



# Plymouth Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

**Service of the Word**  
**March 14, 2021**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**10:00 am**

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Frank Leonard

*The preludes and postludes throughout Lent are variations of the "Passion Chorale." You will recognize the tune used in all of these pieces as "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded."*

## PRELUDE

The Passion Chorale

Joseph Downing (b. 1955)

## 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

Harry Crawford

We each have a right to be here,  
a right not based on our righteousness  
but on God's free grace.  
Let us give thanks to our God who is good,  
whose liberating love endures forever.  
Let those who are redeemed by God declare it,  
rescued from trouble and gathered from many lands;  
From the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south,  
give thanks to God who is always good!

## \*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Olive Crawford

Giver of Life and Gifts, even when we were dead, Paul writes. Even when we turned away from you who had created us. Even when we lived in the grip of what drew our gaze from God. Even when we were oblivious. Even when we followed a path fashioned of nothing. Even when we failed to stand in awe, to breathe thanks, to lean into the love that had waited long for us. Even when, Paul writes. Even when, even then: grace. Give us the faith to follow the path holding close to your amazing grace. Amen.

*\*Please rise if you are able*

**To you, O God, all creatures sing, and all creation, everything  
 Sings your praises, -- -- -- --!**  
**Your burning sun with golden beam, your silver moon with softer gleam  
 Sing your praises, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --.**

**Your wind that blows the tempest by, your clouds that sail across the sky  
 Sing your praises, -- -- -- --!**  
**Your morning rises with a song, and lights of evening sing along,  
 Sing your praises, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --.**

**Your flowing waters, crystal clear, make melodies for you to hear,  
 Sing your praises, -- -- -- --!**  
**Your fire, ...bountiful and bright, remembering your warmth and light,  
 Sings your praises, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --.**

**To you, O God, day after day, your planet earth in every way,  
 Sings your praises, -- -- -- --,**  
**As savory fruit and fragrant flower show forth your glory and your power,  
 Singing praises, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --, -- -- -- --.**

### THE GIFT OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 2:1-10

One: You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

The word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Kim Looney

SPECIAL MUSIC

Lincoln Park Sunset

Livio Fasullo

*Livio Fasullo, saxophone; Sam Ronan, piano; Basile Touratier, drums*

SERMON

Eric Jackson

**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!**

**Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**Just as I am, you will receive, will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;**

**Because your promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**Just as I am, your love unknown has broken every barrier down;**

**Now to be yours, and yours alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

**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.**

\*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

*Throughout the month of March we will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Your OGHS contributions will be combined with those from several other Christian denominations to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. To contribute, please make a check out to Plymouth Congregational Church and write “OGHS” in the memo line.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING HYMN

Amazing Grace (vs. 1-4)

No. 547

*Sung to the tune of “House of the Rising Sun”*

**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.  
My God has promised good to me, whose word my hope secures;  
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Passion Chorale

Johann Philipp Kimberger (1721-1783)



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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)

**LITURGISTS:** Harry and Olive Crawford

**ACOLYTE:** Frank Leonard

**VIRTUAL DEACON ON DUTY/COMMUNITY TIME HOST:** David Cowdery

**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)*

## ☞ Some Things You Ought to Know ☞

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS ON SUNDAY – Be sure to set your clocks ahead  
one hour before going to bed Saturday evening!**

### **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 #

**Lenten Film Fridays:** Pastor Eric has planned his Lenten sermons around six different movies. You are invited to watch Sunday's focus movie on the preceding Friday night during Lent. On **Friday, March 12**, *Soul*, will be shown at **6:00pm**. We will use the same format as was used for the Advent movie. The Zoom room will open at 15 minutes prior to the movie to give everyone a chance to get in and say hi. People will have the opportunity to talk after the movie ends. How will it work? Log into Plymouth's Community Time Zoom Room before movie time and we'll stream the movie to you.

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6039333178>; Password: 13202.

**"Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time" book study**, continues on Sundays at 11:30am via Zoom. Chapter 4-5 will be the focus on 3/14 and Chapter 6 on 3/28 (no book study on 3/21).

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6039333178>; Password: 13202.

**One Great Hour of Sharing**, the UCC's special offering to support disaster relief, refugee initiatives and more, will be collected throughout the month of March. Put OGHS on the memo line on your check.

**Church Council calls for a Special Congregational Meeting** to be held via internet and phone on **March 21 at 11:30am** to consider and take action on the following proposals: a) Authorize the establishment of the "Plymouth CARES Fund," which will be used to provide financial assistance to individuals through Plymouth's ministries (including the Food Pantry and the Good Samaritan Fund) and to organizations in the Central New York region; b) Commit \$31,366.25 from the Church's Operating Reserve Fund as the initial balance of the Plymouth CARES Fund; and c) Adopt policies, procedures, criteria and guidelines for disbursement of Plymouth CARES funds.

**Prepare to unbury our "A-----s" on Easter Sunday. Don't forget to email a picture of you and your "A-----" sign (be sure we can see your face) 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).

**Easter Flowers:** Plans are underway to decorate the sanctuary for the virtual worship service on Easter Sunday with flowers from you! You can place your order for lilies, tulips or daffodils by clicking [HERE](#) or by calling the church office. **DEADLINE** for orders is end of day on Sunday, March 28.

#### THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. March 15      Food Pantry, 2pm – 4pm  
DEADLINE for April *Plymouth Story*
- Tues. March 16      Church Council, 5:30pm via Zoom\*  
Board of Christian Formation, 7:00pm via Zoom\*
- Fri. March 19      Lenten Film Friday – "Annie," 6pm via Zoom
- Sun. March 21      Climbing the Mountain: Exploring the Beatitudes,  
for children in 5th grade and younger, 9am via Zoom  
Worship, 10am via Facebook.... followed by community time on Zoom  
**Special Congregational Meeting, 11:30am via Zoom**  
Learning Together with Our Neighbors, 1pm – 4:15pm 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.*

## ☞ 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).