



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Word
January 27, 2019
Third Sunday after Epiphany
Annual Meeting Sunday
10:00 am

THE GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

Sonata #1 – Adagio

Felix Mendelssohn

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Elias Mannion

*OPENING HYMN

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

No. 495

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*based on Psalm 19*)

Ed Bogucz

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

All: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

One: There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

All: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;

One: the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;

All: the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;

One: the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;

All: the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever;

One: the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

All: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

*INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. This we pray in Jesus' name who taught us to pray,

Eternal Spirit,

Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver

Source of all that is and all that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by people of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hopes and come on earth.

**Please rise if you are able*

**With bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.
May it be so. Amen.**

COVENANT COMMUNITY TESTIMONIAL

Shiu-Kai Chin

WORDS OF WELCOME

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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.**

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Kim Looney

After the story, kids through 5th grade can head upstairs for extended Chapel Time.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:14-21

SERMON

Good News

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| JOHN COWDERY: | Peggy Kinner |
| LEE DREAMER: | Sue de Lima |
| STANLEY REEVES: | Anne Frank |
| CAROL VEDDER: | Joe Downing |
| DOROTHEA WOOLVERTON: | written by Dorothea Nelson offered by John Terry |

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Good News

Jane Marshall

*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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN

In the Midst of New Dimensions

No. 391

*BENEDICTION

CARRYING OUT THE LIGHT



The regular
Annual Meeting
of Plymouth Congregational Church
is hereby called for **TODAY**

immediately following the service of worship. The purposes of the meeting are to receive the annual reports, to fill elective offices, to set up plans for the coming year, and to transact such other business as may properly come before this meeting.

The 2018 Annual Report of the Congregation was emailed to those for whom we have email addresses. Hard copies are available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary.

All those staying for the Annual Meeting are invited to help yourselves to a beverage and snack at the back of the sanctuary and return to your seats so that the meeting may start promptly. Agendas, including budget and ballot, will be distributed and a limited number of hard copies of the 2018 Annual Report are available on the back table if you need them for reference.

Nursery Care and extended Chapel Time for children through 5th grade are being provided during the meeting.

❧ Some Things You Ought to Know ❧

Stewardship Update: We have received 87 pledges for \$241,342 toward Plymouth's 2019 budget. You can continue to make a pledge at any point during the year. Your pledges make possible the operation of the church and its ongoing efforts of love, justice and mercy. Pledge cards are available in the Sanctuary.

Inquirers' luncheon: Are you new to Plymouth and want to know more? Are you interested in taking the "next step?" If the answer to either or both of these questions is "yes," please plan on attending the next Inquirers' Luncheon **NEXT SUNDAY**, February 3 from 11:30am to 1:30pm. Join John Terry to learn more about Plymouth, our United Church of Christ, and the meaning of membership. A light lunch will be provided. Child care is available if you let us know **TODAY**. RSVP to the church office at office@plymouthsyr.org or 474-4836. Should you so choose, new members will be received during worship on Sunday, March 3.

Plymouth Bells are the opening act at the 9th Annual **World Interfaith Harmony Assembly on Monday, February 4** from 6:30-8:00pm at Southern Missionary Baptist Church, 3143 Midland Ave. Come support the Plymouth Bells and experience the diversity of faith communities in Central New York. The event is free and open to all.

Come hear Andrew VanNorstrand and friends play some parlor music at Plymouth on Friday, February 8 at 8pm. Andrew will perform on vocals, fiddle, guitar and banjo, joined by Anna Patton, from Brattleboro, Vermont, on clarinet, and Amy Englesberg, from Seattle, on keyboard. Andrew's original music often focuses on issues of identity, faith, gender and a search for understanding in rural America. They will perform in the Parlor, where seating is limited. Please reserve your seats by calling the Plymouth office at 315-474-4836 or office@plymouthsyr.org. Tickets are \$15 apiece to be paid at the door by cash or check payable to Plymouth Church.

For more information on Andrew check out <https://www.andrewvannorstrand.com/> and for his friends <http://www.amyenglesberg.com/> and <http://www.annapatton.com/>.

Plymouth Women are meeting on **Monday, February 4 at 12:00noon** (unless schools are closed due to snow) at the Solvay Library, 615 Woods Rd., Solvay, 13209.

We meet to share our social justice interests and activities and for our own social connections. Bring a lunch and a snack to share. For directions or information, contact Anne Frank (315-487-1023) or Peggy Kinner (315-492-0556).

All Plymouth families with young children and youth are invited to go bowling at Flamingo Bowl in Liverpool on **Saturday, February 9, 12-2 PM**. Cost is \$5 per person bowling, which includes shoes and two hours of bowling (If cost is an issue, let Kim Looney know in order to make alternate arrangements). Please contact Kim Looney by Monday, February 4 if your family would like to participate.

The Plymouth Food Pantry depends on donations... Our food pantry is open one day a week, serving approximately 80 people per month. We appreciate donations of money as well as non-perishable food items. Hearty soups and canned chicken are most needed, as they are not often available from the Food Bank. For the most part, money donations go further in feeding more people since we purchase food in bulk. A donation of **\$15.00 provides a 5 day/15 meal pantry package for 1 person**, and **\$40.00 provides that package for a family of 4**. Please consider donating, as you are able, to support our pantry.

Ushers, Greeters and Community Time hosts are needed every Sunday so that we can continue our mission of “Welcoming all.” Volunteer today by:

- 1) Signing up online (Visit our website: www.plymouthsyr.org; click on GET INVOLVED at the top of the screen, scroll down to GREETERS, USHERS and HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS, click on SIGN UP and follow the prompts OR
- 2) Contacting a Deacon (an usher can connect you with one!) OR
- 3) Contacting the church office

The Deacons are happy to answer any questions about these important ministries.

THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. Jan. 28 Food Pantry – 2pm – 4pm
- Thurs. Jan. 31 Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm
Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm
- Sun. Feb. 3 Worship/Communion/Chapel Time - 10am
Learning Community – 11:00am
Inquirers’ Luncheon – 11:15am – Parlor
Youth Supper – 5pm at the Mannion’s home

☞ Plymouth Runs On YOU ☞

GREETER: Jeffrey Bleecker **USHERS:** Frank Leonard and Tom Zorn

LITURGIST: Ed Bogucz **ACOLYTE:** Elias Mannion

COMMUNITY TIME: Board of Deacons

OFFERING COUNTERS: Audrey Kane and Sarah Whitton

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.

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 are changing tables in the restroom just off the sanctuary, in the nursery, and in the men's restroom in the basement.

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.

✿ 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

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