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***Celebration of Worship***  
**March 17, 2024**

# Celebration of Worship

March 17, 2024

10:30 am

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

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**Opening Voluntary**      *Contemplation on "Wondrous Love"*  
Christopher Shaw, organ    arr. Rebecca Groom te Velde

**Welcome and Announcements**      Judy Frick

### Call to Worship

**\*Opening Hymn**      *Standing at the Future's Threshold*      (page 7)

**\*Responsive Sentence**      From Psalm 119

One: Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

**All: Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek God with their whole heart,**

One: Who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways.

**All: You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently.**

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Come, let us join with faith-ful souls our song of faith to raise; One". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "fam - i - ly in heart are we, and one the God we praise." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes.

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

## \*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Eternal One, receive us in this hour as we offer ourselves anew in body, soul, and spirit. Let not the Sabbath pass, except it leaves its benediction with us. Give us the still and quiet heart of a disciple as we pray our teacher's prayer ... *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

Ps. 119:9-16 NRSV

How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes.

With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth. I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts, and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

## Welcoming Song *These Treasured Children* PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (Let the children come forward.)



The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Our an - cient sto - ry we shall tell, till these our chil - dren know it well with -". The second staff continues the melody for the second line: "in their souls and minds and hearts, for this is where their jour - ney starts." The music is simple and melodic, suitable for a children's song.

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## A Moment with Our Children

Lindsey Miller

**Duet**

*None Other Lamb*  
Sonja Bontrager and Diane Fast

Craig Courtney

None other Lamb, none other Name,  
None other Hope in Heaven or earth or sea,  
None other hiding place from guilt and shame,  
None beside Thee.

My faith burns low, my hope burns low,  
only my heart's desire cries out in me,  
By the deep thunder of its want and woe  
cries out to Thee.

Lord, Thou art life, though I be dead;  
Love's fire Thou art, however cold I be:  
Nor heaven have I, nor place to lay my head,  
Nor home, but Thee.  
None other Lamb.

**Prayer Concerns****Pastoral Prayer****Organ Response****Invitation to Offering****Anthem**

*Lamb of God, Grant us Peace*

Z. Randall Stroope

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Dona nobis pacem.

We pray for unity, Pray for purity, pray for your strength and your blessing.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Grant us peace.

Lord, forgive our sin as we forgive those of others;  
save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,  
Thine is the power,  
Thine is the glory forever and ever.  
Amen.

**Sermon**

"A Way with Words"

Rev. Dr. Ashley Cleere

**\*Hymn of Departure**     *Christians, Rise and Act Your Creed*     (page 8)

**\*Benediction**

**Closing Voluntary**     *Aberystwyth (Jesus, Lover of My Soul)*     arr. Ashley Grote  
   Christopher Shaw, organ

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

**North Entry Greeter** Cathie Yager

**Communion Table Flowers** Cathie Yager

**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

## 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.



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

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

Speaker  
March 20- Katie Robu

Easter, March 31

Introducer  
Dr. Karen Robu

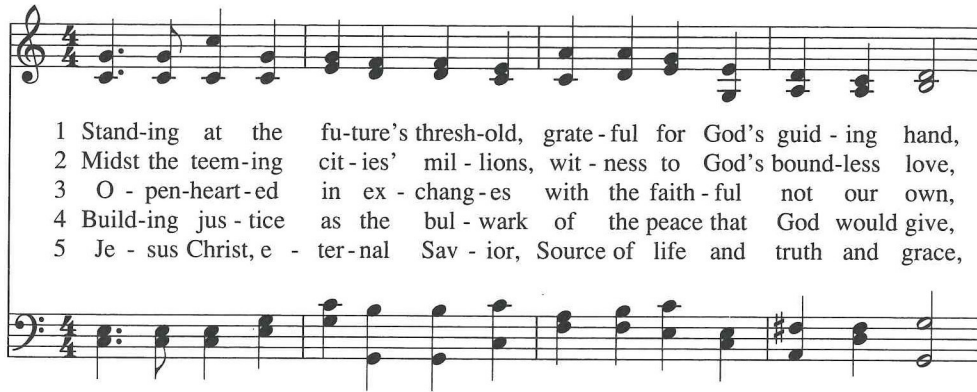
## NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

