



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Sung Word
October 18, 2020
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Hymn Sing Sunday
10:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Elias Mannion

This Little Light of Mine (vs. 1)

No. 524

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

OPENING HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (vs. 1, 4)

No. 345

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in the hand,
Christ our God to earth descending, our full homage to demand.
At Christ's feet the six-winged seraphs, cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, God most high!**

WORDS OF WELCOME

Welcome, Welcome Sabbath Morning

Ebenezer Beesley

Christine Richardson, contralto; Julia Ross, drumset

PASSING OF THE PEACE

When Peace, Like a River (vs. 1)

No. 438

**When peace, like a river, upholds me each day,
When sorrows like sea billows roll,
Whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."
It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.**

SONGS OF PRAISE

Be Now My Vision (vs. 1, 4)

No. 451

**Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
Nothing surpasses the love you impart--
You my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, your presence my light.
Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

How Great Thou Art (vs. 1, 2)

**O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed,**

Refrain (sung after each verse)

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great thou art, how great thou art!**

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God Is Here! (vs. 1, 4)

No. 70

**God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.**

**Sovereign God, of earth and heaven, in an age of change and doubt
Keep us faithful to the gospel, help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Just As I Am (vs. 1)

No. 207

**Just as I am, without one plea but that your blood was shed for me,
And that you called inviting me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Amazing Grace (vs.1, 2, 3)

No. 547

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.**

Go Tell It on the Mountain (vs. 3)

No. 154

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere.
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!**

**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.**

Refrain

STORY FOR ALL AGES

God's Creations

Refrain:

**All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.**

**Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.**

Refrain

**The purpleheaded mountain, the river running by,
The sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.**

Refrain

God's Eye Is On the Sparrow (vs. 1)

No. 475

**Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,
When God is ever my portion? My constant friend will be:
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me;
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me.**

SOLO

O Holy Night
Sarah Gross

Adolphe Adam

SERMON IN SONG

The Gift of Music

My Life Flows On In Endless Song (vs. 1, 2, 4)

No. 476

**My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul-- how can I keep from singing?**

**What though my joys and comforts die? My Savior still is living.
What though the shadows gather 'round? A new song Christ is giving.
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging;
Since Love commands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?**

**I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue above it;
And day by day this pathway smooths, since first I learned to love it.
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing;
All things are mine since I am Christ's-- how can I keep from singing?**

All Creatures of Our God and King (vs. 1)

**All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam!
O Praise him, O praise him!**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.

**Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
 Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
 Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
 Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
 Sing a song full of the faith that the harsh past has taught us,
 Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
 Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
 Let us march on till victory is won.**

When In Our Music God Is Glorified (vs. 1, 4)

Joseph Downing

**When in our music God is glorified,
 And adoration leaves no room for pride,
 It is as though the whole creation cried:
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise!
 Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
 And may God give us faith to sing always
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER

As I Went Down to the River to Pray

**As I went down to the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,
 And who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way.
 O sisters, let's go down; let's go down, won't you come on down.
 Come on, sisters; let's go down; down to the river to pray.**

**As I went down to the river to pray, studying about that good ol' way,
 And who shall wear the robe and crown, good Lord, show me the way.
 O brothers, let's go down; let's go down, won't you come on down.
 Come on, brothers; let's go down; Down to the river to pray.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer
Tara Sandlin

Albert Hay Malotte

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.**

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

We Give Thee But Thine Own (vs. 1)

