



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Word
April 18, 2021
Third Sunday of Easter
10:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Gert Danzy

PRELUDE

“All Creatures of Our God”
Cindy Perrine, harmonica

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

Gracia Sears

Children of God,
It's time to take off your shoes,
Step out of your comfort zone, and
Wade with trust into the stream of God's mercy.
Stand still for a moment, barefoot, on holy ground.
Let the healing waters wash your feet.
Take a deep breath as Love soaks into your soul.
Open our hearts, minds, souls who meets us here.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Oh God, our teacher, example, companion—
You have shown us what is good, and call us to remember when to do justice,
how to love kindness, and where to walk, humbly, with You. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

“Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

No. 495

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth, Let us follow,
never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,

**Please rise if you are able*

Blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

**Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.**

**So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.**

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Micah 6:1-8

One: "Hear what the LORD says:
Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.
Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.
"O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!
For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.
O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."
"With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Kim Looney

ANTHEM

"God of Grace"
Cindy Perrine, harmonica

SERMON

Therese Howington

**Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
Bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

Refrain (sung twice after each verse)

**Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again,
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**Christ is able to make us one, at his table he set the tone,
Teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.**

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!**

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER

THE 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.

*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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*CLOSING HYMN

“O for a World”

No. 575

**O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.**

**O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.**

**We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.**

**The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.**

**O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Prelude in C”

attr. Ludwig Krebs



We welcome Therese Howington, Member-in-Discernment, to the pulpit today to offer the sermon.

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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

☞ **Plymouth Runs On YOU** ☞

LITURGIST: Gracia Sears **ACOLYTE:** Gert Danzy
VIRTUAL DEACON ON DUTY/COMMUNITY TIME HOST: Nick Signorelli
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

☞ **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 #

RECOMMENDATIONS INVITED FOR GRANTS FROM THE PLYMOUTH JUSTICE

FUND: The Board of Deacons invites members of the congregation to recommend possible recipients of grants from the Plymouth Justice Fund. Please send your recommendations to deacons@plymouthsyr.org or by mail to the Plymouth office, 232 E Onondaga St., Syracuse NY 13202. We will receive your suggestions through April. The Deacons will review the recommendations during the first two weeks of May and send the list of proposed grant recipients to Church Council by mid-May with the goal of having the funds distributed by Juneteenth, June 19th.

As established by the Congregation, the Plymouth Justice Fund “shall be used exclusively and entirely for the benefit of those who have suffered economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic and/or the benefit of communities of Black, Indigenous and People of Color that continue to deal with historic economic inequity due to systemic and institutional racism.” Please include the name of the

☞ 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.