TO ALL MEMBERS OF PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WICHITA, KANSAS:

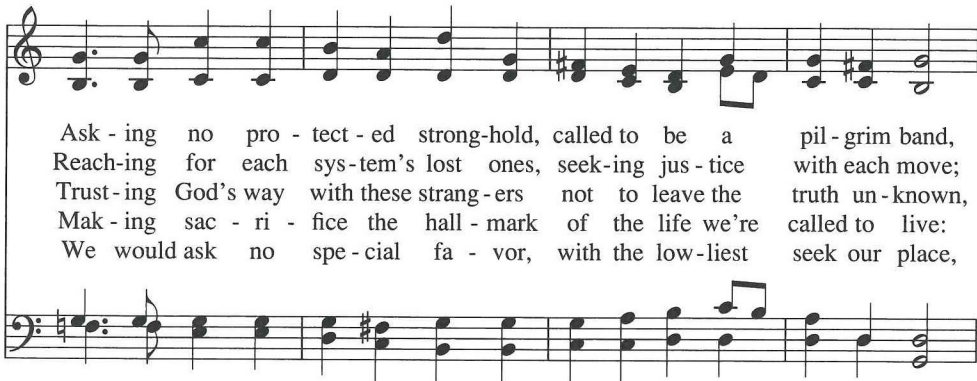
Please take notice that the Church Cabinet of Plymouth Congregational Church of Wichita, Kansas has called for a special meeting of all church members. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and vote upon the use of \$350,000.00 of Plymouth Endowment Foundation Living Legacy Fund principal in order to provide for the expansion of the Plymouth Preschool Learning Center at 202 N. Clifton, Wichita, Kansas. A vote of 75% of the members of Plymouth Congregational Church in attendance at the special meeting is required to allow expenditure of any principal of the Foundation's Living Legacy Fund. This meeting will be held on Sunday, March 24, 2024 at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary at Plymouth Congregational Church, 202 N. Clifton, Wichita, Kansas.

DATED this 12 th day of March, 2024.

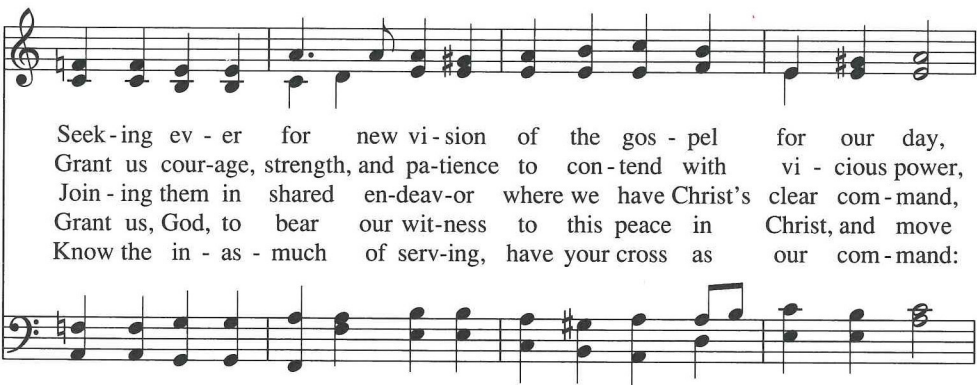
# Standing at the Future's Threshold



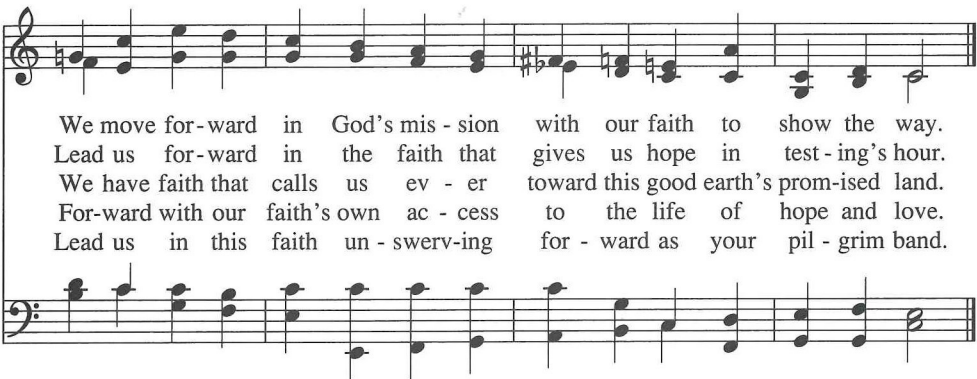
1 Stand-ing at the fu-ture's thresh-old, grate-ful for God's guid-ing hand,  
2 Midst the teem-ing cit-ies' mil-lions, wit-ness to God's bound-less love,  
3 O-pen-heart-ed in ex-chang-es with the faith-ful not our own,  
4 Build-ing jus-tice as the bul-wark of the peace that God would give,  
5 Je-sus Christ, e-ter-nal Sav-ior, Source of life and truth and grace,



