



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service Word and Sacrament
October 7, 2018
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
10:00 am

THE GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE Variations on a Dorian Theme Court Stone

INVITATION TO WORLD WIDE COMMUNION John Terry

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 8) Olive Crawford

One: O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

All: **You have set your glory above the heavens.**

One: 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;**

One: What are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

All: **Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.**

One: You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet.

All: **O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

* INVOCATION (*unison*)

Almighty God, you built your church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ himself as the cornerstone. Gather your church in unity, by your Holy Spirit, that it may manifest your power among all peoples to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation No. 400

CONFESSION OF SIN (*unison*)

Eternal God, whose Word is a lamp for our feet and a light for our path, we recognize and confess that we have failed to respond fully to your gracious presence in our lives. Through Jesus Christ you have offered us new life, fulfillment, and freedom to serve you. We confess that we are captive to sin, that our sin binds us with false pride, and that the wrong we do is made worse by the good we leave undone. Reconcile us to you and to all people. God of mercy, forgive all our sins and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SILENCE

**Please rise if you are able*

KYRIE (The choir will sing once, then the congregation sings)

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

**Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Kim Looney

After the Story for All Ages, all children and youth as well as any adults are invited to participate in the PrayGround in the space at the front, right-hand side of the sanctuary. The PrayGround is a dedicated space for them to quietly and creatively interact with the day's theme.

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12

ANTHEM

Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell

SERMON

Angel Powered

BIDDING PRAYERS

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

This week, we receive the UCC's Neighbors in Need special offering to support domestic ministries of justice and compassion.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Rigaudon
Plymouth Bell Choir

Campra

*DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below!
Praise God for all that love has done!
Creator, Christ, and Spirit one. Amen.**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*COMMUNION HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together

No. 330

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

In an effort to pray in unison while respecting the different versions that many of us have prayed since childhood, we will cycle through the different versions over the course of a year. We will pray the prayer with "sins" through the end of 2018.

DISTRIBUTION OF BREAD AND CUP

Our communion table is open to all without regard for religion, strength of belief, state of soul, or certainty of conviction. All you have to be to feast with our God is hungry.

The cup is non-fermented grape juice; a gluten-free substitute is available on each plate.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN OF PARTING

The Church's One Foundation

No. 386

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hymn Prelude on "Aurelia"

John Marsh



Joys and Concerns

In the week ahead, you are invited to pray for:

- * Kirsten Hubel and the repose of Dana Wheelock's soul
- * Jim Vedder and his children as they both mourn the death and celebrate the life of their wife/mother, Carol
- * The peace that surpasses all understanding, for Diana French, sister-in-law of Craig and Barbara French
- * Sue de Lima, dealing with health matters
- * David Alber, recovering from successful eye surgery
- * Geoffrey, struggling with faith and relationships—guilt, pain, reconciliation
- * Dave West on his journey toward ordination in the Methodist Church
- * Marilyn Fais and her daughter Heather
- * Ruth Emmons
- * Nellie Fisher
- * Mary Lou Ormond
- * Dan
- * Ed Regan
- * Jamie Shavers
- * Cath and Barbara

☞ Plymouth Runs On YOU ☞

LITURGIST: Olive Crawford

USHERS: Barbara Genton and Kailyn Wright **ACOLYTE:** Braedan Tryon

COMMUNION SERVERS: Funmi Afelumo, George Bain, Keith Jakway,
Christine Richardson, Kelly Tooley, Kailyn Wright

COMMUNITY TIME: Sarah VanNorstrand

OFFERING COUNTERS: Keith Jakway and Elaine Wolf

You can volunteer for many of these ministries via the Plymouth website www.plymouthsyr.org. Go to the "Get Involved" page and click on the link above the choir photo.

Hospitality Ministry – Please consider serving as a host for Community Time. There is a sign-up chart in the bell tower entrance. It's easy and we'll help you!

Flowers – Make our worship space even more beautiful for the glory of God and in honor of whatever you choose. A sign-up sheet is found in the bell tower entry. The cost is \$25, but plans for larger or multiple arrangements can always be made.

Accessibility: Individual listening headsets are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Please contact one of the ushers for help. An elevator and ramp are available. **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE IN THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY.**

Welcoming Children in Worship: Children of all ages have a place in worship and in the life of the church. At Plymouth we try to engage people of all ages in different ways. **Worship activity kits** and age-appropriate **children's bulletins** are available at our *worship activity shelf* in the back of the Sanctuary for our young children and youth (and for any adults who feel led to use them!). We hope that these activities will help worshipers connect with the service in ways that are meaningful to them. **PLEASE** return the activity kits with all of the supplies to the shelf at the end of the service.

