



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

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May 16, 2021

10:30 A.M.

The Family of God Gathers

Gathering Music

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

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

arr. Marilyn Ham

Greeting

Call to Worship †§

L: From sanctuary chairs, from tricycle seats, from comfortable couches in front of TVs:

P: God gathers us in, giving us the words with which to proclaim the gospel.

L: At kitchen sinks, at laptops and blackboards, at nursing stations:

P: Christ calls us to share in serving all creation.

L: In communities gathered to pray, in memories of those who served, in families grilling in the backyard:

P: The Holy Spirit fills us with God’s joy.

Opening Music

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear,

All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged; take it to our God in prayer!

Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to our God in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, burdened with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge, take it to our God in prayer!

Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to our God in prayer!

Jesus’ arms will take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

Prayer of Confession †§

God, lover of humankind, you have asked us to proclaim your name to all people. We confess that we have held back from doing so. We are shy and self-conscious, wary of being vulnerable, fearful of rejection. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to trust that your Holy Spirit is with us, empowering us to be confident in sharing our joy in you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon †§

L: Receive the Holy Spirit and be empowered to be witnesses of God’s resurrection power in Jesus Christ, in whose name you are forgiven!

P: You are forgiven!

L: May the peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

The Sign of Peace

Now please take a moment and share the peace with those in your household and/or offer a moment to send prayers of peace to those you love who are not with you.

Centering Music

“We Come to Hear Your Word”

We come to hear your word: Lord, open up our hearts and lives again.

So let your voice be heard: we’re ready to receive this daily bread.

Refrain:

Your word is truth and life to us, so light the way. As we believe your promises, renew our faith.

We come to hear your word: let revelation shape our hearts anew.

We long to know you more: come, Spirit, lead us deeper into truth. *Refrain*

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The Service of the Word

Psalm 1

L: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night.

P: **They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither.**

L: In all that they do, they prosper.

P: **The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

L: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

P: **for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

Special Music “Wade in the Water”

John Moore

Gospel

John 17:6–19

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

Sermon

Musical Offering

“You Are the Rock of My Salvation”

**You are the rock of my salvation, you are the strength of my life.
You are my hope and my inspiration, Lord, unto you I will cry.
I believe in you, believe in you, for your faithful love to me.
You have been my help in time of need; Lord, unto you will I cleave.
You are the rock of my salvation, you are the strength of my life.**

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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: Jesus Christ has already given us into the arms of a loving God.
P: **We go in the Spirit of peace.**
L: From the comfort of this place, to the discomfort of discipleship,
P: **we will go to serve God's people. Amen!**

Postlude

“Hope Will Rise Again”

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year B, Vol. 1 ©2014 Westminster John Knox Press. 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 • Liturgist: Deb Zehms

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.

This Week at Plymouth

Sunday, May 16

OCWM offering

10:30 A.M. Worship

Tuesday, May 18

10:00 A.M. Quilters

Sunday, May 23

Pentecost Sunday

10:30 A.M. Worship

We pray for:

- All UCC missionaries and ordained and licensed ministers; the ministry and mission of the UCC and the Church universal

Friendly reminder...

Pastor Mark and the Good Folks from First Congregational United Church of Christ will be hosting the virtual Inter-Faith Prayer service on Wednesday May 19 at 6:30 P.M. Look for a link on the Plymouth Facebook page. It is good when “Neighbors” come together to live and pray.

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

In the first chapter of Acts, when the eleven seek to replace Judas with a new apostle, they ask God to reveal who that should be by casting lots. How do you think God's will is revealed to us today? Is it revealed in more than one way?

Household Prayer: Morning

Holy One, thank you for the ability to begin my day in prayer. Guide my path today. No matter what happens, help me to feel that I belong to you, and bring me home to you at the end of the day. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, thank you for claiming me as your own. I have been in the world all day, but I also know that I am in you. Give me the grace to let go of this day and entrust it to your care. Be with me as I sleep this night and continue to sanctify me in your embrace. Amen.

God is still speaking,