**We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be:
 All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION	Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult (vs. 1, 3, 5)	No. 172
<p>Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea; Day by day that voice still calls us, saying, "Christian, follow me."</p> <p>Jesus calls us from the worship of the treasures we adore, From each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."</p> <p>Jesus calls us! By your mercies, Savior, may we hear your call, Give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.</p>		
PRAYER OF COMMITMENT	Here I Am Lord <i>The Hatt Family Ensemble</i>	Dan Schutte
PRAYER OF BLESSING	You Are Salt for the Earth, O People (vs. 1)	No. 181
<p>You are salt for the earth, O people: salt for the reign of God! Share the flavor of life, O people: life in the City of God! Bring forth the reign of mercy, bring forth the reign of peace; Bring forth the reign of justice, bring forth the City of God!</p>		
SENDING FORTH	The Church of Christ, in Every Age	No. 306
<p>The church of Christ in every age beset by change, but Spirit led, Must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.</p> <p>Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry For shelter and for bread to eat, and never live before they die.</p> <p>Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be A partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.</p>		
CLOSING HYMN	Sent Forth By God's Blessing (vs. 1, 2)	No. 76
<p>Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, The people of God from this dwelling take leave. The service is ended, O now be extended The fruits of our worship in all who believe. The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching, Shall blossom in action for God and for all. God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us To work for God's realm and to answer the call.</p> <p>With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, The tasks of our everyday life we will face. Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, Embracing God's children of each tribe and race. With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us, Unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving Give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.</p>		
POSTLUDE	Couplet: Sanctus Dominus	François Couperin

THE JOINING OF NEW MEMBER *via Zoom*

Rev. Gary T. Smith

LITANY OF INTENT

- One: Friends in Christ, we are all received into the church through the sacrament of baptism. Gary has found nurture and support in the midst of the family of Christ.
- Many: **He has been led by the Spirit to affirm his baptism and to claim in our presence his covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of the Christian church.**
- One: He is here, as we are here, to endeavor to love God with all our hearts, and all our souls, and all our minds. God help us.
- Many: **He is here, as we are here, to endeavor to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. God help us.**
- One: Gary, we rejoice in your pilgrimage of faith which has brought you to this time and place.
- Many: **We give thanks for every community of faith which has been your spiritual home, and we celebrate your presence in this household of faith.**
- One: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be a vital part of the family of Christ, to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and Word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?
- Gary: *I promise, with the help of God.*
- Many: **Do you promise, according to the grace given to you, to grow in the Christian faith? And do you promise, that so far as able, you will participate in the life of this church, by worshipping God with us, and offering your time, talent and means for the ministry of this church and for the larger church of which this is a part?**
- Gary: *I promise, with the help of God.*
- One: We welcome you with joy as partners in the common life of this church, and we offer to you the hand of Christian love.

BENEDICTION (*via Zoom*)



~ Plymouth Runs On YOU ~

ACOLYTE: Elias Mannion
VIRTUAL DEACON ON DUTY: Keith Giglio
VIRTUAL COMMUNITY TIME HOSTS: Juliet and Keith Giglio
WORSHIP ZOOM COORDINATOR: Tom Zorn

Rev. Eric Jackson, Pastor, ejackson@plymouthsyr.org
Dr. Joseph Downing, Director of Music
Kim Looney, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries
Kathy Ferro, Church Administrator
Mark Johnson, Sexton

plymouthsyr.org ~ office@plymouthsyr.org



☞ Some Things You Ought to Know ☞

Accessing Sunday Worship:

Go to Plymouth Church's Facebook PAGE:

<https://www.facebook.com/plymouthUCCsyracuse/>

OR

Click on the Facebook logo



on the home page of Plymouth's website,

www.plymouthsyr.org

You can also join worship via telephone as well:

- Dial 1-646-876-9923
- You will hear "Enter your meeting ID followed by pound." Enter 603 933 3178 #
- You will hear "Enter your participant ID followed by pound, otherwise just press pound to continue." Press #
- You will hear "Enter the meeting password followed by pound" Enter 13202 #

