

# Plymouth Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

Service of the Word  
May 16, 2021  
Seventh Sunday of Easter  
10:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Christine Dunne

PRELUDE “Two Variations on the Chorale ‘*Christ, Thou Art My Love*’” Johann Pachelbel

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

David Michel

Come, let us delight in the law of the Lord.  
Our joy is found in the love of God and neighbor.  
Come, let us be nourished by the Living Water.  
Together, we will worship the One who enables us to thrive.

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

You, loving God, are the ground of our being and the river of life; you both steady our roots and draw them to seek the living waters.

You are like the sunlight enticing us taller and like the breeze rustling our leaves.  
You are with us through hard seasons of summer heat, and, in the nights when winter's frost ice the landscape, your love warms and sustains us. You are everything to us. O let our gratitude be great, let our praise be plentiful, let our worship be wonder-full! Through Christ Jesus your ever-living Son, amen.

\*OPENING HYMN

“How a Firm a Foundation”

No. 407

**How firm a foundation for you has been laid,  
By God in the Word, in the sacrifice paid!  
What more can God say than to you has been said,  
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,  
For I am your God, I will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand  
Upheld by my gracious, omnipotent hand.”**

*\*Please rise if you are able*

**“When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
The rivers of woe shall not over you flow;  
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
Delivering you from your deepest distress.”**

**“When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
My grace all-sufficient shall be your supply;  
The flame shall not hurt you; for I have designed  
Your soul to make pure just as gold is refined.”**

**“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake!”**

## **THE GIFT OF THE WORD**

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 1

One: Happy are those  
who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread,  
or sit in the seat of scoffers;  
but their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law they meditate day and night.  
They are like trees  
planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.  
  
The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.  
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Kim Looney

ANTHEM

“First Psalm”

Frank La Forge

*Tara Sandlin, Christine Richardson, Nicholas Peta, Michael Chellis*

SERMON

Eric Jackson

\*HYMN

“Hush Somebody’s Calling my Name”

No. 604

**Hush, Hush, Somebody's calling my name.  
Hush, Hush, Somebody's calling my name.  
Oh, Hush, Hush, Somebody's calling my name.  
O my God, O my God, what shall I do? What shall I do?**

Sounds like Jesus. Somebody's calling my name.  
Sounds like Jesus. Somebody's calling my name.  
Oh, Sounds like Jesus. Somebody's calling my name.  
O my God, O my God, what shall I do? What shall I do?  
I'm so glad. Trouble won't last always.  
I'm so glad. Trouble won't last always.  
Oh, I'm so glad. Trouble won't last always.  
O my God, O my God, what shall I do? What shall I do?

## 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 debts as we forgive our debtors, 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 May we are receiving the Strengthen the Church Offering, a special UCC offering that supports leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. Checks can be made payable to Plymouth Church with STC in the memo line.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*CLOSING HYMN

“I Want Jesus to Go with Me”

No. 490

**I want Jesus to go with me; I want Jesus to go with me;  
All along my pilgrim journey, O I want Jesus to go with me.  
In my trials, O comfort me; in my trials, O comfort me;  
When my heart is almost breaking, O I want Jesus to comfort me.  
When I'm in trouble, O stay with me; when I'm in trouble, O stay with me;  
When my head is bowed in sorrow, O I want Jesus to stay with me.**

\*BENEDICTION

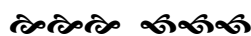
POSTLUDE

“Chorale Prelude on ‘Christ, Thou Art My Love’”

Johann Gottfried Walther



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## ☞ Plymouth Runs On YOU ☞

**LITURGIST:** David Michel    **ACOLYTE:** Christine Dunne  
**VIRTUAL DEACON ON DUTY/COMMUNITY TIME HOST:** Therese Howington  
**WORSHIP ZOOM COORDINATOR:** Tom Zorn

