

Plymouth
Congregational
Church
Sharing Faith's Journey



Celebration of Worship
November 12, 2023

Celebration of Worship

November 12, 2023

10:30 am

Twenty-Forth Sunday After Pentecost

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

Opening Voluntary

Suite Antique
"Aria"

John Rutter

Kristin Shaffer, flute. Christopher Shaw, organ

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn

O How Glorious, Full of Wonder

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*Responsive Sentences

From Psalm 138

One: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

All: **When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?**

One: Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

All: **All sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

*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

Taken from Proverbs 22:21

Remind us that a good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all. Remind us of this, and how Jesus 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

2 Corinthians 5:18-20

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

Welcoming Song

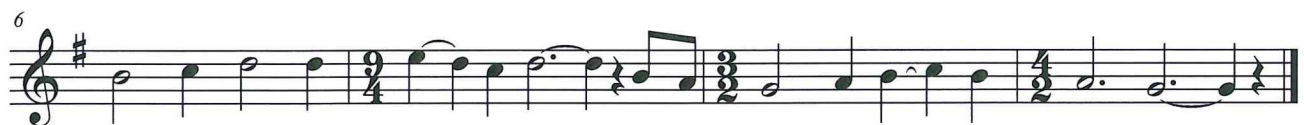
O Little Children Gather

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

To Believe
Diane Fast

Matthew Evancho

Before I lay me down to rest,
I ask the Lord one small request.
I know I have all that I need,
but this prayer is not for me.

Too many people on this day
don't have a peaceful place to stay.
Let all fighting cease, that your children may see peace;
wipe their tears of sorrow away.

To believe in a day when hunger and war will pass away;
to have the hope amidst despair that ev'ry sparrow's counted,
that you hear their cries and listen to each prayer.

Let me try always to believe
that we can hear the hearts that grieve.
Please help us not ignore the anguished cries of the poor,
or their pain will never leave.

Help us do your will, oh Father,
in the name of all that's true,
and we'll see in one another
the loving image of You.

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Organ Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem

To First Seek the Kingdom
Kristin Shaffer, flute

Michael John Trotta

With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?
I can do justice, and can love kindness,
and walk humbly with God.

What does the Lord require?
To first seek the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
and all things will be given unto you.

Sermon

“Reconciliation”

Dr. Olsen

***Hymn of Departure**

God is the Poet

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***Benediction**

Closing Voluntary

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. David Cherwien

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

North Entry Greeter Rich Euson

Communion Table Flowers Rich Euson

Cover Attribution <https://www.npr.org/programs/ted-radio-hour/503016892/reconciliation>

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

O How Glorious, Full of Wonder

1. O how glo - rious, full of won - der
2. When we see Thy lights of heav - en,
3. Thou hast giv - en man do - min - ion
4. O how won - drous, O how glo - rious

Is Thy name o'er all the earth;
Moon and stars, Thy pow'r dis - played,
O'er the won - ders of Thy hand,
Is Thy name in ev - 'ry land!

Thou who wrought cre - a - tion's splen - dor,
What is man that Thou shouldst love him,
Made him fly with ea - gle pin - ion,
Thou whose pur - pose moves be - fore us

Bring - ing suns and stars to birth!
Crea - ture that Thy hand hath made?
Mas - ter o - ver sea and land.
Toward the goal that Thou hast planned.

Rapt in rev - 'rence we a - dore Thee,
 Child of earth, yet full of yearn - ing,
 Soar - ing spire and ru - ined cit - y,
 'Tis Thy will our hearts are seek - ing,

Mar - v'ling at Thy mys - tic ways.
 Mix - ture strange of good and ill,
 These our hopes and fail - ures show.
 Con - scious of our hu - man need.

Hum - bly now we bow be - fore Thee,
 From Thy ways so of - ten turn - ing,
 Teach us more of hu - man pit - y,
 Spir - it in our spir - it speak - ing,

Lift - ing up our hearts in praise.
 Yet Thy love doth seek him still.
 That we in Thine im - age grow.
 Make us sons of God in - deed! A - men.

God is the Poet

1 God is the po - et, Word of cre - a - tion,
2 New fa - shioned crea - tures, called in - to be - ing,
3 From our cre - a - tion, mu - sic en - chants us,
4 God, grant us wis - dom, formed in your im - age,

con - jur - ing won - ders and wak - ing the dawn,
rise up ex - ult - ing in joy and sur - prise.
mov - ing our spir - its to seek and to learn,
po - ets, com - pos - ers, in all that we do:

not - ing and nam - ing breath - tak - ing beau - ty:
Sum - moned from mys - tery, we join their sing - ing,
till grace - filled jour - neys end in be - gin - ning:
help us to fa - thom worlds past our know - ing.

God is the sing - er and life is the song.
o - pening our lips— as we o - pen our eyes.
dy - ing we rise, and to mys - tery, re - turn.
May our cre - a - ting be wor - thy of you.

Thanksgiving Book Drive/Book Sale - hosted by the Archives group & Plymouth Librarian Bev Douthett

Is your home library bulging at the seams? Do you have a box of books in your attic or garage? Here's your opportunity:

Bring a bag or two of books to Plymouth by Thanksgiving weekend - we're having a book drive for a worthy organization or two! A school, a nonprofit, the downtown library, etc. - we will do some research in the coming weeks.

You can begin on Nov 1st and drop off your donations in Fellowship Hall. There will be designated tables. We will collect through Sunday Nov 26th.