TODAY we welcome Rev. Gary T. Smith into membership at Plymouth via Zoom during Community Time. Gary grew up in the Syracuse area (in the city, and also in Liverpool, Fairmount and Camillus.) After pursuing a number of careers, he went to St. Bernard's and Colgate Rochester Divinity School, graduating in 2003. He served for 10 years in two progressive Catholic parishes before joining the UCC to pursue ordination. Gary was ordained on 2/1/2015 and served East Side Congregational UCC in Binghamton as its pastor for four years before moving to Homer Congregational Church and serving for 2 ½ years as Associate Pastor for Faith Formation. Through it all, Gary also directed a faith-based community organization seeking systemic change on a variety of issues. At present, he serves as the Director of the Center for Racial Justice, a new entity derived from his community organizing work. Gary loves music, photography, the Syracuse Crunch and the Edmonton Oilers hockey teams and 78° sunny blue sky weather! He has had interactions with several Plymouth church members over the years and is incredibly excited to join this justice-oriented congregation!

Throughout October we collect the Neighbors in Need offering: This is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. Checks are payable to Plymouth Church; please put NIN on the memo line.

SAVE THE DATE! All Saints Day Remembrance Pumpkins, Wednesday, October 28th at 4:30PM, Upper Onondaga Park: All Saints Day is coming up on Sunday, November 1st. As we prepare for this day of honoring the saints, you and your family are invited to remember the saints in your lives, living and passed, in a tangible way. During this time when we are separated from those we love for so many reasons, it is especially important to take this time for ourselves and our families.

Plymouth members and friends of all ages are invited to register and participate in this in-person, intergenerational activity that involves pumpkins, wooden mallets, golf tees, candles, and a time for remembering. It is preferable that you bring your own pumpkin, but we will provide one if you are unable. All other supplies will be provided.

Immediately following our activity, you are invited to participate in outdoor worship at the same location.

Registration is required to participate, as there are a limited number of slots available. Registration will open on October 21.

Wednesday, October 28 at 5:30pm will be our third and final *Plymouth in the Park*, an opportunity to worship together in-person outdoors at Upper Onondaga Park. More details and registration form will be sent out this week.

LEARNING ABOUT RACE / COMMITTING TO ANTIRACISM –

TWO UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES: “Let’s Talk Race” – 6pm to 7:30pm on Thursday October 22nd – Join the first of 6 sessions in the Oneida Association’s weekly Zoom workshop series facilitated by the New and Right Spirit Team. For details and to register on Eventbrite, go to <https://conta.cc/33YWf68>

Pastor Eric is also planning a Plymouth workshop series for us to grow deeper in our understanding about race. Stay tuned for those start dates.

THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. October 19 Food Pantry, 2pm-4pm – Bell Tower door
DEADLINE for November *Plymouth Story*
- Tues. October 20 Church Council, 5:30pm via Zoom
Board of Christian Formation, 7:00pm via Zoom
- Wed. October 21 High School Racial Justice Group, 7:30pm via Zoom
- Sun. October 25 Compassion Camp (for children & youth), 9am via Zoom
Worship, 10am via Facebook
... followed by Community Time on Zoom
Middle School Youth Group, 3:00pm – Thornden Park

🌀 Welcome to Plymouth 🌀

232 E. Onondaga Street | Syracuse, NY 13202 | 315-474-4836

For an online and interactive worship experience

We are Open and Affirming, Just Peace, Immigrant Welcoming, Progressive Christians, and a Sanctuary Congregation.

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!

- **Resources for Worship:** Today’s worship bulletin can be found on the church’s website.
- **Visiting for the First Time?** We are so glad to meet another member of our extended global family. Please email office@plymouthsyr.org to add your name to our mailing list so we can know how to best serve you!
- **Giving:** Part of worshipping God is through giving. We can only live into our mission to impact the world TOGETHER with the generosity of all! You can share your gifts with Plymouth Church at the address above or via PayPal to giving@plymouthsyr.org
- **Prayer Requests:** We are excited to be worshipping together both with members of Plymouth Church and the wider world via Facebook Live. Public Prayer Requests you’d like the community to pray for can be submitted in the comments section of this posting. Private prayer requests can be sent via Facebook Message to Plymouth or email. To add a name to our Prayer List contact office@plymouthsyr.org.