Nursery Care: Infants and toddlers have a special place in worship, too, and are always welcome. Sound is piped into Memorial Hall next door to the sanctuary for those who would welcome a space apart. We also offer Nursery care for infants and toddlers at 9:45am.

There is ample **free street parking** on the blocks around our church on Sundays, as well as in the lots behind the Catholic diocese building. For those able to walk a short distance, parking here will allow those with mobility impairments or small children to use the spots directly in front of the church.

☞ Some Things You Ought to Know ☞

TODAY following worship:

- Learning Community – 11am
- Forum – Sunny Aslam presents on "**People Falling Through the Cracks~ Criminalizing Poverty and the Anti-Aggressive Panhandling Law,**" 11:15am – Memorial Hall
- Plymouth ROCKS planning – 11:30-ish – Parlor (after the communion dishes are cleaned!)

Search Process: Church Council has discussed the next steps in the search for a settled pastor. They decided that the process will proceed in two steps. First, a "Discernment Committee" will engage the congregation in exploring answers to three questions: "Who are we?" "Who is our neighbor?" and "Who is God calling us to be?" Discernment of the answers to these questions will enable the Committee to develop the Church Profile that will be used to advertise for Plymouth's next settled pastor. The members of the committee will decide specifically how, when, and where members of the congregation will engage with one another, and they will be responsible for organizing activities that help us to answer these questions. Once this process nears completion, a separate Search Committee will be formed to advertise the position, interview candidates, and recommend a candidate to the congregation. The rationale for a two-step process is that the Discernment process is intended to help us to build a stronger community and to identify individuals, including new members, who would be candidates to be members of the Search Committee.

Nomination forms for the Discernment Committee will be available in the back of the church. Completed forms should be left in the Church Council mailbox (in the hallway near the elevator) **by Sunday, October 14, 2018**. Alternatively, up to 3 names can be submitted via email to Kathy Ferro at kferro@plymouthsyr.org Nominations will be reviewed at the October Church Council meeting.

Family Faith Formation: Following worship next Sunday, all families with young children and youth are invited upstairs where we will learn about the history of All Hallows' Eve and have a little celebration of our own. Bring a pumpkin for each child/youth if you can! Lunch will be served. There is no RSVP required, but please let Kim Looney know in advance if you know you will attend so that we can prepare the right amount of food.

Indigenous People's Day celebration: Join together **tomorrow, Monday, October 8** 4:30-6pm at Columbus Circle to acknowledge the sovereignty and history of indigenous peoples of the Americas as well as the traumatic legacy of Christopher Columbus's actions here. The event, organized by Neighbors of the Onondaga Nation (NOON), will feature local speakers, poetry and music. (Plymouth's sanctuary is the rain location.)

The CNY Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition (Plymouth is a member) is hosting a Sanctuary Workshop **tomorrow, Monday, October 8, 2018** 9:00am-2:00pm at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society, 3800 E. Genesee Street, Syracuse. The guest speaker is Rev. Justo Gonzalez, Conference Minister of the Michigan Conference, U.C.C. and Latinx Ministries Coordinator. There will be breakout sessions on current and informative topics related to Sanctuary, resisting separating families and forced deportations. Additional information is available on the back table.

Plymouth is hosting The McMahon/Ryan Child Advocacy Multi-Faith Prayer Service on Wednesday October 10 from 12:15pm—12:45pm. All will unite to honor and support survivors, family members, caregivers and professionals who are affected directly or indirectly by child sexual abuse. Free parking is available at the OnCenter parking garage.

Interested in attending the SAGE Upstate 6th Annual Community Dinner as a group? We are hoping to put together a table of Plymouths folks to show our support of this local non-profit and its Executive Director, our own Kim Dill. The dinner is on Sat. Oct. 20, 5-8pm at the Harrison Center at All Saints Church. Write a check (\$25 - \$100 suggested) to Plymouth with SAGE in memo line and the church office will RSVP for the group. An added bonus – Joe Downing is playing piano! **Please respond to the church office by October 14.**

The Food Pantry needs additional volunteers. We are looking for subs on Monday afternoon 2-4 to help out when regulars are unavailable. We are also looking for individuals willing to pick up and drop off food from various locations to the church at any convenient time. Please contact Cyndi Signorelli 315-727-5671 or Maurine McTyre-Watts 315-395-5212 if you can help. We are also seeking donations of hearty soups, canned tuna and chicken, hamburger helper, ravioli/meat and pasta, spaghetti sauce and crackers. Please leave your donations in the basket in the back of the sanctuary.

THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. Oct. 8 CHURCH OFFICE and FOOD PANTRY – CLOSED
Youth Justice Work – 10am – Wegman's Landing
- Tues. Oct. 9 Board of Deacons – 5:15 – Parlor
Board of Trustees – 6:30 – Parlor
- Wed. Oct. 10 McMahon-Ryan Multi-faith service – 12:15pm - Sanctuary
- Thurs. Oct. 11 Bell Choir Rehearsal – 5:30pm - Sanctuary
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm – Memorial Hall
- Sun. Oct. 14 Worship/Chapel Time - 10am
Family Faith Formation – 11am – 3rd floor
**** last Sunday to submit Discernment Committee nominations**

🌀 Music Notes for October 7, 2018 🌀

Our **prelude** today is by Court Stone (1919-1983) who was a Canadian pianist and composer. Most of his works are didactic in nature, written to be played at the graded exams in piano given by the Royal Conservatory of Toronto. The *Variations on a Dorian Theme* are based on a scale which is very similar to the minor scale, but with the sixth note raised a half step. This gives (to me at least) a little bit of poignancy and hope to the otherwise “sadder” minor scale.

Harold Friedell (1905-1958) was an organist/composer of mostly church music. He taught at the Juilliard School in New York, and was organist/choir director at St. Bartholomew’s church (which still maintains an excellent musical reputation to this day.) The tune for our **anthem** became so popular that it was simplified to a hymn form which is found in many hymnbooks – including our own hymnbook #337. We sing it today in recognition of World Communion Sunday.

*Draw us in the spirit’s tether, for when humbly in thy name,
Two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Touch we now thy garment’s hem.*

*As the Christians used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
Then, with thanks to our Creator, break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
So knit thou our friendship up.*

*All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee,
That by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
We will serve thee faithfully.*

Our **postlude** is a hymn prelude using the tune for our closing hymn, *Aurelia*. John Marsh (b. 1939) was organist/choir director at St. Mary’s, Redcliffe, Bristol, England. In 1996 he was named organist of the Lord Mayor’s Chapel, a position he still holds. He also concertizes.

🌀 About Plymouth 🌀

Plymouth was founded in 1853 by a group of Syracusans who wanted to create a Christian abolitionist bulwark in the city. Since then, we have fought against slavery, poverty, and war; for immigrants’, natives’, workers’, LGBT, and women’s rights; and sought to be agents of mercy in a hurting world. We believe in beauty, laughter, the struggle for peace with justice, taking risks for God, and the Way of Jesus Christ.

Our faith is over 2,000 years old; our thinking is not!

We are Open and Affirming We believe God calls us to welcome all people and their gifts regardless of gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity, physical ability, socioeconomic status, or religious background.

We are Just Peace We covenant to live actively within the holy longing that weds justice with the quest for peace – within us, between us, in community, and across the globe. We covenant to affirm the sacredness of all life and to honor and preserve creation.

We are Sanctuary We provide a space of physical, emotional, and spiritual safety for immigrants without documents, and specifically pledge to the principles of the national New Sanctuary Movement.

We are Immigrant Welcoming We seek to learn, support, and develop practices and programs that facilitate the respectful welcome and inclusion of all immigrants into our congregation and community.

We are Progressive Christians We try to walk in the way of Jesus Christ, our brother and savior. We believe God speaks new meanings for new days, and that She does so not only

in the church and the ancient words of the Bible, but through the insights of science, the arts, the revelations of other religions, and the best strivings of the human spirit. We believe God has granted us a purpose, and that life is too short for long-faced religion. Join us!

The Rev. Dr. John A. Terry, Interim Pastor; jterry@plymouthsyr.org
Dr. Joseph Downing, Director of Music
Kim Looney, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
Kathy Ferro, Church Administrator
Mark Johnson, Sexton

232 East Onondaga Street ☞ Syracuse, New York 13202
(315) 474-4836
plymouthsyr.org ☞ office@plymouthsyr.org