon wounds and shared de - spair, We
 rich - er be, To lis - ten with our hearts and speak With

one with voice to speak. Each wor - ships where the call is
 gift: di - ver - si - ty. Can we not sing each oth - er's
 seek the balm we need. We do not ask be - fore we
 lov - ing hon - es - ty. From dif - f'rent sourc - es com - fort

heard In for - est, tem - ple, dome, On moun - tain - top, in
 songs? Speak un - fa - mil - iar prayer? Re - joic - ing in the
 reach To of - fer our em - brace, We do not ask, "How
 comes, Each seeks for the di - vine: Your voice speaks man - y

KINGSFOLD



up - per room— The soul must find its home.
 boun - ty of The dif - f'ren - ces we share?
 do you pray?": We reach with arms of grace.
 lan - gua - ges, Just one of them is mine.

Words: Jacque B Jones © 2004, 2011 GIA Publications, Inc. and National Association of Congregational Christian Churches; Music: KINGSFOLD, Ralph Vaughan Williams, English melody, public domain. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-722558. All rights reserved.

Rooted in Love... Stewardship 2024 Begins.

Now we begin our season of stewardship for 2024. We recognize the work of this church happens because of the generous volunteers and the financial support of our members. In the coming weeks, we will talk, listen, and learn from each other as we consider the future of Plymouth.

Our Stewardship 2024 speakers are:

Judith Frick	Sunday, September 24
Kitchel & Steve Woods	Sunday, October 1
Jennifer King	Sunday, October 8
Matthew Jones	Sunday, October 15
Alan Roskam	Sunday, October 22
Corinne & Clifford Depew	Sunday, October 29
Finley Watson	Sunday, November 5 Stewardship Sunday

We appreciate these dedicated members of our Plymouth Family and thank them for their commitment to this years Stewardship efforts.

Call to Offering:

In Sharing what we have, we practice community and solidarity with others and find our own belonging. Your gifts, your talents, your labor, your presence, your resources - Whatever is yours to offer this day is welcome. May it mingle and swell with the gifts of others and be blessed by the Liberating God.

From Enfleshed.com

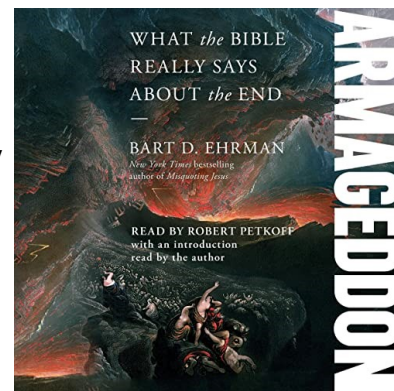
Thank you for your consideration of our stewardship request.

Your stewardship committee: V. Jane Gilchrist, Rich Euson, Chris Bennett, Linda Morgan, Susan Arnold, and Sue and Kurt Watson.



Adult Ed Wednesday Nights Following Dinner

We will study the latest book by Bart Ehrman, our Word & Note Speaker in 2024, "Armageddon, What the Bible Really Says About the End." Syllabuses are available from Dr. Olsen, who will lead the class. Books may be purchase online or at local bookstores.



Plymouth Art Gallery Hallway Art

From the Fine Arts Board:

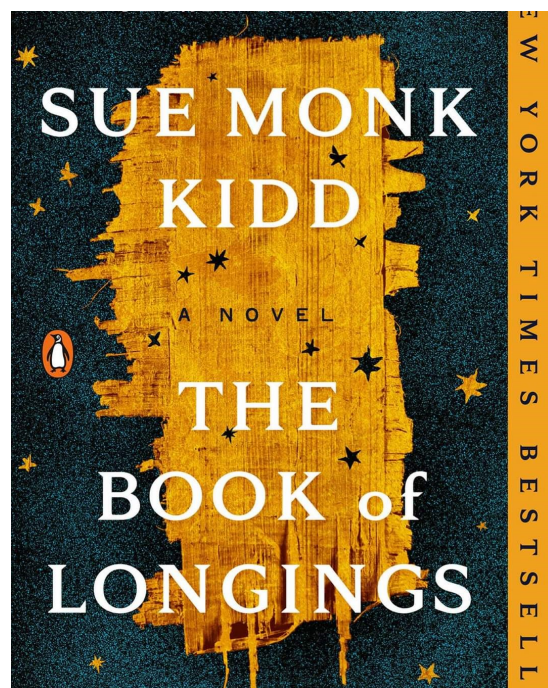
Our Hall Gallery continues this month with the paintings of Virgil Penner, but only through Sunday Sept 24th. Be sure to let us know if you'd like to make a purchase and take one of his unique and vibrant paintings home with you. We can work out a 3-payment plan if that would be of help. 85% of the sale returns to the artist and 15% to our Fine Arts Fund.

