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***Celebration of Worship***  
**February 11, 2024**

# Celebration of Worship

February 11, 2024

10:30 am

## Sixth Sunday of Epiphany

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

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**Opening Voluntary**      *Word of God, Come Down on Earth*      arr. Frederick Frahm  
Christopher Shaw, organ

### Welcome and Announcements

### Introit

**\*Opening Hymn**      *Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above*      (page 6)

**\*Responsive Sentence**      From Psalm 139

One: Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

**All: If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.**

One: If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

**All: If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.**

One: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

**All: I try to count them-- they are more than the sand; I come to the end-- I am still with you.**

**\*Response of Praise**      Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls

Come, let us join with faith-ful souls our song of faith to raise; One  
fam - i - ly in heart are we, and one the God we praise.

Words: William G. Tarrant, 1892, public domain; Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1828, public domain.

## **\*Invocation and Lord's Prayer**

**This morning, as every morning in your presence, you continually break into our darkest nights and brightest days. By your hand lead and hold us fast that we walk and talk as did 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**

Genesis 19:12-16, 24-26 NRSV

Then the men said to Lot, "Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city -- bring them out of the place. For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the Lord, and the Lord has sent us to destroy it." So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, "Up, get out of this place; for the Lord is about to destroy the city." But he seemed to his sons-in-law to be jesting. When morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Get up, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or else you will be consumed in the punishment of the city." ...

Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the Lord out of heaven; and he overthrew those cities, and all the Plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt...

## **The Baptism of Thomas Quinn Kirk**

**Welcome**

**Charge to the Parents**

**The Act of Baptism**

**Receiving the Child**

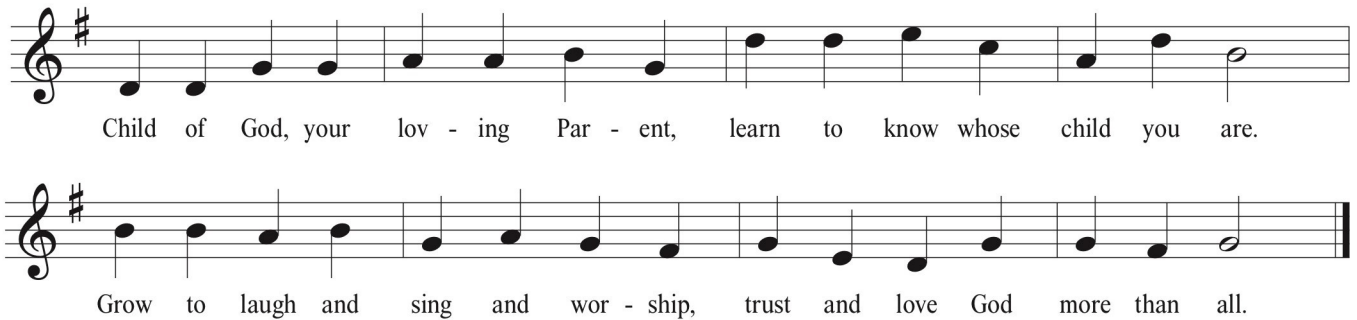
**Congregational Assent**

**Minister:** People of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care this child, whom we recognize as under God's care. Will you endeavor to so live that he may grow in the knowledge and love of God as revealed through Christ by following your example?

**People:** With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that this child, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the ways Christ taught.

### Prayer of Blessing

**Welcoming Song**      *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*      STUTTGART  
(Let the children come forward.)



Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

Words: Ronald S. Cole-Turner, Everflowing Streams, alt., © 1981 Ronald S. Cole-Turner; Music: STUTTGART, Christian F. Witt, public domain. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-722558. All rights reserved.

### A Moment with Our Children

Dr. Robu

#### Solo

"Come unto Him" from *Messiah*  
Aubrie Culver

G. F. Handel

Come unto Him, all ye that labor,  
come unto Him ye that are heavy laden,  
and He will give you rest.  
Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him,  
for He is meek and lowly of heart,  
and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

### Prayer Concerns

### Pastoral Prayer

### Prayer Response

### Organ Response

### Invitation to Offering

## **Anthem**

*How Can I Keep From Singing?* arr. Gwyneth Walker

My life flows on in endless song  
above earth's lamentation.  
I hear the real though distant song  
that hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm  
while to that rock I'm clinging.  
Since I believe that love abides,  
how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife  
I hear the music ringing.  
It sounds an echo in my soul,  
how can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble when they hear  
the bells of freedom ringing.  
When friends rejoice both far and near,  
how can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest loudly roar,  
I hear the truth it's living!  
What though the darkness round me close,  
songs in the night it's giving!

