



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Word
July 11, 2021
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 am

PRELUDE "Soeur Monique" François Couperin

WORDS OF WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE David Pasinski

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 (*based on 2 Samuel and Psalm 24*) Mariah Pasinski

One: Come, let us come into the House of the Holy One with song and dance.

All: We have come to worship our God, the Creator of heaven and earth, seas and rivers, and all that dwells within.

One: The Lord of the Dance beckons us to join in this time of celebration and joy...

All: That we might know that we are gathered in God's holy place.

One: We join the psalmist with songs of the glory of the God of Hosts.

All: We seek to know God's faithfulness and wisdom. Let us enter God's rhythm of life and follow in the ways of the Word. God will bring us home where dancing and joy will never end!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Creator God, in praise and adoration our spirits dance before you today. You have created this wondrous universe and all the magnificent things within it. You have blessed us with so much throughout our lives, even to this day of praise and thanksgiving. Let our spirits soar! Let our hearts sing boldly of your wondrous love. We celebrate your love and presence with us, and it is in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, that we offer this prayer. Amen.

OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" No. 451

**Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
Nothing surpasses the love you impart--
You my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, your presence my light.**

**Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
Ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
Now and forever your child I will be.**

**Please rise if you are able*

**Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
You, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart,
Great God, my treasure, may we never part.**

**Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Mark 6:14-29

One: Now King Herod heard of Jesus, for his name had become well known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter - the daughter of Herodias - came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SOLO	"How Can I Keep From Singing" <i>Christine Richardson, contralto</i>	Robert Lowry
SERMON	"Beheading the Baptist in America Today"	David Pasinski
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.**

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

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

“Prelude in D”

J.S. Bach



This morning we welcome the worship leadership of long-time member David Pasinski while Pastor Eric Jackson is away on vacation.



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☞ Plymouth Runs On YOU ☞

LITURGIST: Mariah Pasinski **DEACON ON DUTY:** Luna Bogucz

USHER: Gertrude Danzy

WORSHIP ZOOM COORDINATOR: Tom Zorn

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

☞ Some Things You Ought to Know ☞

Pastor Eric Jackson is on vacation July 10 – July 31. From July 10 – July 24, emergency pastoral concerns may be brought to the attention of David Pasinski, 315.663.1330, dipasinki@verizon.net. From July 25 – July 31, emergency pastoral concerns may be brought to the attention of Rick Cowles, 315.382.1975, rcowles48@gmail.com.

July Worship: 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.plymouthsyr.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.

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 call 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.

A Garland of Blessing for the Looney's Growing Family: The Christian Formation Board invites you to bless **the Looney Family (Kim, Scott, and Miles)** as they anticipate the birth of their newest family member in September. Individuals and/or families are **invited to craft a blessing in this way:**

1. Trace the outline of a 14.5oz can on a piece of paper
2. Write or draw your blessing inside the circle using second-person pronouns (e.g. “May you...” “May God grant you...” “You are...”).
3. Sign your name and cut out the circle
4. Drop off your blessing(s) in the church office OR place your blessing(s) in an envelope and mail to Carly Alicea at:

Carly Alicea
573 Autumn Breeze Lane
Ontario, NY 14519

Please drop off or mail your blessings no later than August 16th. More details are available in the weekly e-newsletter and in the upcoming August *Plymouth Story*.

SAVE THE DATE - Inquirers' Gathering: Are you new to Plymouth and want to know more? Are you interested in taking the “next step?” If the answer to either or both of these questions is “yes,” please plan on attending the next Inquirers' Gathering at 11:30am on Sunday, August 15. Join Eric Jackson to learn more about Plymouth, our United Church of Christ, and the meaning of membership. Call the church office if you are interested. More details to follow.

THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. July 12 Food Pantry, 2pm – 4pm
 Youth Group at Gannon's Ice Cream, 3pm
- Tues. July 13 Board of Trustees*, 6pm via Zoom
 Board of Deacons*, 7pm via Zoom
- Sat. July 17 Justice Work at Matthew 25 Farm, 10am-12noon for registered families with children and/or youth
- Sun. July 18 Worship, 10am, in-person outdoors at Plymouth on the “point” PrayGround during worship for children 5th grade and younger

** 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.*

- **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.

☞ 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!