Our Display Case features the thoughtfully created products of Dani's Handmade for bath and body. She shared some new fall scents with us recently, including some inspired by Halloween, so stop by and find something you'd like for yourself or for a gift. They are all priced from \$2-\$12. Thank you!

Progressive Pilgrims book club gathering

Do you have your copy for our first Progressive Pilgrims book club gathering September 24? <https://suemonkkidd.com/books/the-book-of-longings/>

Sunday, September 24 at 6:30 pm at Abby Arthur's house



Dr. Tim Seelig is conductor, singer, speaker and educator. He continues a busy schedule of appearances across the U.S. He conducted LGBTQ+ choruses for 35 years. He is the Conductor Laureate of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and Conductor Emeritus of the Turtle Creek Chorale.

Dr. Seelig holds four degrees, including the Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of North Texas and the Diploma from the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. He wrote six books on choral technique, several of which are best-sellers, and his memoir, *Tale of Two Tims: Big Ol' Baptist, Big Ol' Gay*.

Dr. Seelig has conducted at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center for 25 years. He conducted the Guinness Book Of World Record's Longest Choral Concert and carried the Olympic torch in 1996 as a community Hero.

He has conducted over 50 recordings which have been on Billboard Top Ten and iTunes Top Ten classical charts. His choruses have been the topic of three documentaries. The PBS documentary, *After Goodbye: An AIDS Story* was awarded the national Emmy for best documentary. *Gay Chorus Deep South* won the Audience Favorite award at its premiere at Tribeca Film Festival, NYC. The documentaries are available on streaming platforms.





Please join us for our second Fine Arts series event:
BACH, BEER, and BRATS
Saturday, October 28, 6 PM



As you dine in the fellowship hall, you will hear a variety of music written by one of the greatest composers of Western music history, Johann Sebastian Bach. This year, we celebrate 300 years since Bach was appointed cantor at the St. Thomaskirche in Leipzig, Germany. He would remain in this position until his death in 1750. For each Sunday of the Lutheran church, there would be a cantata - a musical sermon with voices and orchestra performed directly before the sermon. At the dinner, you will hear one of those cantatas that was first heard in 1723.

The **menu** will include a wonderful spread of German cuisine including brats provided by Peabody Sausage House, potato salad (German and cold), sauerkraut, and of course BEER! Root Beer will be available, too!

Tickets for the event are \$40 per person, which half of the ticket price goes to supporting the musical arts at Plymouth. If you'd like to add a Plymouth logo mug, tickets are \$50 per person. There will only be 60 mugs available for purchase so get your ticket now!

If you're able to lend your Sponsor support to the Series, it would be so appreciated!
More information about the Series is on our website. <https://www.plymouth-church.net/music-art/plymouth-fine-arts-series/>



Men's Club Fundraiser

The Plymouth Men's Club is selling Red Wheel products from September 3rd through October 8th. Product distribution will be the late afternoon and evening of October 25th. Please support the club in this venture by purchasing and enjoying good products. Funds will go to the betterment of Plymouth Church.



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!

You can now find us on Instagram!

We are also on Threads <https://www.threads.net/@plymouthwichita>



Food Packaging Event

The Plymouth Mission's Board is pleased to sponsor another food packaging event in Fellowship Hall immediately following the Sunday service on October 15. This event is now overseen by The Outreach Project, formerly known as Numana and the goal that day is 15,000 meals that will go to the Ukraine. Lunch will be provided before packaging begins and our goal is to have at least 50+ volunteers signed up by October 10. Sign-ups sheets will be on the FH bulletin board and we would ask that members sign there. You can also contact the church office and give your name to KD as a volunteer. Non-members and children are welcome to participate.

If you have any questions about this important event in our church life, please contact Steve Woods or Karen Robu.



September/October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24 8am Blood Drive 10:30am Sunday Worship	25 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers 5:30pm Deacons	26 5:30pm Trustee	27 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 7pm Choir Rehearsal	28 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth Projects	29	30
1 9am Confirmation Class 10:30am Sunday Worship	2 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	3 5:30pm Cabinet 5:30pm Growth Steering	4 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 7pm Choir Rehearsal	5 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth Projects	6	7
8 9am Confirmation Class 10:30am Sunday Worship	9 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	10 5:30pm Growth Steering	11 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 7pm Choir Rehearsal	12 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth Projects	13	14

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, October 1st
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.