In prison cell, in dungeon dark,  
our thoughts to them are winging.  
When friends hold courage in their heart,  
how can I keep from singing?

## **Sermon**

"The Unnamed: Lot's Wife"

Dr. Olsen

## **\*Hymn of Departure**

*For All the Saints*

(page 7)

## **\*Benediction**

## **Closing Voluntary**

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*  
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Neil Harmon

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

**North Entry Greeter** Katy Brammer

**Communion Table Flowers** Katy Brammer

**Cover Art:** Photograph, <https://deadsea.com/explore/historical-sites/biblical-sites/mount-sodom-lots-wife/>

## Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

1. Sing praise to God who reigns a-bove, the God of all cre -  
 2. The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -  
 3. Thus, all my toil-some way a-long, I sing a-loud thy  
 4. Let all who name Christ's ho-ly name give God all praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of  
 tress - ing, an ev - er pres-ent help and stay, our peace and  
 prais - es, that earth may hear the grate-ful song my voice un -  
 glo - ry; let all who own his power pro-claim a - loud the

our sal - va - tion. With heal-ing balm my soul is filled and  
 joy and bless - ing. As with a moth-er's ten-der hand, God  
 wea - ried rais - es. Be joy - ful in the Lord, my heart, both  
 won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, for

ev-ery faith-less mur-mur stilled: To God all praise and glo - ry.  
 gent-ly leads the cho-sen band: To God all praise and glo - ry.  
 soul and bod-y bear your part: To God all praise and glo - ry.  
 Christ is Lord, and Christ a - lone: To God all praise and glo - ry.

Words: Johann Jakob Schütz, 1675, trans. by Frances Elizabeth Cox, public domain; Music: MIT FREUDEN ZART, Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesänge*, 1566, public domain.



## For All the Saints

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the  
 2 You were their rock, their refuge, and their might: you, Christ, the  
 3 Still may your people, faith-ful, true, and bold, live as the  
 4 Ringed by this cloud of wit-ness-es di-vine, we fee-bly  
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the war-fare long, steals on the

world their stead-fast faith con-fessed, your name, O Je-sus,  
 hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you  
 saints who nobly fought of old, and share with them a  
 strug-gle, they in glo-ry shine; yet in your love our  
 ear the dis-tant tri-umph song, then hearts are brave a-

be for-ev-er blessed.  
 were their one true light.  
 glo-rious crown of gold. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 faith-ful lives en-twine.  
 gain, and faith grows strong.

Words: William Walsham How, 1864, public domain; Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906, public domain.

## 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.



*The Plymouth Men's Club Invites you to enjoy a unique experience for this year. Please attend and enjoy!!!*

## Walter Vernon Lenten Series- 2024 Special Dr. Karen Robu Inspired Young Adult Invitational

### Speaker

February 14- Sierra Waterman-Wells (*Via Zoom*)  
February 21- Ryan Malone  
February 28- Ethan Anderson (*Via Zoom*)  
March 6- George Depew  
March 13- Michael Safley (*Via Zoom*)  
March 20- Katie Robu

### Introducer

Dr. Karen Robu  
Dr. Karen Robu  
Dr. Karen Robu  
*To be determined*  
*To be determined*  
Dr. Karen Robu

Easter, March 31





## **Plymouth Art Gallery**

### **R. Glenn Garrison, Wildlife Artist**

As a six-year-old boy, Glenn began to reveal his abilities when drawing and sketching everything he encountered in his St. Louis, Missouri hometown. One of Glenn's favorite places to spend time was the St. Louis Zoo. His personal observations of the animals as they fed, relaxed (and watched him in return), have allowed this artist to fill his drawings with incredible detail. Glenn uses a series of ink "dots" to create each animal's shape, detail and shadows. He learned this drawing technique, called "pointillism", as an illustrator in the Graphics Department at Southern Illinois University.

Glenn is a Juried Member of The Best of Missouri Hands organization, and a Signature Member of the Missouri Wildlife Artists Society. His art earns him acceptance into multiple juried shows, and he has been honored with many awards and monetary prizes. These credentials, combined with his 25-plus years of exhibiting in Arts and Crafts venues, have given Glenn a loyal following. Customers throughout Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and Minnesota look forward to seeing Glenn at their favorite shows. He plans to expose his work nationally.