Ask-ing no pro-TECT-ed strong-hold, called to be a pil-grim band,  
Reach-ing for each sys-tem's lost ones, seek-ing jus-tice with each move;  
Trust-ing God's way with these strang-ers not to leave the truth un-known,  
Mak-ing sac-ri-fice the hall-mark of the life we're called to live:  
We would ask no spe-cial fa-vor, with the low-liest seek our place,



Seek-ing ev-er for new vi-sion of the gos-pel for our day,  
Grant us cour-age, strength, and pa-tience to con-tend with vi-cious power,  
Join-ing them in shared en-deav-or where we have Christ's clear com-mand,  
Grant us, God, to bear our wit-ness to this peace in Christ, and move  
Know the in-as-much of serv-ing, have your cross as our com-mand:



We move for-ward in God's mis-sion with our faith to show the way.  
Lead us for-ward in the faith that gives us hope in test-ing's hour.  
We have faith that calls us ev-er toward this good earth's prom-ised land.  
For-ward with our faith's own ac-cess to the life of hope and love.  
Lead us in this faith un-swerv-ing for-ward as your pil-grim band.



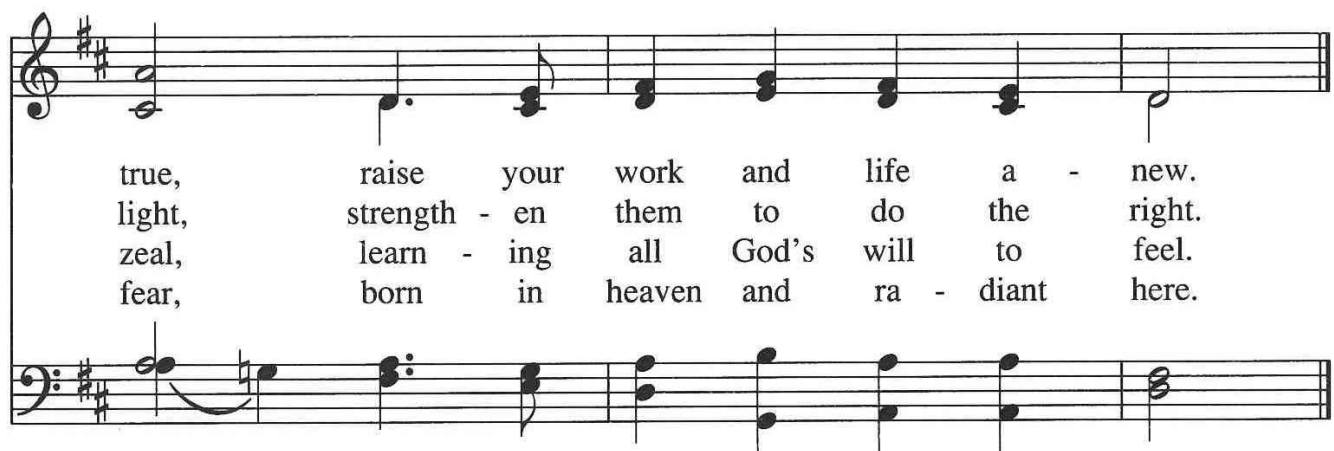
## Christians, Rise and Act Your Creed



1 Chris - tian, rise and act your creed; let your  
2 Hearts a - round you sink with care; you can  
3 Of - fer oth - ers hope and joy, and God's  
4 Come then, law di - vine, and reign: faith that



prayer be in your deed; Seek the right, per - form the  
help their load to bear; You can bring in - spir - ing  
wor - ship your em - ploy; Giv - ing thanks in hum - ble  
doubt as - sails in vain, Per - fect love be - reft of



true, raise your work and life a - new.  
light, strength - en them to do the right.  
zeal, learn - ing all God's will to feel.  
fear, born in heaven and ra - diant here.



