



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of Word and Sacrament
October 3, 2021
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Lulu Myers

PRELUDE

“Toccata per l’elevazione”

Girolamo Frescobaldi

*OPENING HYMN

“God is Truly with Us”

No. 68

**God is truly with us; sing we and adore now:
Praise the One we come before now.
Here within this temple, here in sound and silence,
Worship God in deepest reverence.
You alone, God, we own, you, our God and Savior; praise to you forever.**

**God is truly with us; loud our praise resounding!
Echoes of the saints surrounding!
“Holy, holy, holy,” hear the hymn ascending,
Angels, saints, their voices blending!
Bow your ear to us here; here, O Christ, the praises that your Church now raises.**

**Source of every blessing, bless the ones who name you,
Let our words and deeds proclaim you.
Like the saints and angels praising you in glory,
May your servants sing your story.
And in all, great and small, may we do most nearly what you love most dearly.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christine Richardson

One: Come, all you who are struggling.
All: **Come, all you who are crippled by pain and suffering.**
One: Come to worship a God who heals your pain.
All: **Come to worship a God whose love is boundless.**
Let us worship God, who sets us free and gives us new life!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*unison*)

**Fountain of Love and Justice, in a world of injustice and brokenness, may our worship
renew us. Renew us to be your agents who help justice flow like a river and
righteousness like a mighty stream. We give thanks for the gifts of the Word, Music,
Prayer, and Community. In Christ’s 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

STORY FOR ALL AGES

Kirsten Hubel

(Children return to their seats following the story)

SCRIPTURE

Luke 13:10-17

One: Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

"Gabi, Gabi"

South African Social Justice song

Christine Richardson, Michael Chellis

"Gabi, Gabi (Praise, Praise)

Liberator Lord! Praise our God now, our Liberator Lord

God frees all the captives, and gives the hungry bread.

We're working for justice, and working for God's peace."

SERMON

Renewing Our Vows: Working for Justice and Peace

Eric Jackson

"The Rules of Engagement"

*HYMN

"Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

No. 495

**Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.**

**Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.**

**Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.**

**So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.**

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The musical score is written for two staves, treble and bass clef, in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass clef provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in - cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace." The score ends with a double bar line.

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 the prayer with "sins" through the end of 2021

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

No. 769

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.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

“We’ve Welcomed All”
Christine Richardson

Joseph Downing

*We’ve welcomed all within these walls since eighteen-fifty-three
To grow in faith for justice’s sake, and seek equality.
We welcome all to grow in faith, and work for peace and justice.
Although we claim the spirit’s flame, we cannot claim to “know”;
Hope’s gentle spark ignites our hearts and helps our faith to grow.
We welcome all to grow in faith, and work for peace and justice.
The naked clothe, the poor, and those society neglects
We will embrace; this world a place we build as Christ directs.
We welcome all to grow in faith, and work for peace and justice.
We welcome all within these walls; our welcome is sincere.
“The Club for Saints” is what we ain’t, for all are welcome here!
We welcome all to grow in faith, and work for peace and justice.*

*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

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

DISTRIBUTING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING HYMN

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

No. 77

**Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace:
Oh, refresh us, oh, refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.**

**We give thanks and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound;
May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound:
Ever faithful, ever faithful to the truth may we be found.**

**So that when your love shall call us, Savior, from the world away,
Fear of death shall not appall us, glad your summons to obey:
May we ever, may we ever live with you in endless day.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Gavotte”

Thomas Arne



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✧ Plymouth Runs On YOU ✧

ACOLYTE: Lulu Myers

LITURGIST: Christine Richardson **DEACON ON DUTY:** Therese Howington

COMMUNION SERVERS: Therese Howington, Frank Leonard, Cindy Perrine

COUNTERS: Patty Brannan and Sarah Whitton

WORSHIP ZOOM COORDINATOR: Tom Zorn

✧ Some Things You Ought to Know ✧

We continue to worship both in person and streamed live on Facebook: We ask that you wear a mask when inside Plymouth and to 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. The worship service can be found at

<https://www.facebook.com/plymouthUCCsyracuse/>.

PLEASE JOIN THE RACIAL JUSTICE WORKING GROUP AT THE “If You Want Peace, Work for Justice” Rally:

Thursday, Oct. 7, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

(The Afghanistan War began twenty years ago on this day.)

11:30 a.m. — Columbus Circle — "War is always a defeat for humanity."

11:50 a.m. — Plymouth Congregational Church — "Racism is a cancer on society."

