



# Plymouth Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

**Service of Word and Sacrament  
February 7, 2021  
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany  
10:00 am**

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Amelia Wright

PRELUDE

Winter Bells

C.C.N. Balle

*Carole Brzozowski, Kathy Ferro, Kirsten Hubel*

setting by Cathy

*Plymouth Bells*

Moklebust

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

**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.**

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mary Giegengack-Jureller

Gather us in, the brokenhearted and the joyful.  
Gather us in, the weak and the strong.  
Gather us in, the fearful and the brave.  
Gather us in, people of all ages.  
Gather us in, to sing of God's works.  
Gather us in, to praise Jesus Christ.  
Gather us in, to worship and wonder.  
Gather us in, to know of God's love.  
Gather us in, to worship God.

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, we are gathered here under the shelter of your wings, nurtured by your motherly love, and encouraged, then, to fly by faith on the wind of your spirit. You have spoken to us, saying, "They that wait upon the Lord, shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings as eagles." Teach us how to wait, then, that we may learn how to fly. May this nest we call "family" be built with sturdy materials. Don't let us forget, though, that this nest was not created as a fortress behind which to hide, but as a perch from which to take off. And strengthen us with the assurance that we do not fly alone. This we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

No. 472

*\*Please rise if you are able*

**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.**

**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.**

**When the shadows appear and the night draws near,  
And the day is past and gone,  
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

## **THE GIFT OF THE WORD**

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40:21-31

One: Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
Has it not been told you from the beginning?  
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?  
It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,  
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;  
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,  
and spreads them like a tent to live in;  
who brings princes to naught,  
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,  
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,  
when he blows upon them, and they wither,  
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me,  
or who is my equal? Says the Holy One.  
Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
Who created these?  
He who brings out their host and numbers them,  
calling them all by name;  
because he is great in strength,  
mighty in power,  
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,  
“My way is hidden from the Lord,  
and my right is disregarded by my God”?  
Have you not known? Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.  
He gives power to the faint,  
and strengthens the powerless.

Even youths will faint and be weary,  
and the young will fall exhausted;  
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

The word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Kim Looney

ANTHEM

Aria

Cynthia Dobrinski

*Carole Brzozowski, Kathy Ferro, Kirsten Hubel  
Plymouth Bells*

SERMON

\*HYMN

On Eagle's Wings

Michael Joncas

*Refrain (sung after each verse):*

**And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of His hand.**

**You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His shadow for life.  
Say to the Lord: "My refuge, my Rock in whom I trust!"**

**The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear:  
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield.**

**You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;  
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.**

**For to His angels He's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;  
Upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.**

*After final refrain:*

**... in the palm of His hand.**

## **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

*Today we receive a special offering for Plymouth’s Food Pantry to support our weekly ministry to some of the most vulnerable in our community. To contribute, please make out a check to Plymouth Congregational Church with the words “Food Pantry” in the memo line.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

DISTRIBUTION OF BREAD AND CUP

*Bring your host and cup. We will eat the host and drink the cup respectively at the same time.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*CLOSING HYMN

I Come to the Garden Alone

No. 237

**I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses;  
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.**

*Refrain (sung after each verse):*

**And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own,  
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.**

**He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing;  
And the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing.**

**I’d stay in the garden with him, though the night around me be falling.  
But he bids me go; through the voice of woe his voice to me is calling.**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Voluntary in C

John Stanley



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**~ Plymouth Runs On YOU ~**

**LITURGIST:** Mary Giegengack-Jureller **ACOLYTE:** Amelia Wright  
**VIRTUAL DEACON ON DUTY/COMMUNITY TIME HOST:** Geoff Oldfield  
**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*



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)

### THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. February 8 Food Pantry, 2pm-4pm – Bell Tower door  
WOW! Widening Our Welcome – the Journey  
Outward, 5:30pm via Zoom
- Tues. February 9 Board of Deacons, 5:30pm via Zoom\*  
Board of Trustees, 5:30pm via Zoom\*
- Sun. February 14 Sunday Storytime for families with children and  
youth, 9am via Zoom  
Worship 10am via Facebook...followed by community time on Zoom  
Inquirers' Luncheon, 11:45am via Zoom  
Youth Group, 7pm via Zoom

*\* Board meetings are open to all; please contact the Church Office to be put in contact with the Chair who can receive your request for voice during the meeting and share online meeting information with you.*

### 🎨 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 #

**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 bring-your-own Inquirers' Luncheon via ZOOM NEXT Sunday, February 14 at 11:45am. Join Eric Jackson to learn more about Plymouth, our United Church of Christ, and the meaning of membership. Should you so choose, new members will be received during worship on **Sunday, February 28**. RSVP to Eric Jackson or the church office by THIS TUESDAY, February 9 so that you can be sent the ZOOM link as well as all pertinent materials.

**ASH WEDNESDAY, February 17:** All are invited to worship together via Zoom at 6:30pm (see link below) where we will be guided through four meditations to experience the entry into the beginning of this holy season. Clay and ash will be used during one of the meditations. We will provide a recipe for

making playdough and you may use dirt or fireplace ash from home OR stop by the church to pick up ashes and playdough on Fri. 2/12, Tues. 2/16 or Wed. 2/17 between 8:30pm and 4:30pm.

Zoom link: <http://zoom.us/j/6039333178> or copy address into your browser

- If prompted for a password: 13202  
OR
- Go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)
- Click on "Join a Meeting" on menu bar
- Enter Meeting ID: 6039333178 Enter Password: 13202

**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. **Contributions would need to be received by February 10th.** This is an opportunity to inspire your faith community and share your gifts.

**Lenten Devotionals are available through UCC Resources [by clicking here.](#)** "The Transformation: From Darkness to Light" is a 46-day devotion to walk you through Lent. All entries were written by UCC youth and young adults between the ages of 12 and mid-30s. Cost is \$10. There is also "Young Voices: Stepping Out of the Wilderness," a \$5 download only 47-day devotion to walk you through Lent, concluding with the good news of Easter Sunday. All entries were written by UCC youth and young adults between the ages of 12 and 35. Proceeds from both will be used for additional programs and outreach for youth and young adults in the UCC. Contact the Church Office by Tuesday, February 9 if you need assistance ordering the resources.

**Burying the Alleluia!** It is a tradition at Plymouth for the children to Bury the Alleluia on the Sunday before Lent begins. This year *everyone* in the church will have a chance to Bury the Alleluia! Here's how it works:

1. **Write the word "Alleluia!"** on a piece of paper and decorate it however you want.
2. **Ask someone to take a picture** of you with your "Alleluia!" (As long as you're comfortable having your picture taken, make sure we can see your face)
3. **Email your picture to the Church Office** at [office@plymouthsyr.org](mailto:office@plymouthsyr.org) as soon as possible, but no later than March 22 (by doing so, you give Plymouth Church permission to use it on Easter Sunday, April 4th during worship on Facebook Live).
4. **Join us for Worship on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** when we will "bury" our "Alleluias!" together during the Story for All Ages OR "bury" your "Alleluia!" at another time that day if you can't join in on worship.
5. **Keep your "Alleluias!" buried until Easter Sunday** when we will "unbury" them together.

## 🌀 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](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 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](mailto:office@plymouthsyr.org).