Each drawing is a limited-edition print. Glenn signs and numbers 200 prints per original. Hand-applied Prismacolor tints make every print unique.

## **Plymouth Display Case**

**Rachel Geyer** is an emerging artist currently based in Newton who recently graduated from Bethel College with her BA in visual arts and theater. She is an Iowa native. Her current body of work has focused on paper arts and jewelry, but she is always exploring a variety of art forms.

Rachel began her interest in metalwork while learning to weld with her dad, but has gained a new interest in the details of the craft over her time in college. The careful work involved in jewelry making has strengthened her attention to detail and taught her a great deal of patience. She enjoys being intentional about creating art from reclaimed objects, often choosing to repurpose unwanted and unused materials instead of purchasing new ones. Some of her favorite suppliers include the local thrift store and any good paper recycling bin.

Rachel's most recent accomplishment was her senior art show, Solace in the Story, an immersive installation of book art forms combined with theatrical set and lighting design. She hopes to continue her technical theater career in the coming years, and will continue to pursue creativity wherever she goes. Her jewelry will be on display and for sale at Plymouth for February only.

## Word & Note 2024 | February 23, 24 & 25

### Dr. Bart Ehrman

“The Origins of Altruism: How the Teachings of Jesus Transformed the Conscience of the West“

Lectures: Friday Night, Feb. 23, 7:00 with reception

“What’s God Got to Do With It? Ethics Before Jesus“

Saturday Morning, Feb. 24, 10:30

“When Love Is Turned on Its Head: The Christian Revolution“

Saturday Afternoon, Feb. 24, 1:00

“Prophetic Ethics on Apocalyptic Steroids: Jesus’ and Charitable Giving“

Sunday Morning, Feb. 25, 10:30

“How Forgiveness Became Atonement: The Subversion of Jesus’ Message“



### ***An Evening with John McCutcheon***

February 24th at 7pm.

General admission \$30

Student tickets available at the door with current student ID \$10

Find out more about John McCutcheon at <https://mikegreenassociates.com/roster/john-mccutcheon-bio/>



#### **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, Administrative Assistant

Lindsay Miller, Sunday School Teacher

Tim Robu, Maintenance Engineer

Erik Breckenridge, Video Tech

John Palmer, Video Tech Assistant

## 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 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!

## Adult Sunday School

**9 - 10 am in the Turner Room (upper level)**

We are using the Great Courses video series "African American History: From Emancipation through Jim Crow." This course consists of 12 videos each approximately 35 minutes long. We will watch one video a week leaving time for 25 minutes of discussion following the video.

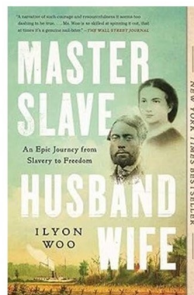
## Progressive Pilgrims Book Club

The next book club gathering will be held on February 18 at 6:30 pm at the Fearey's home. Bring a beverage for yourself and a snack to share.

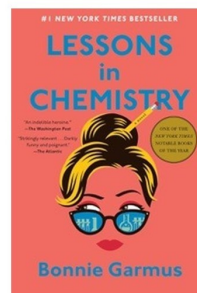
The March book club gathering will be held on March 24 at 6:30 pm at the Arnold's home.

April book club gathering date and location to be determined.

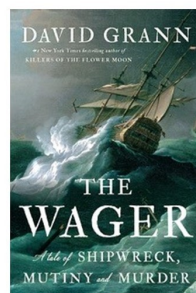
February



March



April



# February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>11</b>  9am Adult Sunday School  10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>12</b>  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>13</b>  5:30pm Growth Steering	<b>14</b>  5:30pm Lenten Wednesday Night Dinner  7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>15</b>  11:30 Walking Lunch  5:30 Endowment	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> Mission Possible Sunday  9am Fine Arts Board Mtg.  9am Adult Sunday School  10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>19</b>  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>20</b>  5:30pm Investment Club	<b>21</b>  5:30pm Lenten Wednesday Night Dinner  7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>22</b>  11:30 Walking Lunch  5:30 pm CE	<b>23</b>  <b>Word &amp; Note</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>Word &amp; Note</b>
<b>25</b>  9am Adult Sunday School  10:30am Sunday Worship	<b>26</b>  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers  5:30pm Deacon	<b>27</b>  5:30pm Trustee	<b>28</b>  5:30pm Lenten Wednesday Night Dinner  7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>29</b>  11:30 Walking Lunch	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, February 18th.  
Dr. Robu will be Preaching, "Hold On".**

## 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.