



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Word
April 14, 2019
Sixth Sunday of Lent – Palm Sunday
10:00 am

THE GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

The Palms

Jean-Baptiste Faure

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Kaleigha Spinner

*OPENING HYMN

All Glory Laud and Honor

No. 216

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*based on Psalm 118*)

Michael Chellis

One: Hosanna to the Son of David.

All: Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.

One: Hosanna in the highest.

All: Open to us the gates of righteousness, that we may enter through them and give thanks.

One: Here is the gate; come, let the righteous enter. Bring your branches to the festival procession.

All: Say to the daughter of Zion, behold your salvation comes.

One: Blessed be the King that comes in the name of the Lord.

All: Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

*INVOCATION (*unison*)

Merciful God, as we enter Holy Week and gather at your house of prayer, turn our hearts again to Jerusalem, to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, that united with Christ and all the faithful we may one day enter in triumph the city not made by human hands, the new Jerusalem, eternal in the heavens, where with you and the Holy Spirit, Christ lives in glory forever. Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

**Please rise if you are able*

*SONG OF PRAISE

(Ma - si - thi:) A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa. (Ma - si - thi:)
(Sing a - men:) A - men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a - men:)

A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa. (Ma - si - thi:) A - men, Ba - wo,
A - men, we praise your name, O God. (Sing a - men:) A - men, a - men,

A - men, Ba - wo, A - men, si - ya - ku - du - mi - sa.
a - men, a - men, A - men, we praise your name, O God.

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Leslie Archer

After the Story for All Ages, all children and youth are invited to come outside to create las alfombras (flower carpets) on the sidewalk. Parents can join their children immediately following worship.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 23:1-16, 23

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

All in the Morning

English Carol

SERMON

Passion of the Christ

*HYMN

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty

No. 215

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift our hearts to God.

One: Let us pray...

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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.

There are several beloved versions of this prayer. 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 using "trespasses" through the first part of 2019.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Merchant's Carol

English Carol

*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

*BENEDICTION

One: We have come to the end of our service,
but not to the end of the story—
neither of the ups and downs of this week
made Holy by Jesus,
nor of the ups and downs of our lives.

**All Sing: Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

One: When all else fails ...
when we, like the disciples,
lack the strength or courage to go on ...
or when we, like Peter, waffle under pressure,
abandoning what we claim to hold dear ...
May Jesus be a steadying and reassuring presence for us,
leading us safely and surely Home.

**All Sing: When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

As we sing the second verse, we will process out of the sanctuary and on to the street, where we will receive palms from the children and have the opportunity to delight in the flower artwork (Las

Alfombras) they have worked so hard to create. Then together we will embark on our Palm Sunday Pilgrimage using the insert in your bulletin as a guide. It will last approximately 30 minutes. We will reconvene in Memorial Hall for Community Time.

We thank our musicians for leading us on the procession:

Liam Hines, trumpet

Paula Kinev and Kaitlan Madsen, horn

Nicolas Abalgore, trombone



🌀 Plymouth Runs On YOU 🌀

GREETER: Sarah Whitton **USHERS:** George Bain and Russ Wojcik

LITURGIST: Michael Chellis **ACOLYTE:** Kaleigha Spinner

COMMUNITY TIME: Gert Danzy

FLOWERS given by Gert Danzy in celebration of the Easter season

OFFERING COUNTERS: Sue Bogucz 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.



Holy Week at Plymouth



Maundy Thursday, April 18
6:00pm Worship in Kirtland Hall
Intergenerational Service

As the shadows lengthen and betrayal overshadows all, we gather around the Table to remember the Last Supper and hold each other tight as we wait for the coming of the light. (No childcare provided.)



Good Friday, April 19
Rutter's Requiem
7:00pm in the Sanctuary



With combined choirs of Park Central Presbyterian, Pebble Hill Presbyterian, and Plymouth churches and strings, percussion, winds, harp and organ.
(No childcare provided.)

Easter Sunday, April 21
10am Worship for all ages
with brass, timpani, organ, and choir
PrayGround

Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed!

Next Sunday we celebrate the life and light of Jesus Christ and his Resurrection on Easter morning! **All are invited to bring fresh flowers to adorn the cross as you come to worship this day.** Children and youth are invited to arrive at 9:40 AM and meet by the elevator to help unbury the special word that they buried on March 3rd.

Some Things You Ought to Know

TODAY following worship:

- Palm Sunday Pilgrimage followed by Community Time

Congregational Meeting: There will be a congregational meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, April 28. The purpose of this meeting will be to approve the slate of nominations for the Pastoral Search Committee as presented by Church Council.

“Ernie’s Journal—The Story of Plymouth Church’s Donkey,” a new book written and illustrated by member Leslie Archer, is available through Plymouth for a reduced price of \$15. This is the last Sunday to order a copy through church; there is a signup sheet at the table by the door.

On Good Friday, April 19 at 7 pm, the choir of Plymouth Congregational Church welcomes the choirs of Park Central Presbyterian Church and Pebble Hill Presbyterian Church in presenting John Rutter's *Requiem* here in the sanctuary. The forty-five minute piece will be accompanied by harp, organ, strings, winds, and percussion featuring performers from Symphoria. Robert Allen conducts, with Bette Kahler playing the Moeller organ of over 3,000 pipes. The piece begins quite darkly, but shortly moves to heart-rendingly beautiful music with texts focusing on the meaning of life and death - a wonderful way to make Good Friday meaningful.

NEW! Family Dance: All are invited to a special Plymouth Community Folk Dance on **Friday, April 26** from 6pm – 8pm in Kirtland Hall. There will be live music and all dances will be taught and are easy, accessible, and fun! The event is free, with a suggested donation of \$5/person or \$15/family to thank the musicians. This is a great opportunity to build community at Plymouth.

