



# Plymouth Congregational Church

*A Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

**Service of Word and Sacrament**

**July 4, 2021**

**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

**10:00 am**

PRELUDE

“First Arabesque”

Claude Debussy

WORDS OF WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Eric Jackson

One: Peace be with you.

**All: And, also with you.**

*Please share a physically distanced 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

Mack Richardson

One: The prophets of old spoke of God’s justice, even when it was unwelcome.  
Who will hear their message?

**All: We will listen and we will hear!**

One: Responding to God’s call, Jesus traveled, preaching and teaching all who would  
listen. Who will hear his message?

**All: We will listen and we will hear!**

One: Christ sent out disciples two by two, to spread the good news in any place  
that would welcome them. Who will hear their message?

**All: We will listen and we will hear!**

One: God’s prophets are among us still, around the world and in these pews. Who will hear  
their message?

**All: We will listen and we will hear!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, sustain us in the complexity of our humanity as you sustained David--playing the harp  
of youth, throwing stones at giant problems, loving our friends beyond wisdom, dancing  
worship, mourning children, breaking our hearts in psalms, and longing for warmth in our old  
bones. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

No. 459

**Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.**

**Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,  
Come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.**

*\*Please rise if you are able*

**Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,  
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.  
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known:  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.**

## **THE GIFT OF THE WORD**

SCRIPTURE

Mark 6:1-13

One: He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

"A Prayer for My Country"  
*Tara Sandlin, soprano*

Keith Bissell

*To this land, dear home, I sing to thee.  
May peace and happiness thy dower be.  
May thy children strive with heart and hand  
Constantly to build a better land.  
'Though thy fields be fair, thy bounds be wide,  
May thy people shun all empty pride  
That the rights of all should not perish.  
Truth and justice may they cherish.*

SERMON

Eric Jackson

HYMN

"I Love to Tell the Story"

No. 522

**I love to tell the story of unseen things above.  
Of Jesus' radiant glory, of Jesus' endless love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;  
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.**

*Refrain (sung after each verse):*

**I love to tell the story; and when I am in glory  
I'll tell the old, old story of Jesus' endless love.**

**I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems  
Than all the golden visions of all our golden dreams.  
I love to tell the story, I tell it now to you  
Because I want to share it, because I know it's true.**

**I love to tell the story; it's pleasant to repeat  
What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.**

**I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.  
And when I sing in glory, I know the new, new song  
Will be the old, old story that I have loved so long.**

## **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

*Today we receive a special offering for Plymouth's Good Samaritan Fund. This fund is used for direct ministries of mercy and benevolence with Plymouth members and our neighbors. To contribute, please make out a check to Plymouth Congregational Church with the words "Good Samaritan Fund" in the memo line.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## **THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

DISTRIBUTING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
 This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
 Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**Everywhere I go...**

**All--through the night...**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Praeludium in G”

Dietrich Buxtehude



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## ~ Plymouth Runs On YOU ~

**LITURGIST:** Mack Richardson    **DEACON ON DUTY:** Kailyn Wright  
**WORSHIP ZOOM COORDINATOR:** Tom Zorn

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)

- **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).

## ☞ Some Things You Ought to Know ☞

Kim Looney, Director of Children, Youth, and Families Ministries will be on vacation July 3 – July 9.

**Outdoor In-person Worship planned for July:** 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 at the “Point” at Plymouth during July. Worship will continue to be streamed live on Facebook and available by phone via Zoom:

*In the event of rain, please check your email Sunday morning at 8am  
or listen to the church voicemail’s message for the plan for that particular Sunday*

In order to help us plan and to worship safely together, please:

- 1) Register by calling the church office or signing up [HERE](#);
- 2) Chairs will be provided, but feel free to bring your own if you wish. Please sit socially distanced from those not in your household;
- 3) Wear a mask when moving about (there are some adults in our community and all children under 12 who have not been vaccinated)

**Greeters and Ushers Needed for Outdoor Worship:** A sure signal that things are returning to normal is the need for greeters and ushers. Greeters say hello as people arrive and help direct them to the worship space. Ushers can distribute the bulletin and help collect the offering once we are back in the sanctuary.

If you are excited to see people again and can assist with worship, please sign up on the Plymouth website <https://www.plymouthsyр.org/> under the Get Involved tab. It isn’t difficult and you can pick your date. Or call or email Kathy in the church office to sign up.

**GATHERING IN-PERSON SURVEY:** Your input is important as Plymouth makes decisions regarding gathering in-person for worship and other activities. A survey has been distributed via email and mailed to those without technology. Please take a moment to complete it as soon as possible. If you did NOT receive the survey, contact the church office. Deadline for responding is Sunday, July 4.

**Sue de Lima Memorial Service:** All are invited to celebrate the life of long-time active member Sue de Lima, who died on January 1, in the Plymouth sanctuary on Friday, July 9 at 11am.

**Flowers for Summer Worship:** In July and August, members and friends are invited to bring flowers from their home gardens or yards as an offering of beauty to God. Bring them in your own vase, and place them on the communion table (on the point in July and in the sanctuary in August.)

Beginning August 1, you also have the option of providing flowers by signing up for a specific Sunday and sending in a check for \$25 to Plymouth Church with “flowers” noted in the memo line. (We order the flowers for you!). Sign up by [CLICKING HERE](#) or calling the church office no later than the Monday of the week of your choosing. You can provide a short dedication to be included in that week’s bulletin.

**Want to stay informed about the news and events at Plymouth Church?** Sign up for Plymouth’s weekly email newsletter by contacting George Bain at [georgesbain@gmail.com](mailto:georgesbain@gmail.com) and provide your email to the church office (office@plymouthsyр.org) in order to receive the monthly newsletter *The Plymouth Story*.

**Francis House is looking for volunteers:** Francis House, a vibrant, warm and loving home for persons who are terminally ill, is in need of volunteers. As a volunteer you can help meet the needs of our residents by working in our kitchen area where you will be responsible for cooking, cleaning and assisting our residents with meals. Also available are shifts in the reception area. It is a most rewarding ministry and there are a variety of opportunities for service that may interest you.

Currently, we have a big need during all shifts on weekends (8-12/12-4/4-7) and have openings during the week for both areas.

Please call Rea Carver for information at 315-475-5422 or you can email her at rcarver@franchishouseny.org.

### THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. July 5 OFFICE CLOSED for Independence Day holiday  
(No Food Pantry)
- Tues. July 6 Racial Justice Working Group\*, 5pm via Zoom
- Fri. July 9 Sue deLima Memorial Service, 11am in the Sanctuary
- Sun. July 11 Worship, 10am, in-person outdoors at Plymouth on the “point”  
First day of the Annual Meeting of the New York Conference  
of the United Church of Christ and the UCC General  
Synod, 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!***