



Plymouth Congregational Church

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Service of the Word
November 21, 2021
Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 am

RINGING OF THE BELL

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT

Emily Otte

PRELUDE

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

Joseph Downing

*OPENING HYMN

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

No. 86

**When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries,
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Alike at work and prayer, one purpose I declare:
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**New strength comes night or day when from the heart we say,
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Let sin and evil fear, when this sweet chant they hear:
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Discordant humankind, in this your concord find,
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Let all the earth around ring joyous with the sound:
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine,
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

**Be this the-eternal song, through all the ages long:
May Jesus Christ be praised!**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 132)

Sarah Whitton

One: Let's gather together in the presence of our God.

Let's bring our songs of praise and our prayers of thanksgiving.

Let us bow down in worship before the Lord our Maker.

All: Arise, O God, and enter Your sanctuary,

You, and the ark of Your strength.

Clothe us in justice and faithfulness,

and put new songs of joy and praise in our mouths.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*unison*)

**Most High God, majestic and almighty, our beginning and our end: rule in our hearts
and guide us to be faithful in our daily actions, worshipping the one who comes as Savior
and Sovereign, and who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God.
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

Eric Jackson

(Children will depart for Learning Community following the story)

SCRIPTURE

John 18:33-37

One: Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

Randolph Johnston

SERMON

“No Place Like Home”

Eric Jackson

*HYMN

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

No. 439

**A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing,
Our present help amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe
With craft and power great, and armed with cruel hate,
On earth without an equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
But there is one who takes our side, the One of God’s own choosing.
You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus sets us free!
With mighty power to save, victorious o’er the grave,
Christ will prevail triumphant.**

**And though this world with devils filled should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear for God has willed the truth to triumph through us.
The powers of evil grim, we tremble not for them;
Their rage we can endure, for lo, their doom is sure:
One little word shall fell them.**

**That word beyond all earthly powers forever is abiding;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours, for Christ is with us siding.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill; God's truth shall triumph still;
God's reign endures forever.**

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

Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -
cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" Ralph Vaughan Williams

*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

Hush, Hush, somebody's calling my name.
Hush, Hush, somebody's calling my name.
Oh, Hush, Hush, somebody's calling my name.
O my God, O my God, what shall I do? What shall I do?

Sounds like Jesus. Somebody's calling my name.
Sounds like Jesus. Somebody's calling my name.
Oh, sounds like Jesus. Somebody's calling my name.
O my God, O my God, what shall I do? What shall I do?

I'm so glad. Trouble won't last always.
I'm so glad. Trouble won't last always.
Oh, I'm so glad. Trouble won't last always.
O my God, O my God, what shall I do? What shall I do?

*BENEDICTION

CARRYING OUT THE LIGHT

POSTLUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Sigfried Karg-Elert



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🌀 Plymouth Runs On YOU 🌀

USHER: Gert Danzy **ACOLYTE:** Emily Otte
LITURGIST: Sarah Whitton **DEACON ON DUTY:** Luna Bogucz
FLOWERS given by Bernie Peterson in memory of his parents Franklin Delano Peterson and Geraldine Sophia Pasternacki
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/>.

Stewardship Effort Reaches \$120,390: We have received 37 stewardship pledges for \$120,390 toward Plymouth Church's 2022 budget. Your pledge commitments will make the difference in how much Plymouth can accomplish next year. Prayerfully consider the gifts of time, talent, and money you can give to Plymouth. Pledge cards may be placed in the offering plate Sunday, mailed to the church office or submitted via email to George Bain at georgesbain@gmail.com.

Stained Glass Window restoration: Thanks to the generosity of members of the Plymouth community, the beautiful stained-glass windows on the western wall in the right balcony will be removed, restored and receive protective glazing over the next couple months. The structure you see in the balcony is the scaffolding allowing access to the windows and surrounding woodwork.

The Food Pantry needs gifts of WARM GARMENTS - hats, gloves/mittens, scarves and socks - for our clients now that the bitter cold has set in. Please bring in new or gently used garments to the collection basket in the back of the church or you can call or text Christine Herb for pick up from your home: 315-877-4512. We so appreciate your care and compassion. Thank you. We will be collecting from now through December.

Get happy for the holidays! We're looking for some creative people who want to share their gifts by helping decorate the Plymouth sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas season. We have wreaths, garlands, lights, and bows. New ideas are welcome. We can meet in November to look at what we have and decide if we need to purchase supplies. Also needed are helpers who just want to fluff greenery and hang bows. Please contact the church office at 315 474-4836 or Susan Hawks at 315 481-9148 or shawks@twcny.rr.com.

Plymouth likes to share its story! Photos are often taken during worship and at Plymouth events and are shared on the website, in social media and by partnering organizations. If you **DO NOT** wish your photo to be used, please contact the church office.

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

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.

THIS WEEK AT PLYMOUTH

- Mon. November 22 Food Pantry, 2pm – 4pm
- Tues. November 23 Bell Choir Rehearsal, 10am, Kirtland Hall
- Thurs. November 25 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED – Thanksgiving
- Fri. November 26 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED – Thanksgiving holiday
- Sun. November 28 Worship, 10am, in-person in the sanctuary and livestreamed on Facebook

☞ Music Notes for November 21, 2021 ☞

Today we celebrate the Reign of Christ while also acknowledging the approaching Thanksgiving celebration.

I wrote our Prelude when I was an undergraduate. You will hear the familiar tune in the middle voice with an obligato of two upper voices played on the trumpet stop.

Two anthems with the same text!?! While the author of a text gets to dictate the literal meaning of the words, the composer gets to dictate the emotion of the text. Here we find two very different arrangements, although both are based on the same hymn tune. The text for this tune can be found in our hymnal, #304.

“Randolph Johnston” was a pseudonym used by John Rasley (1913-1998), who was a staff composer for the Lorenz publishing company. He creates what sounds like a new hymn tune for the text, with nods to the more familiar tune, which is heard in the middle of the anthem.

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) was one of the major English composers of the twentieth century. Although most people know him for his symphonies and operas, he was very much involved in church music (the Anglican church). He said that the two years from 1904-1906 that he worked on editing *The English Hymnal* provided him with the best musical education. In this anthem, he uses the familiar hymn tune in a variety of guises (and we’re only doing an abbreviated version of this anthem – the full version has additional verses!)

In a world of quirky organists, Sigfried Karg-Elert (1877-1933), was right at home. First of all, the – Elert part of his name was added at the suggestion of his agent. His mother’s birth name was Ehlert. You’ve all seen the shutters on the organ which can be opened and closed to change the volume and timbre of the organ; Karg-Elert once placed a group of women in an enclosed organ chamber so that he could control their volume and timbre too. (It must have been strange for them to see shutters closing on their faces!) He was best known for his organ and church music, and our postlude is a free fantasia based on the chorale “Now Thank We All Our God.”

- **Resources for Children:** 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.
- **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!