Bev and the Archives group will be adding some books and other items from the Plymouth library.

You may also donate CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, artwork, and supplies in good condition. Please no computer equipment.

If you are browsing each week and see a book or item YOU'D like to take home, please put a donation in our donation box. \$1/book is our general suggestion, and \$2 for current titles. Children's books that are short in nature could be 2/\$1. Other items will be up to your discretion. Monetary donations will be used for archival and library supplies for Plymouth. Thank you for your donations and your support!

Operation Holiday

Since 1961, Operation Holiday has made holidays brighter for families in need. The program distributes non-perishable food, fresh food vouchers, winter wear and blankets to low-income families and individuals.

We at Plymouth have an opportunity to help again this year. We will be collecting non-perishable food items, pet food, as well as new and gently used coats and blankets for the next 5 weeks. In order to get a wide variety of the items we will focus on one item per week.

Nov. 12—Cereal Sunday (Bring on the healthy breakfast cereal)

Nov. 19—Pet Food Sunday (Small bags of dog food and cat food)

Nov. 26—Be a Peach Sunday (Bring in those cans of fruit and veggies)

Dec. 3—Soupy Sunday (Let's finish it off with canned soups)

Have you dreamed of being onstage? If so come be a part of our 2023 multi-generational Christmas pageant. Written by Tim and Karen Robu in the style of Dr. Seuss. (Yes it will rhyme!)

Performance Wednesday, Dec. 20 at 6:30 in the sanctuary
Rehearsals will take place Wednesday, Dec. 6 and 13 after the church dinner and Sunday, Dec. 17 after the service.
All ages are encouraged to participate. Please let Dr. Robu know by Sunday, Nov. 12 if you would like to participate.

Progressive Pilgrims book club gathering

Our next gathering of the Progressive Pilgrims Book Club will be Sunday, November 26 at 6:30 p.m. Location: The home of Jane Gilchrist & Charles Brown. We will be discussing the book *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. Watermark Books and Barnes and Noble have copies in their store.

Need ideas for Christmas Gifts?

How about a photo of Plymouth from the Centennial Celebration of the Sanctuary? Please contact Holly Yager at holly.yager@gmail.com if you would like a size that is not on the order form. All order forms are due in the church office by November 26th. Proceeds will be used to promote Plymouth Congregational Church in the community. Check out the following link to view the photos that are for sale

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1h0L-OVRBVIQEHwo6FuzkQ6IBWOeHIV2O?usp=sharing>.



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 Art Gallery

Nicola Raadsma, a Northern California native, currently resides in Wichita, Kansas where she has been living for the past five years with her partner Jean Rhea and their two labradoodles, one cockatiel, and four budgies. She and Jean are good friends of Plymouth Church.

Creativity, as long as she can remember, has served as a unifying center in her life. However, getting to a place where she consciously recognized herself as an “artist” didn’t come until mid-life at which time she decided to pursue a master’s degree in Arts and Consciousness, with a focus on Transformative Art, from JFK University in Berkeley, California. She chose the program because it combined the three things that had fascinated her and she felt most passionate about since her early adulthood: depth psychology, philosophy, and art. She graduated with her Master’s in 1999 but responsibilities and obligations took her away from creating art until 2009 when she took up painting.

The only formal or technical art training she received was in ceramics and sculpture at Laney Community College in Oakland, California during the same time was attending JFK University. Although she loves working with clay, ultimately, she found painting to be more versatile and suitable for her purposes.

Nicola’s paintings are acrylic paint on canvas. In some of her paintings she also includes collage images. Most of her paintings take the form of mandalas. Nicola’s choice to paint mandalas comes from a desire to have art serve as a visual affirmation of inspiration, healing, peace, harmony, and balance. She consciously chooses specific colors, shapes, and symbols for that purpose.

New Artist for the Fine Arts Display Case

Joshua Larson has been creating pottery for over ten years. He specializes in wheel thrown pieces with a concentration on colorful, creative, and functional pieces. Joshua loves to travel, and each season gets inspired with new techniques to help his artistry evolve. Joshua especially loves visiting Mexico and gets inspired with all the color and patterns used in that part of the world. When not at pottery class Joshua can be found heading up the education program at Music Theatre Wichita or selling real estate with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices PenFed Realty.

Be sure to stop by to view – and purchase - his *Halloween creations* between Oct 15 and Nov 7; then Josh will showcase holiday pieces through the end of December, all sure to be of interest and beautifully crafted.

Thank you for your support of the Fine Arts at Plymouth!

November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12 9am Confirmation Class 10:30am Sunday Worship	13 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	14 5:30pm Growth Steering	15 9:30 am Present Day Club 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 7pm Choir Rehearsal	16 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth Projects	17 4pm Youth Bread Baking	18 10am Youth Bread Baking
19 9am Confirmation Class 9am Fine Arts Mission Possible Sunday 10:30am Sunday Worship 11:30am Youth Bread Sale	20 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	21 5:30pm Investment Club	22 No Wednesday Night Activities No Choir rehearsal	23 Thanksgiving Day	24 Church office Closed	25
26 10:30am Sunday Worship 6:30pm Progressive Book Club	27 2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers 5:30pm Deacons	28 5:30pm Trustee	29 5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner 7pm Choir Rehearsal	30 11:30am Walk & Lunch 2pm Plymouth Projects 2pm Hunankind Winter Shelter	1	2

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, November 19th.
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.