

“Come to me, all you
that are weary
and are carrying
heavy burdens, and
I will give you rest.”



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Prelude

*Call to Worship †§

L: Come to our God, all who hunger for life:

P: for it is God who nourishes us with fountains of grace.

L: Come to our God, all who are worn out by life:

P: for it is God who provides the rest we need.

L: Come to our God, all who are weighed down:

P: for it is our God who carries our burdens with us.

*Prayer of Confession †§

We are so skilled at being in control, at taking charge, Sabbath-Taking God, that we are not very good at resting, even during this time when we have the freedom to rest. We think we have to be constantly busy, so we have no time for you. Instead of living in the moment in gratitude, we complain about the things we cannot do or places we cannot go. Forgive us, God. Help us to let go of our distractions, so you can act in us; calm our creaturely activity, so you can re-create us; help us to follow Jesus, not only into discipleship, but into our rest with you. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon §

L: Trust this: God is good and all-loving, and because of that love, God carries our burdens when we are willing to give them up. In Jesus' name, you are forgiven!

*The Sign of Peace

Greetings

The Service of the Word

Psalm 145:8–14

L: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

P: The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

L: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

P: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

L: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

P: The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

L: The Lord upholds all who are falling,

P: and raises up all who are bowed down.

Gospel

Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30

“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet

wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Sermon

Musical Offering

The Response to the Word

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

Joys and Concerns

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: We leave with the presence of the Holy,

P: so we may show others the way to grace and hope.

L: We leave with Jesus, who draws living water for us,

P: so we can share it in the heat of summer. Amen!

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

§ Written/modified by Rev. David Huber

This week we pray for:

- The leadership and staff of Plymouth United Church of Christ

Cross illumination for July is sponsored by Larry & Barb Kleist in honor of their anniversary.

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

Question for Reflection

How have you experienced God's steadfast love (Ps. 145:8)?

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, I receive this new day as a gift from you. Help me to see signs today of your compassion, which is over all that you have made. Please keep me mindful to watch for ways today in which I can ease others' burdens and give them rest, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Caring God, thank you for my journey through this day. Whatever conflict I may feel within about what I did and did not do I give to you to carry for me now, and I let you give me rest. Amen.

God is still speaking,