## Donations For Annual Easter Egg Hunt

We are accepting donations of candy to fill eggs for our yearly Easter Egg Hunt.

No new eggs are needed at this time.



## Easter Lilies

We are selling lilies which will be used to adorn the sanctuary on **Easter Sunday, March 31st**. If you would like to contribute to the beautification of our Sanctuary, please purchase a lily for \$17. Remember to note who you are celebrating or memorializing, the names will be listed in the worship bulletin.

The deadline for ordering is **Wednesday,**

**March 27th**. Please call the church office for information, 684-0221 or email us at [office@plymouth-church.net](mailto:office@plymouth-church.net).



## Meal Train

We are wanting to assist any of our members and friends who are going through a rough patch because of illness or other issues by preparing and delivering meals when the need arises. Abby Arthur and Sharon Fearey will be heading up this effort. They will work closely with Dr. Olsen and Dr. Robu to learn what needs there may be. If you hear of someone who may need some help with meals, or if you could use a hand with this, please let the church office, one of the ministers, or one of us know. The same holds true if you know of someone in the congregation who could use some help.

We know that people may be available sometimes to make or deliver meals and other times may not be able to help. Sharon and Abby would appreciate knowing who may be willing so that we can keep a list and reach out when there is a need. You can email or call [abbyarthur@gmail.com](mailto:abbyarthur@gmail.com) at (316) 285-4681 or [Sharon.fearey@gmail.com](mailto:Sharon.fearey@gmail.com) (316) 650-0006.

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

April book club gathering will be held on April 21st at 6:30 pm at the home of Alberta Nichols.

## Spring Cleaning

Please join the Growth and Steering Committee March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00am-Noon for a Spring Clean Up. We will be cleaning up the outside of the church in preparation for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Please bring work gloves and rakes. The more volunteers we have the faster the clean-up will go. Hope to see you there!!



The Plymouth Fine Arts Series Presents  
**A Taste of Ireland**  
March 17 starting at 6 p.m.  
An evening of Irish food, beverages, and music.  
Featuring the group Mead's Ghost.  
Tickets \$20



## **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**

John Buckner is a Professor Emeritus at Washburn University. An organist, he's been active in church music most of his life. He's a member of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church on River Blvd, Wichita. The son of a fine amateur woodworker, he's been turning wood on a lathe since he was seven years old.

Since relocating to North Newton in 2006, Dr. Buckner has opened his shop to Bethel College students interested in learning the basics of woodturning. They work together as John Buckner & Friends, Fine Woodturning. Four Bethel students will be joining him at Plymouth. John last displayed at Plymouth in 2022.

In woodturning, Dr. Buckner believes strongly in combining art and utility. Everything that comes from his shop is useful. While each piece can be appreciated as a work of art, it is also functional. In this he follows William Morris of the Arts and Crafts Movement, who said, "Have nothing in your houses that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful."

## March/April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>17</b>  9am Fine Arts Board  10:30am Sunday Worship  6pm A Taste of Ireland	<b>18</b>  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>19</b>  Election Day  5:30 pm Investment Club	<b>20</b>  5:30pm Lenten Wednesday Night Dinner  7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>21</b>  5:30 CE Mtg	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  9am Spring Cleaning
<b>24</b>  10:30am Palm Sunday Worship  6:30 pm Progressive Pilgrims Book Club	<b>25</b>  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>26</b>  5:30 pm Trustee	<b>27</b>  7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b>  6pm Seder Dinner	<b>29</b>  7pm Service of Darkness	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>  10:30am Easter Sunday Worship	<b>1</b>  2 pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	<b>2</b>  5:30 pm Cabinet	<b>3</b>  5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner  7pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>4</b>  6pm WCC Concert Rehearsal	<b>5</b>  6pm WCC Concert	<b>6</b>

**Please join us for worship next Sunday, March 24th.  
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.