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



Rev. Eric Jackson, Pastor, [ejackson@plymouthsyр.org](mailto:ejackson@plymouthsyр.org)  
Dr. Joseph Downing, Director of Music  
Kim Looney, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries  
Kathy Ferro, Church Administrator  
Mark Johnson, Sexton  
[plymouthsyр.org](http://plymouthsyр.org) ☞ [office@plymouthsyр.org](mailto:office@plymouthsyр.org)



## ☞ Some Things You Ought to Know ☞

### Accessing Sunday Worship:

Go to Plymouth Church's Facebook PAGE:

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

OR

Click on the Facebook logo



on the home page of Plymouth's website,

[www.plymouthsyр.org](http://www.plymouthsyр.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 #

### Call to Engagement and Commitment: "Build A Culture of Reparations" Training Workshops:

The Racial Justice Working Group invites you to consider being part of a Plymouth delegation and follow-up action team. The RJWG will fund a group of 5 Plymouth participants to attend a national training event organized by the [Grassroots Reparations Campaign](#). Those delegates to the national training must also be willing to take leadership, in collaboration with Plymouth member Jim Watts, to plan and lead community discussions about reparations for the Plymouth congregation in the fall.

NOTE: The initial intensive 9 hour facilitated training via zoom is scheduled for Fri. June 18<sup>th</sup> (5:30pm – 8:30pm) and continues on Sun. June 20<sup>th</sup> (12:30pm – 4:30pm and 5:30pm – 9:30pm).

Please review the full proposal and description attached to the weekly email for complete details, or request a copy from the Church Office. If you are interested in this special opportunity, please send an email to [office@plymouthsyр.org](mailto:office@plymouthsyр.org) by Wednesday May 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Justice Fund Grant Recommendations:** The deadline to submit nominations for possible recipients of grants from the Plymouth Justice Fund is **THIS Wednesday, May 19**. Nominated groups will be asked to complete a Request for Proposal (RFP). You may forward the RFP directly to the organization you nominate by accessing it via the link in the weekly email or requesting a copy from the church office. Send your nominations by mail to the church office at 232 E. Onondaga St., Syracuse, 13202 or by email: [deacons@plymouthsyr.org](mailto:deacons@plymouthsyr.org). Please include the name of the organization and a brief reason why you have chosen it.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Hawks at 315-481-9148 or [shawks@tweny.rr.com](mailto:shawks@tweny.rr.com).

**Pastor Eric's Installation Service is next Sunday, May 23 at 3pm via Zoom!** Sign on to Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84515641445> by 2:45pm to join this celebration of our covenant with Eric.

You can also join the celebration via telephone:

- Dial 1-646-876-9923
- You will hear "Enter your meeting ID followed by pound." Enter 845 1564 1445 #
- You will hear "Enter your participant ID followed by pound, otherwise just press pound to continue." Press #

**Youth Bibles:** This year Plymouth is giving *all* of our youth in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade a Bible. Next year, we will start with the 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Please consider making a donation to provide the gift of a Bible for one or more youth this year. A donation of \$20 covers the cost of one Bible. Please make checks payable to "Plymouth Church" and write "Youth Bible" in the memo.

**Strengthen the Church Offering:** This special offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Plymouth will collect this special offering throughout the month of May. Please send in your checks payable to Plymouth Church with STC in the memo line.

#### THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. May 17      Deadline for June *Plymouth Story*  
Food Pantry, 2pm – 4pm  
Safe Church Policy Work Group, 7pm via Zoom
- Tues. May 18      Church Council\*, 5:30pm via Zoom  
Board of Christian Formation\*, 7pm via Zoom
- Sun. May 23      Pentecost Story Time, for children in 5th grade and younger, 9am via  
Zoom  
Worship, 10am via Facebook  
.... followed by community time on Zoom  
Youth Group, 12pm, Barry Park (weather permitting)  
Installation Service for Rev. Eric Jackson, 3pm 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).