



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Word

October 24, 2021

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Quinton Rogala

PRELUDE

“Liebster Jesu”

Johann Gottfried Walther

(We Have Gathered, Jesus Dear)

*OPENING HYMN

“We Have Gathered, Jesus Dear”

No. 74

**We have gathered, Jesus dear, we have come to watch and listen.
Fix our minds, our senses clear, to receive your heavenly lesson.
Please improve our concentration: draw us into contemplation.**

**All our intellectual dreams come to nothing, fade at daybreak.
All our hopeful plots and schemes, start in pretense, end in heartache.
Thoughtful speech, and active justice, you accomplish these within us.**

**Born of God, true light of light, Holy Spirit, pure, unailing:
All our faculties excite, ears and heart and mouth unsealing:
Then, through Jesus’ mediation, God will hear our supplication.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Micah Pasinski

One: We may come here for a glimpse of glory,

All: But Jesus asks us: “Can you drink the cup that I drink?”

One: The cup of Jesus’ own life: struggle and joy; suffering and hope.
Fullness of life!

We may come here to get close to Jesus,

All: And Jesus asks us: “Can you be baptized with my baptism?”

One: Baptized into the reign of God,
where the Spirit breaks down barriers among all people
and creates new relationships!

We may come here for honor or fame,

All: But Jesus challenges us: “To become great you must serve!”

One: Why are we here?

All: To drink the cup of fullness of life;

**To immerse ourselves in Jesus’ struggle for justice and peace;
To learn how to serve so that the world may be healed.**

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*Psalm 91:9-16; Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c*)

unison

**Holy Dwelling Place, your tent is wide enough to provide shelter for all who seek
you, food for all who hunger, and healing for all who suffer. Meet us here today, and fill
us with confidence in your presence, that we may risk sharing Jesus’ cup and his**

baptism so the world may become the place of love and justice you desire for all. Shelter us with your light, and clothe us with your heavenly garments. Teach us how we may best serve ourselves and one another on this daring adventure. 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

Sarah Cowles

(Children will depart for Learning Community following the story)

SCRIPTURE

Mark 10:35-45

One: James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SOLO

"To Serve"

John Horman

Tara Sandlin, soprano

*"The Son of man came not to be served, but to serve,
and give his life as a ransom for our sins."*

SERMON

"Reconsidering Your Baptism"

Eric Jackson

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.
 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 MINISTRY OF PRAYER

CALL TO PRAYER

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S 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 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

STEWARDSHIP WITNESS

David Palladino-Cowdery

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER (*unison*)

Holy and merciful God, and Jesus Christ the Son,

Let me be ever ready as Your hands on earth. I and all who know You and Your commandments and example cannot shirk our responsibilities:

- **Where people are poor, and prevailing social and political currents do not care enough;**
- **Where people are hungry and sick;**
- **Where people live in awful and dangerous domiciles, or have no home at all, or fear that their home as it is may not be theirs tomorrow;**
- **Where people have no clothing other than that which they are wearing;**
- **Where people are injured and in despair;**
- **Where the Earth and all its creatures and creation cry out for deliverance from human destruction;**
- **Where people know mostly darkness and sadness and try to maintain hope.**

I pledge my Stewardship gift when fulfilled to reach these difficult but not overwhelming needs, and also to support the ministries of Plymouth Congregational Church and the maintenance of its physical structure.

I will pray for all this, and I know that with Your abiding help my pledged gift will put my prayer into action. As You are my Lord and Savior, AMEN.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Throughout October we receive the Neighbors in Need offering. This is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports the Council for American Indian Ministries and UCC Justice and Witness Ministries.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

“Be Thou Humble”

Grietje Rowley

*Be thou humble in thy weakness, and the Lord thy God shall lead thee,
Shall lead thee by the hand and give thee answer to thy prayers.
Be thou humble in thy pleading and the Lord thy God shall bless thee,
Shall bless thee with a sweet and calm assurance that God cares.
Be thou humble in thy calling, and the Lord thy God shall teach thee,
to serve God's children gladly with a pure and gentle love.
Be thou humble in thy longing, and the Lord thy God shall take thee,
Shall take thee home at last to ever dwell with God above.*

*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 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.**

*BENEDICTION

CARRYING OUT THE LIGHT

POSTLUDE

“Duo”

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault



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~ Plymouth Runs On YOU ~

USHER: Frank Leonard **ACOLYTE:** Quinton Rogala
LITURGIST: Micah Pasinski **DEACON ON DUTY:** Geoff Oldfield
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

✿ 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/>.

A celebration of October birthdays: At 11:30am this Sunday morning we will gather on Zoom to celebrate all those with October birthdays. Bring a treat to eat and silly party hats are welcome! Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6039333178>, Password: 13202.

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.

Ushers and Greeters are needed every Sunday so that we can continue our mission of “Welcoming all.” Greeters say hello as people arrive and help direct them to the worship space. Ushers distribute the bulletin and help collect the offering. 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

Call for Counters: The deposit of donations and payments to Plymouth Church is prepared every week by volunteers. We have a core of experienced counters and we are looking to expand the group. No special experience is needed. It usually takes less than 30 minutes and is done directly after worship. This is an important ministry and contributes to the smooth operation of Plymouth. If you feel you could take on this important job, or if you would like more information, please contact Susan Hawks at 315-481-9148 or shawks@twcny.rr.com.

Want to purchase a Plymouth pew? There are 4 pews stored on the first-floor elevator landing that are no longer needed and can be purchased for \$100, or best offer, with the proceeds going into the stained glass window restoration fund. The pews measure ten feet long (3) and eleven feet long (1), are “as is” and without cushions. If interested, please contact the church office. You must provide your own physical labor and vehicle for removal.

Flowers in Worship: Our Sanctuary is beautiful, but you can make it even more so for the glory of God and in honor of whatever or whomever you choose. Simply reserve a Sunday for placing flowers in church by [CLICKING HERE](#) or [sign up](#) on the flower chart located in the bell tower entry no later than the Monday of the week of your choosing. Send in a check for \$25 to Plymouth Church with “flowers” noted in the memo line. (We order the flowers for you!). 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 and provide your email to the church office (office@plymouthsyr.org) in order to receive the monthly newsletter *The Plymouth Story*.

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 25 Bell Choir Rehearsal, 10am, Kirtland Hall
 Food Pantry, 2pm – 4pm
- Tues. October 26 Church Council special meeting, 5:30pm via Zoom
- Thurs. October 28 Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6pm, Kirtland Hall
- Sun. October 31 Worship, 10am, in-person in the sanctuary and
 livestreamed on Facebook
 Learning Community

• **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.

❧ 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!