



**Plymouth United Church of Christ** Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

## Greeting

Greetings to you in the love and peace of Jesus Christ!

## Call to Worship †§

**L:** We are God's people, we are one, even as we are apart!

**P:** We offer our worship and praise in word and song, action and silence!

**All:** Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

## Hymn

“You Are Mine”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sgm9lkTNQmc>

**I will come to you in the silence, I will lift you from your fear.**

**You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice, be still and know that I am here. (To Verse 2)**

**I am hope for all who are hopeless, I am eyes for all who long to see.**

**In the shadows of the night, I will be your light, come and rest in me. (Refrain)**

*Refrain:*

**Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.**

**Come and follow me, I will bring you home; I love you and you are mine.**

**I am strength for all the despairing, healing for the ones who dwell in shame.**

**All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and all will know my name. (Refrain)**

**I am the word that leads to all freedom, I am the peace the world cannot give.**

**I will call your name, embracing your pain, stand up, now walk, and live! (Refrain)**

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## Prayer of Confession †

**Merciful One, you call us to be your servants to this world which you love. Yet we cover our ears to the cries of those in need. We can so easily cheer on what we love and share our passions with others, but can manage only whispers when it comes to sharing the good news. Forgive us, Holy One. We would feed on the spiritual food which flows from your heart so we might be strong enough to follow Jesus as he leads us in the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Amen.**

## Assurance of Pardon §

**L:** You are God's beloved, and God's grace flows abundantly to all people: you are forgiven!

## The Service of the Word

### New Testament Lesson

1 Peter 2:2–10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,”

and

“A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

## Psalm 31:1–5, 15–16

L: In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me.

**P: Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily.**

L: Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

**P: You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name’s sake lead me and guide me, take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge.**

L: Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.

**P: My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.**

L: Let your face shine upon your servant;

**P: save me in your steadfast love.**

## Gospel

John 14:1–14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

## Sermon

## Sermon Hymn 459

“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

Grace Community Church, Sun Valley, CA <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dmhgaERoGXg>

**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 Response to the Word

**Offering** (*You may send your offerings to the church, or drop them off in person.*)

Special Music for the Offering, “God Will Take Care of You” (Fountainview Academy, a Christian high school in southern British Columbia, with small orchestra and choir) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u4Ez8m2ozf4>

## Prayers of the People

### 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, for ever. Amen.**

### Benediction †§

**L:** May the blessings of the One who is the Way be with you in the days to come.  
**P:** **May the blessings of Jesus who is our Life be with you in the days to come.**  
**L:** May the blessings of the Spirit of Truth be with you in the days to come.  
**P:** **May we journey with the Spirit to that way which is everlasting. Amen!**

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 1 ©2013 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.

‡ <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com>

§ Written/modified by Rev. David Huber

### This week we pray for:

- The General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ Rev. John Dorhauer and Wisconsin Conference Minister Rev. Franz Rigert, along with all UCC staff at the national and Conference level
- These individuals/families: Gordy & Audrey Heimstead, Judy Insteness, Rob & Linda Jaenke, Larry & Barb Kleist, Susie Kleist

### ***Who we are...***

*Plymouth UCC is an Open and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, since we are all created in God's image. We welcome into full membership and participation in the Body of Christ persons of every race, ethnic background, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socio-economic background, marital status and background. We welcome all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, humor, and blessings of participation in our congregation.*

## ***Spiritual Care Package***

### ***Questions for Reflection***

Is the “dwelling place” (John 14:1–14) of which Jesus speaks a place for us after we die, or does it include our life in the present? What does Jesus mean when he says that his disciples “will do greater works”? What does it mean to pray “in Jesus’ name”?

### ***Household Prayer: Morning***

Lord Jesus, as I serve you this day, let not my heart be troubled. Help me to believe with conviction that you are with me, and I am in you, and you are in God. Amen.

### ***Household Prayer: Evening***

Faithful God, my rock and my fortress, into your hands I commit my spirit. As darkness falls, let your face shine upon your servant, and keep me in your steadfast love. Amen.

# **God is still speaking,**