12:20 p.m. — St Paul's Episcopal Cathedral — "Our Earth is in peril."

Event includes speakers, prayers, and public witness!

Walk the Rally, or join the gathering at Plymouth!

BUILDING A CULTURE OF REPAIR: Reparations and a Faithful Response to Systemic Racism: Join us for the third in a series of spiritually grounded, open conversations about transformative, faithful anti-racist action for reparation, restoration, and reconciliation. **This week's topic is “Syracuse context: I-81 and community connections.”** We'll meet via zoom from 4:00-5:30 pm on Sundays Oct 3, Oct 10. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6039333178>, Password: 13202. These gatherings are inspired by last year's Racial Justice Working Group WOW Workshops. All are welcome! Watch a brief video invitation here: <https://vimeo.com/602135413>.

Community Garden Event: Syracuse Grows, in collaboration with Urban Delight Farm, is sponsoring a potluck Harvest Dinner from 2pm-4pm this afternoon at 100 Bellevue Ave. All are invited! Contact Mable Wilson if you have any questions.

October 17 is “Hymn Sing” Sunday! Nominate up to five of your favorite hymns by completing the nomination form in the bulletin and placing it in the offering plate, emailing the church office, or by [CLICKING HERE](#). We'll sing as many of the “winners” as possible during worship on October 17. Deadline for submission is Sunday, October 10.

Neighbors in Need Special Offering: This special mission offering of the United Church of Christ supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Plymouth will collect this offering throughout the month of October. Write a check payable to Plymouth Church with “NIN” noted on the memo line or make cash contributions in the special envelopes enclosed in your bulletin beginning on October 10.

Ushers and Greeters are needed every Sunday so that we can continue our mission of “Welcoming all.” Volunteer today by:

- 1) Signing up online (Visit our website: www.plymouthsyr.org; click on GET INVOLVED at the top of the screen, scroll down to GREETERS, USHERS and HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS, click on SIGN UP and follow the prompts OR
- 2) Contacting the church office

Support for Afghan refugees settling in Syracuse: The Refugee Resettlement program of Catholic Charities at Northside CYO is urgently asking the community to offer donations for incoming refugee families including those from Afghanistan. Personal hygiene products, kitchenware, cleaning supplies, PPE, furniture, and household items are all welcome. Contact Samantha Lee at slee@ccoc.us or 315.967.9771.

THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. October 4 Bell Choir Rehearsal, 10am, Kirtland Hall
Food Pantry, 2pm – 4pm
- Tues. October 5 Racial Justice Working Group*, 5pm via Zoom
- Wed. October 6 Pastoral Relations Committee, 5:30pm, Memorial Hall
- Thurs. October 7 “If You Want Peace, Work for Justice” Rally, 11:30am, Columbus Circle
Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, Kirtland Hall
- Sun. October 10 Worship, 10am, in-person in the sanctuary and livestreamed on Facebook
Learning Community
Conversations about Reparations, 4pm – 5:30pm 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

***We are an Open and Affirming, Just Peace, Immigrant Welcoming,
Progressive Christian, and Sanctuary Congregation.***

Plymouth was founded in 1853 by a group of Syracusans who wanted to create a Christian abolitionist bulwark fighting slavery. Since then, we continue to live our faith by standing against racism, white supremacy culture, poverty, and war; standing up for the rights of immigrants, indigenous people, workers, women, and LGBTQ folk; and seeking to be agents of mercy in a hurting world. We believe in beauty, laughter, the struggle for peace with justice, taking risks for building a diverse, equitable, and inclusive Beloved Community in God, and the Way of Jesus Christ which is love and compassion for ourselves and our neighbors.

Our faith is over 2,000 years old; our thinking is not!

- **Resources for Worship:**
 - Worship Activity Kits are available for children ages 3 - 5th grade on the shelves in the back of the sanctuary. We ask that your children put their names on the blank label on the box the first time they use a kit, take that kit each week, and return it at the end of worship.
 - Due to safety concerns, hymnals and Bibles are available on a cart in the back of the sanctuary. You are invited to take them to your seat in the pew to use during the service. Please return them to the cart as you leave.
- **Visiting for the First Time?** We are so glad to meet another member of our extended global family. To add your name to our mailing list so we can know how to best serve you, please fill out the card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate or email office@plymouthsyr.org.
- **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 during the morning offering, or by mailing a check to 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. To add a name to our Prayer List, fill out the card found in the pew and place it in the offering plate or contact office@plymouthsyr.org.