



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Word
August 8, 2021
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

PRELUDE

“The Swan”

C. Saint Saens

Flute by Emma Hatt

*OPENING HYMN

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

No. 25

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:**

**Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.**

**Time, like an ever-rolling stream, soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten, as a dream fades at the opening day.**

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Still be our God while troubles last, and our eternal home!**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Psalm 130 and John 6:35)

Barbara Genton

One: Out of the depths I cry to you, O God:

All: **We hunger for the bread of life, O Jesus,
and we thirst for you, O God.**

One: O God, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

All: **We hunger for the bread of life, O Jesus,
and we thirst for you, O God.**

One: There is forgiveness with you and I wait for you O God, my soul waits, for

All: **We hunger for the bread of life, O Jesus,
and we thirst for you, O God.**

One: In your words I hope. My soul waits for you, God,
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning:

All: **We hunger for the bread of life, O Jesus,
and we thirst for you, O God.**

**Please rise if you are able*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*unison*)

God of Healing and Transformation, we hunger and thirst for your abundant life. We bring you our sorrow and ask for the bread of joy; we bring you our despair and ask for the bread of hope; we bring you our weariness and ask for the bread of inspiration. Meet us here. We need the bread of heaven to sustain us for our journey to find our way, that we may be one with you. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Eric Jackson

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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.**

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 19:4-8

One: But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.
The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"Lord, how plenteous is thy bounty"

J. S. Bach

Carole Brzozowski, Soprano

*Ah, how comforted my spirit, freed my heart from want and fear!
When the thoughts of death affright me, when my sins are hard to bear,
then thy love and grace delight me, save my soul from dark despair,
bring me peace and consolation, safe from hell and from damnation.
Hence I pray, Lord, for thy mercy, for thy grace and faithful care;
ah, my Father, do sustain me, let me nevermore despair.
Strengthen with thy Holy Spirit, when I'm vexed or face grim death.
That I life and bliss inherit, courage show, and power of faith.
Grant me thy great love forever, endless joys and heaven's treasure.*

SERMON

"A Prescription for Spiritual Anemia"

Eric Jackson

I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
 I've got peace like a river in my soul.
 I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
 I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,
 I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.
 I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,
 I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,
 I've got love like an ocean in my soul.
 I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,
 I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got faith like an anchor, I've got faith like an anchor,
 I've got faith like an anchor in my soul.
 I've got faith like an anchor, I've got faith like an anchor,
 I've got faith like an anchor in my soul.

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.

There are several beloved versions of this 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 the different versions over the course of a year. We will pray using “debts” through the end of summer.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

*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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses.**

Refrain (sung after each verse):

**And he walks with me, and he talks with me, and he tells me I am his own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.**

**He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that he gave to me within my heart is ringing.**

**I’d stay in the garden with him, though the night around me be falling.
But he bids me go; through the voice of woe his voice to me is calling.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Psalm 19”

Benedetto Marcello



*We are grateful for the music leadership of member **Alice Dickerson Hatt** while
Joe Downing is away.*

*We welcome flutist **Emma Hatt**, Norm and Alice Hatt’s granddaughter, who is a sophomore at
F-M High School. She studies flute with Lana Stafford.*

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☞ Plymouth Runs On YOU ☞

LITURGIST: Barbara Genton **DEACON ON DUTY:** Cindy Perrine
COUNTERS: Keith Jakway and Sarah Whitton
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

- **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.

☞ Some Things You Ought to Know ☞

We have resumed in-person worship! Our worship services in August will also be broadcast live to Facebook and help us to prepare for our official re-gathering celebration that will be held on Sunday, September 12th. Throughout the month of August, we ask that you wear a mask and practice physical distancing with those who do not live in your household since there are those 11 years of age and younger as well as other individuals who are not able to be vaccinated. Registration is encouraged as well at <https://forms.gle/XLaoeZ6PCekekATr7>.

Please Keep Current with Your Pledge Payments: Treasurer Dave Michel sends this reminder: “During the pandemic, even though in-person worship has been limited, the financial commitment of Plymouth members and friends has been outstanding. However, because of lost income due to building use restrictions and unanticipated building expenses, 2021 expenses are exceeding income. It is important, if at all possible, that members keep up their pledge payments. Payments can be mailed to the office (232 East Onondaga St., Syracuse 13202) or made online through PayPal or by setting up an automatic bill pay service through your bank. Thank you for your continued commitment to Plymouth.”

Flowers for Summer Worship: In 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.

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.

Greeters and Ushers Needed for 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.

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.

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 **no later than August 16th** at:

Carly Alicea
573 Autumn Breeze Lane
Ontario, NY 14519

More details are available in the weekly e-newsletter and 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 NEXT Sunday, August 15 outdoors on the Point (rain date: August 22) OR Monday, August 16 at 6pm via Zoom. 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 by Tuesday, August 10.

THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. August 9 Food Pantry, 2pm – 4pm
- Tues. August 10 Board of Trustees*, 6pm via Zoom
Board of Deacons*, 7pm via Zoom
- Wed. August 11 Safe Church Policy Working Group, 7pm via Zoom
- Fri. August 13 Church Office Closed, staff vacation
Family Pool Party for families with young children and youth, 5-7pm
- Sun. August 15 Worship, 10am, in-person in the sanctuary and livestreamed on Facebook
PrayGround during worship for children who have completed 5th grade and younger
Inquirers' Gathering, 11:30am on the point

** 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!