



# Plymouth Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

**Service of the Word  
January 24, 2021  
Third Sunday after Epiphany  
10:00 am**

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Abigail Otte

PRELUDE

Variations on a Dorian Theme

Court Stone

WORDS OF WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Eric Jackson

One: Peace be with you.

All: **And, also with you.**

*Please share a sign of peace with those around you.*

\*SONG OF PRAISE

Gloria Patri

**Glorify 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.**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Stacey Otte

We gather to respond to the call of God's love  
Thankful that someone cared enough to share this good news with us.  
May we be compassionate enough to share this divine presence with others.  
Love, when shared, is not divided but multiplied.  
Love, given away, is not diminished but expanded.  
May our gathering beckon and welcome those near and far  
to know the love of this divine presence.

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

From deep within us we know of a loving presence. All around us we see glory, beauty, life and light. We have no words for what we experience so we cry out, "God!" In this moment of worship may that loving presence grow deeper, may our awareness of the divine presence around us grow more intense. May we, gathered in this place, learn to pay more attention to God, who loves us at all times and in all places. God, of love and life, in this moment of prayer be more and more in us that we might live more and more in you. Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN

Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult (vs. 1, 3, 5)

No. 172

**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."**

**Jesus calls us from the worship of the treasures we adore,  
From each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."**

**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.**

*\*Please rise if you are able*

## THE GIFT OF THE WORD

### SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:14-20

One: Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

The word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### STORY FOR ALL AGES

Kim Looney

### ANTHEM

They Cast Their Nets in Galilee  
*Michael Chellis, bass*

David McK. Williams

### SERMON

#### \*HYMN

Come O Fount of Every Blessing

No. 459

**Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.**

**Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,  
Come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,  
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.  
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known:  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.**

## THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

### CALL TO PRAYER

### THE PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

*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 2021.*

**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.**

**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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING HYMN

God of Change and God of Glory

No. 177

**God of change and glory, God of time and space,  
When we fear the future, give to us your grace.  
In the midst of changing ways give us still the grace to praise.**

*Refrain (sung after each verse):*

**Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.  
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise  
One Giver, one Word, one Spirit, one God known in many ways,  
Hallowing our days. For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!**

**God of many colors, God of many signs,  
You have made us different, blessing many kinds.  
As the old ways disappear, let your love cast out our fear.**

**Freshness of the morning, newness of each night,  
You are still creating endless love and light.  
This we see, as shadows part, may gifts form one great heart.**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Sortie

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens



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**~ Plymouth Runs On YOU ~**

**LITURGIST:** Stacey Otte **ACOLYTE:** Abigail Otte  
**VIRTUAL DEACON ON DUTY/COMMUNITY TIME HOST:** Susan Hawks  
**WORSHIP ZOOM COORDINATOR:** Tom Zorn

*To give feedback and ideas about worship video production, you can contact our technician Ben Cooper at [av@plymouthsyr.org](mailto:av@plymouthsyr.org)*

Rev. Eric Jackson, Pastor, [ejackson@plymouthsyr.org](mailto: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](http://plymouthsyr.org) ~ [office@plymouthsyr.org](mailto:office@plymouthsyr.org)

- **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](mailto: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](mailto:giving@plymouthsyr.org)
- **Prayer Requests:** We are excited to be worshiping 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](mailto:office@plymouthsyr.org).



### THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. January 25 Food Pantry 4pm – Bell Tower door  
WOW! Widening Our Welcome – the Journey  
Outward, 5:30pm via Zoom
- Sun. January 31 Sunday Storytime for families with children and youth,  
9am via Zoom  
Worship, 10am via Facebook  
... followed by community time on Zoom  
**ANNUAL MEETING**, 11:30am via Zoom



### 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](http://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 #

**Stewardship Campaign Passes \$259,000:** We have received 87 pledges for \$259,830 toward Plymouth's operating budget for 2021. There is still time for you to make a pledge. You may mail your pledge card to the church office or to the stewardship secretary, George Bain, or contact George by email with your pledge amount, even if you don't have a pledge card.

**2021 Budget Review:** The Board of Trustees will provide an opportunity to review and discuss the proposed 2021 Budget following worship **this Sunday**, January 24 at 11:30am via Zoom in advance of the Annual Meeting on January 31.

**REMINDER - RACIAL JUSTICE "WOW!" WORKSHOPS - PART 2 SIGN UPS for folks who have completed Part 1!** Everyone who participated in Part 1: Journey Inward is eligible to register for Part 2: Journey Outward. In this Part 2 workshop we will lean in to a deeper understanding of white privilege culture and systems that have shaped all of us, think about how these can show up in a community like Plymouth, and consider how we can strengthen our capacity to be even more intentional about ensuring our welcome is truly welcoming. Use the link you have received via email (or call the Plymouth Office) to sign up for your preferred date.

- Monday, 1/25 – 5:30pm-7:30pm (sign up by Fri. Jan. 22)
- Sunday, 2/7 – 11:30am-1:30pm (sign up by Fri. Feb. 5)
- Monday, 2/8 – 5:30pm-7:30pm (sign up by Fri. Feb. 5)

**The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Congregation of Plymouth Church will be held on January 31, 2021 at 11:30am via Zoom.** The purpose of the meeting shall be to receive the yearly reports of officers, boards, council, committees, ministry teams and organizations; to fill elective offices; to set up plans for the ensuing year; to adopt the budget; and to transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting, including consideration of two proposed amendments of Plymouth's bylaws.

For action by the Congregation at the Annual Meeting, Church Council will propose the following two amendments to Plymouth's bylaws:

- 1) Proposed bylaw amendment to be added to Article VI, Section 4:  
*Meetings of each Board/Council and their committees may be held electronically following the Rules of Conduct for Electronic Meetings in **Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised**. The President/Moderator/Chair of each Board/Council/Committee shall provide notice of such meetings 24 hours in advance, including pertinent contact information for said meeting. Electronic meetings of the Board/Council/Committee shall be subject to all rules adopted by the Board/Council, to govern them, which may include any reasonable limitations on, and requirements for, Board members' participation.*
- 2) Proposed bylaw amendment to be added to Article XIII, Section 1:  
*In consultation with the officers of Boards and the professional staff, the moderator may determine that the Annual Meeting be held electronically. Rules of Conduct for Electronic Meetings in **Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised** will be followed in the conduct of the meeting.*

**The 2020 Giving statements have been sent out by email and by post.** If you have not received your statement, or if you have a question about your statement, please contact Susan Hawks at 315-475-4032 or shawks@twcny.rr.com.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL WRITERS NEEDED:** During the Season of Lent we would like to offer a devotional to our Congregation sent electronically each day. Each devotional should be somewhat brief (approximately 100-150 words max) and finish with a short prayer that's approximately 20-30 words. You are welcome to write one or two devotionals. They will be emailed mailed each day to the congregation and delivered weekly by mail to those without email. If you are able to help with this project and have a piece or have questions please contact Pastor Eric [ejackson@plymouthsyr.org](mailto:ejackson@plymouthsyr.org) by February 1st. Contributions would need to be received by February 10th. This is an opportunity to inspire your faith community and share your gifts.

## ❧ 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 Syracuseans 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!***



***Welcoming All, Growing in Faith, Working for Justice and Peace***