



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Word
August 15, 2021
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

PRELUDE “Largo” from Sonata III, BWV 1005, for Solo Violin J.S. Bach
Heather Fais, violin

*OPENING HYMN “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You” No. 4

**Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, God of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the storms of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

**All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, teach us what our praise should be.**

**You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother, all who love belong to you;
Teach us how to love each other, by that love our joy renew.**

**Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
Boundless love is reigning o’er us, reconciling race and clan.
Ever singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP Linda Milosky

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!**

**Please rise if you are able*

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*unison*)

Lord of life and hope, we gather this day seeking nourishment for our souls and healing for our spirits. Give to us your living bread, that having been nourished in soul and spirit, we may be witnesses to your transforming love. Through the ministry and mission of Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, we offer this prayer. 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

John 6:51-58

One: I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO

“Romance in F”

Ludwig van Beethoven

Heather Fais, violin

SERMON

“Eat this Bread, Drink this Cup”

Eric Jackson

*HYMN

“Break Now the Bread of Life”

No. 321

**Break now the bread of life, Savior, to me,
As you once broke the loaves beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord;
My spirit yearns for you, O Living Word.**

**Bless now the truth, dear Christ, to me, to me,
As you once blessed the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, all shackles fall,
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.**

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.

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

*CLOSING HYMN

“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

No. 337

**Draw us in the Spirit’s tether, for when humbly in your name,
Two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garment’s hem.**

**As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Giver, break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.**

**All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,
That by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We may serve with faith anew.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Millionaire's Hoedown”

Hermann Clebanoff



🌀 Plymouth Runs On YOU 🌀

LITURGIST: Linda Milosky **DEACON ON DUTY:** Geoff Oldfield

USHER: Gert Danzy

FLOWERS GIVEN BY Gert Danzy in honor of and wishing happy birthday to all Plymouth people with August birthdays

COUNTERS: Keith Jakway and Susan Hawks

WORSHIP ZOOM COORDINATOR: Tom Zorn

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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 ✧

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/XLaoeZ6PCekekA7r7>.

Donations needed for the Rescue Mission Emergency Youth Shelter: The long-anticipated opening of the Rescue Missions Emergency Youth Shelter will be this fall! Plymouth gave \$50,000 to support the shelter and our youth have helped renovate the house. We can continue our involvement by donating snacks and recreation, hygiene, and school supplies to help the youth feel welcome and comfortable. Drop your donations off in the bins at the back of the sanctuary by September 12. They will be blessed in worship that Sunday – Rally Day - and delivered to the shelter. A comprehensive list of needed items can be found in the August *Plymouth Story*. Printed lists are available by the collection bins.

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 add your name to the chart in the belltower, 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*.

THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. August 16 Church Office Closed – staff vacation
Food Pantry, 2pm – 4pm
Inquirers’ Gathering, 6pm via Zoom
Deadline for September *Plymouth Story*
- Tues. August 17 Church Council*, 5:30pm via Zoom
Board of Christian Formation*, 7pm via Zoom
- Fri. August 20 Youth mini-golf at Fairmount Glen, 3pm – 4:30pm
- Sun. August 22 Worship, 10am, in-person in the sanctuary and livestreamed on Facebook

* *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.*

- **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!

