

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

November 1, 2020



All Souls' Sunday *Commemoration of the Faithful Departed*



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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The Family of God Gathers

Prelude

“For All the Saints”

Please let the prelude be a signal to prepare for worship.

Call to Worship †

L: We gather, with the company of the faithful:

P: those who know the way into God’s realm and those who are just beginning their pilgrimage.

L: We gather, remembering the ones we call saints:

P: those who made compassion their day job, and those who have no day named after them.

L: We gather, praising God for all who have shaped our faith:

P: those who showed us the dance steps of heaven, and those who taught us to play the instruments of joy.

Prayer of Confession †

On this long journey we call life, Holy God, we fail to live as your people. Too often, we do not in glory shine, but dig through the garbage of life. We are too busy in our pursuits for more and more to rest in you. We prefer our own company rather than that blessed communion of your household of faith. Have mercy and forgive us, Creator of life, in the name of your son, the One who has come to transform us into saints, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon †

L: We are all God’s saints—ordinary, everyday, forgiven people of God. Called, gifted, filled with the Holy Spirit. In Jesus’ name, you are forgiven!

P: You are forgiven!

L: May the peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

Announcements

Please be sure to read the newsletter and this bulletin to get all the news you need.

Centering Music

“Shall We Gather at the River”

The Service of the Word

Psalm 149

L: Praise the Lord!

P: Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

L: Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

P: Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

L: For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.

P: Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

- L: Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands, to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples, to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron, to execute on them the judgment decreed.
- P: This is glory for all his faithful ones.**
- All: Praise the Lord!**

Gospel

Luke 6:20–31

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.”

Sermon

Musical Offering

“I Sing a Song of the Saints of God”

Litany of the Saints

- L: If we would but listen, we could hear them: the bus driver who sang school songs with us, and the coach who whispered encouragement before sending us in to play, the teacher who never gave up on us, and the friend who talked to us when no one else would.
- P: If we would but look, we could see them: the grandfather with dimpled knees from playing marbles with the neighborhood kids, and the nana with nicked hands from hammering nails for affordable housing; the crossing guard who always stepped in front of traffic before we could, and the couple who have not stopped holding hands since they first said “I do.”**
- L: If we would but pay attention, we could learn from them: the single mother who opened up the world of reading to a new generation, and the nurse who sat up by our child’s bed after her shift ended; those who fought dragons in ancient tales, and those who face drug dealers on street corners.
- P: The saints are all around us, so make us mindful of them, God in Community, Holy in One, as we pray in remembrance of the saints who have gone before us:**

Bonnie Carter joined the Church Triumphant 1/17/2020
Jeanne Strassman joined the Church Triumphant 2/17/2020
Leota Rasmussen joined the Church Triumphant 7/21/2020
Faye LaPean joined the Church Triumphant 8/16/2020

Time of silent prayer. We also remember this day the following:

Janis A Reiter joined the Church Triumphant 11/1/2001
Howard L. Reiter joined the Church Triumphant 10/8/2007
William Rau joined the Church Triumphant 2020
Frank Swartz joined the Church Triumphant 2020
Jeff Lewis joined the Church Triumphant 4/15/2020
Sam Lewis joined the Church Triumphant 6/2/2020
Jim Jaenke joined the Church Triumphant 10/15/2020

L: Let everlasting light shine on them, O Lord, with your saints for ever:
P: Eternal rest grant them, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon them.
All: Amen

Communion ††

Prayer

L: The Lord be with you.
P: And also with you.
L: Lift up your hearts.
P: We lift them up to the Lord.
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
L: Creating and redeeming God, in Adam, Abraham, and Moses, in Deborah, Esther, and Mary, you have chosen not simply to direct the course of events but to be in relationship with us and to entrust your children with the embodiment and exercise of your will. In the dying and rising Christ you give us not just a savior but an example, and in every generation you call people to imitate the pattern of his life and death and so witness to your glory. We rejoice that those saints take their place in the company of heaven, with whom we join in singing the unending hymn of your joy and praise.
**P: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**
L: Transforming God, in this gathering you take the fruit of the vine and human hands and make them a blessing for your people now and forever. As our earthly bodies decay and die, and resemble your Son's body taken down from the cross, send your Spirit and remake us in the image of your Son's resurrected body, that our scars may become signs of your glory and our hearts may be one with yours. Sanctify this bread and cup that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

The Story

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.

Distribution

“Amazing Grace”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love; for it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Benediction †

L: God has fed us on grace,

P: **Jesus has filled us with compassion and grace,**

L: The Spirit has poured hope into our lives,

P: **so let us go to be a blessing to those in our world. Amen!**

Postlude

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

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‡‡ *Eucharistic Prayers*, ©2016 Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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

§ Modified/written by Rev. David Huber

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. David Huber • Ministers: All the people of Plymouth • Pianist: Lynn McFadyen

We of Plymouth extend to you our hand of fellowship and an invitation to become a member. If you are interested, or have any questions, please speak with or send a note to Pastor David or our Moderator, Barb Kleist. Our table always has room for more.

Cross illumination for November is sponsored by Mimi Pederson in loving memory of her sister Trudy Brewer.

This Week at Plymouth

Sunday, November 1

All Souls' Sunday

Community Table offering

Tuesday, November 3

Election Day

9:00 A.M. Coffee and Conversation

Thursday, November 5

3:30 P.M. Coffee and Conversation

Sunday, November 8

Prayers for the People

Announcements

We pray for:

- The leadership and staff of Plymouth United Church of Christ
- Linda Jaenke and her family for health concerns
- Paul Gilbertson for health concerns

Coffee and Conversation is a virtual gathering via Zoom for folks who miss the Sunday morning coffee time at church. There is no set topic of conversation, and it's a nice way to keep in touch while we have to maintain social distance. Pastor David hosts the gatherings and posts the link on the church Facebook page. Check it out!
<https://tinyurl.com/y2e87nrn>

Time is running out to order nuts! Call the church office (715-835-5475) or email Mimi (mimi@pcucc.com) to place your order.

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

Who are the saints that have accompanied you in the life of faith?

Household Prayer: Morning

God of blessing, thank you for a new day to live for you. In the company of all the saints in heaven and on earth, I rise to sing your praise. Make me a worthy companion of my ancestors in faith, and let me love others as I have been loved. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Creator of the stars of night, thank you for the gift of rest. Forgive what wrong I have done today, and heal any wounds I have caused. Grant me, I pray, a peaceful rest, that I may rise with the sun to serve you with joy. Amen.

God is still speaking,