Earth Day Clean Up: Join Plymouth ROCKS and Christian Formation on **April 27** and help beautify downtown. Meet at the MOST (500 S. Franklin St.) by 9:30am. Contact Kim Looney to sign up.

Plymouth ROCKS will be serving lunch at the Rescue Mission on **Sunday, April 28**. The group will leave Plymouth around 10:15am and will finish serving shortly after 12pm. Young (ages 12 and up) and old are welcome! **RSVP to Chris Hopkins (christinehopkins03@gmail.com or 315 476-5139.) ahead of time.**

Heifer Festival - Mexico – Sunday, May 5, 11:00-12:30:

DID YOU KNOW? Environmental degradation in Mexico and other Latin American and Caribbean countries has increased because of the increased demand for coffee and cocoa. The increased demand has led to larger-scale production methods that are not eco-friendly. Crops are also increasingly vulnerable due to climate change.

Heifer International trains farmers in a sustainable agricultural approach that helps them better meet the high demands of the market while simultaneously using eco-friendly methods and earning a fair wage for their work through Fair Trade Certification opportunities.

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE: Prepare a dish for our **Heifer Festival Potluck** that includes at least one ingredient that helps promote sustainability, whether it is organically or locally grown, fair trade certified, grown by you, etc. **What you would pay for a meal at your favorite restaurant? Consider donating that amount for your lunch at Heifer Festival.**

Piano Recital: On Sunday, May 5th at 1 pm, we welcome Steinway Artist Steven Heyman to perform the dedicatory recital on the new 7 foot Steinway Model B piano. This piano was generously given to Plymouth in memory of Carol Vedder, a fine pianist and member of Plymouth. Mr. Heyman will perform a one hour program of music by Haydn, Chopin, Copland, Bolcom and Debussy. Free admission; a freewill offering will be collected to benefit Heifer International.

The Syracuse POPS Chorus presents “Broadway Breakout” at the Redhouse (400 S. Salina Street) on Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased online at theredhouse.org or by calling 315-362-2785.

THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. April 15 Deadline for May *Plymouth Story*
Food Pantry – 2:00pm – 4:00pm
- Tues. April 16 Church Council – 5:30pm, Parlor
Board of Christian Formation – 7:00pm, Parlor
- Wed. April 17 Requiem Rehearsal, 7:00pm - Sanctuary
- Thurs. April 18 Maundy Thursday Service, 6:00pm - Kirtland Hall
Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm – Memorial Hall
(No Bell Choir Rehearsal)
- Fri. April 19 Rutter’s *Requiem*, 7:00pm - Sanctuary
- Sun. April 21 Unbury the “word we can’t say” – 9:40am
EASTER worship/PrayGround

🌀 Music Notes for April 14, 2019 🌀

Jean-Baptiste Faure (1830-1914) was no relation to the more famous Gabriel Faure (who wrote the famous Requiem.) Jean-Baptiste was primarily a singer; he sang at the Paris Opera Comique, and at the Royal Opera House in London before being named principal baritone at the Paris Opera. He only wrote a few songs, but three of them have endured the test of time, perhaps because they were recorded by Enrico Caruso; *The Palms*, *Sancta Maria* and *Crucifix*. He was an avid collector and commissioner of art – he commissioned Monet’s 40 paintings of the cliffs of Etratat (where Faure had a villa) and his estate included 63 works of Monet, 67 of Manet, and paintings by Degas, Sisley, Pissarro, Ingres, and Prud’hon.

For the past few weeks, the choir has enjoyed singing carols written for the Lenten period. These mostly anonymous works come from the English tradition; some of them also have Christmas words which are probably more familiar; some of them tell the whole story of Jesus’ life (sometimes in more than twenty verses!) and we have just sung the parts about Lent. Today we present two more of these carols (and also one on Maundy Thursday!):

*It was on Holy Wednesday, and all in the morning, that Judas betrayed our dear heavenly King,
And was that not a woeful thing? And sweet Jesus we’ll call him by name.*

It was on Sheer Thursday, ... they plaited a crown of thorns for our heavenly King.

It was on Good Friday, ... they crucified our Saviour and our heavenly King.

It was on Easter Day, ... our Saviour arose, our own Heavenly King.

The Sun and the moon, they did both rise with him, and sweet Jesus we’ll call him by name.

*As we rode down the steep hillside, twelve merchants with our fairing,
A shout across the hollow land came loud upon our hearing;
A shout, a song, a thousand strong, a thousand lusty voices:
“Make haste,” said I, I knew not why Jerusalem rejoices.*

*Beneath the olives fast we rode, and louder came the shouting;
“So great a noise must mean,” said we, “A king, beyond all doubting!”
Spurred on, did we, this king to see, and left the mules to follow;
And nearer, clearer rang the noise along the Kidron hollow.*

*Behold a many-coloured crowd about the gate we found there;
But one among them all, we marked, one man who made no sound there;
Still louder ever rose the crowd’s “Hosanna in the highest!”
“O King,” thought I, “I know not why in all this joy thou sighest!”*

*Then he looked up, he looked at me, but whether he spoke I doubted;
How could I hear so calm a speech while all the rabble shouted?
And yet these words, it seems, I heard, “I shall be crowned tomorrow,”
They struck my heart with sudden smart, and filled my bones with sorrow.*

*We followed far, we traded not, but long we could not find him.
The very fold that called him king let robbers go and bind him.
We found him then, the sport of men, still calm among their crying:
And well we knew his words were true – He was most kingly dying.*

✿ 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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