



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Word
May 30, 2021
First Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Emily Otte

PRELUDE

“Elevation”

François Couperin

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 Palladino-Cowdery

The words God speaks
are the life and sustenance
of all that exists.

The life Jesus gives
is the re-creation and renewed birth
of all that is broken and worn.

The Spirit’s stirring in our souls
is the inspiration
for creativity, compassion, joy, and community.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Life-giving, life-restoring, life-fulfilling God; may our whole lives be worship. In all things, may we seek to connect with and to reflect your love and your hope. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

No. 277

**Holy, holy, holy, God the Almighty!
Early in the morning we praise your majesty.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Please rise if you are able*

**Holy, holy, holy! Saints adore you truly,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim bow before you only,
From the beginning, God eternally.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though we know but dimly,
Though the eyes of humankind your glory may not see,
You alone are holy, you alone are worthy,
Perfect in power, in love and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! God the Almighty!
All your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 6:1-13

One: In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!” And he said, “Go and say to this people:

‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.’
Make the mind of this people dull,
and stop their ears,
and shut their eyes,
so that they may not look with their eyes,
and listen with their ears,
and comprehend with their minds,
and turn and be healed.”
Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said:
“Until cities lie waste
without inhabitant,
and houses without people,
and the land is utterly desolate;
until the LORD sends everyone far away,
and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.
Even if a tenth part remain in it,
it will be burned again,

like a terebinth or an oak
whose stump remains standing
when it is felled.”
The holy seed is its stump.

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Kim Looney

ANTHEM

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Franz Schubert

*Carole Brzozowski, soprano; Christine Richardson, contralto;
Nicholas Peta, tenor; Julia Ross, timpani*

SERMON

Eric Jackson

*HYMN

“Here I Am, Lord”

**I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?**

Refrain (sung after each verse):

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

**I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?**

**I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?**

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S 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 different versions over the course of a year. On the last Sunday of the month we pray the following, which is adapted from the New Zealand Prayer Book and uses contemporary, inclusive language. It is a paraphrase – not a translation – of the original Greek in the New Testament.

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver
Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by people of the world!**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hopes and come on earth.
With bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.
May it be so. 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

“Take My Life, God, Let It Be”

No. 448

**Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully.
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my spirit, let it move at the impulse of your love.
Take my intellect and use all its powers as you choose.
Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwelling place.
Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow.
Take me now, and help me be part of Christ’s community.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Basse et Dessus de Trompette”

Nicolas Clerambault



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☞ Plymouth Runs On YOU ☜

LITURGIST: David Palladino-Cowdery **ACOLYTE:** Emily Otte

WORSHIP ZOOM COORDINATOR: Kailyn Wright

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
 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

☞ Joys and Concerns ☞

We welcome your requests for prayerful intervention in your life, the lives of people you know, and the greater life of this Earth. Prayer works as well for concerns as it does for joys, hence our use of the Joys and Concerns list each week. Celebration is as important to our overall health as are prayers for a medical condition, job transition, or new phase of life. You can convey your request to the pastor, the church administrator, or George Bain who publishes the list in the weekly e-newsletter. We will include your request for up to two months. At the end of that time, we will remove the prayer request. We believe that God’s grace will continue to surround you. If you wish for your prayer to remain on the list, please reach out to the church office to update us and ask to keep you on the list.

☞ 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 #

Zoom Community Time Ends May 30: As we move toward in-person worship, we’re looking at some of the practices that have been so very helpful over the past year. Zoom Community Time has kept us in touch with each other, even when it was only seeing people in a little box on the screen, or hearing their voices on the phone.

When we return to in-person worship outdoors in the month of June, and hopefully in the sanctuary later in the summer, we will meet after church face to face. On-line worship will continue, but Zoom Community Time will not. So bring a cupcake to the May 30 Zoom Community Time and celebrate the last on-line chat. We look forward to seeing everyone in person soon.

Outdoor In-person Worship planned for June: As Plymouth continues the journey of determining how and when it is safe to re-open the physical church, plans are in place for in-person worship outdoors as a first step toward being together again. Worship will continue to be streamed live on Facebook as well:

June 6: Onondaga Lake Park - Sawmill Creek Shelter

Communion will be served during worship and we will celebrate Eric's installation at a reception following the service.

June 13: Onondaga Lake Park - Bay View Shelter

June 20: Onondaga Lake Park - Sawmill Creek Shelter

June 27: The "point" at Plymouth

In order to help us plan and to worship safely together, please: 1) Register by calling the church office or signing up [HERE](#); Bring your own chair or blanket and sit socially distanced from those not in your household; 3) Wear a mask when not seated.

Need a ride to outdoor worship services in the park? Contact the church office and we'll work on connecting you with a driver.

If you missed it the first time, here's your chance to be wowed!! The Racial Justice Working Group is offering one more opportunity to participate in the **Widening Our Welcome (WOW) workshop!!** These "make-up" sessions are for people who missed the 3-part WOW workshops that took place November – April. Dates for these sessions are:

- Session 1: Sunday, June 6 - 12:30pm – 1:30pm
- Session 2: Sunday, June 13 – 12:30pm – 1:30pm
- Session 3: Sunday, June 27 – 12:30pm – 2:00pm

All three sessions will take place on Zoom via this link [THIS LINK](#) (Meeting ID: 930 3696 4468; password: 838992.) **Contact the church office to register** so that you can be sent materials ahead of each session. If you plan to participate by phone please make sure to have the materials printed and with you so you can follow along. PLEASE NOTE: Each session builds on the previous one so **commitment to all three sessions is important.**

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 31 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED – Memorial Day Holiday
(Food Pantry Closed)
- Tues. June 1 Racial Justice Working Group*, 4:00pm via Zoom
- Sun. June 6 Worship and Communion, 10am in-person at Sawmill Creek Shelter at Onondaga Lake Park and streamed live on Facebook.... immediately followed by a reception celebrating Eric's Installation
Widening Our Welcome (WOW) – make-up for Session 1,
- 12:30pm via Zoom

** Committee meeting is 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 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.