

Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

2010 Moholt Drive, Eau Claire WI 54703 ☎ 715-835-5475 ✉ pcucc.com



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Plymouth United Church of Christ

August 8, 2021

10:30 A.M.

The Family of God Gathers

Gathering Music

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

“Communion”

Kirk Dearman

Greeting

Call to Worship †§

L: Neighbors and newcomers, families and strangers,

P: we gather in this place built by God’s steadfast love.

L: Strugglers and stragglers, pilgrims almost at the end of the journey,

P: each of us seeks to follow Jesus, the Bread of Life.

Opening Music Bulletin page 8

“United at the Table”

Prayer of Confession †§

Merciful God, we confess we have not lived as your faithful children. We have been angry with the world and nursed grudges against foes and friends. We have hoarded the fruits of our labors rather than share your bounty with the needy. We have not built up our neighbors with words of kindness but have indulged in evil gossip. We have not forgiven the wrongs others have done, even though we desire your forgiveness toward us in Jesus Christ. Heal us, O God, and give us the grace to love as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon §

L: “I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.” In Jesus’ 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 Verse 5

“Come Touch Our Hearts”

Come touch us now, this peo-ple who are ga-thered, to break the bread and

share the cup of peace; that we may love you with our heart, our soul, our

mind, our strength, our all, come touch us with your grace.

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The Service of the Word

Old Testament Lesson

1 Kings 19:4–8

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

Psalms 34:1–8

L: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

P: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

L: O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

P: I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.

L: Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

P: This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble.

L: The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

P: O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.

Gospel

John 6:35, 41–51

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” They were saying, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” Jesus answered them, “Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self †

Generous, transforming God, thank you for the blessings you have given us. Accept our love offerings, and dedicate them now to be used for enlarging your realm of love and grace. Amen.

Communion

Communion Hymn Bulletin page 9

“I Am the Bread of Life”

Prayer †§

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts, people of God.

P: We lift them to our Lord so they might be filled with a new spirit.

L: Let us give thanks to God who loves us.

P: We offer praises to the One who feeds us.

L: Our greatest joy is to offer you our thanks and praise, Creator God. All your creation is beautiful to you; all that is wonderful was created for our awe; all that is mystery was created for our silence. But despite everything you have given us, we are not satisfied. We know our only hope is from you, yet we continue to rebel; called to live in unity with one another, we cling to all which divides us.

P: Yet you refuse to let go of us, sending your only Son, Jesus, to call us to life in you. We have fallen, and you lift us up; we have forsaken you, and you redeem us; we are broken, and you make us whole.

L: Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices, here and now, with the faithful of every time and place, saying,

P: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of every mercy.

All creation praises you.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes to the feast of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

L: Holy are you, God of grace and tenderness, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Though we look for him for all the wrong reasons, he holds out the bread of life to us; though we offer the cross to him, he graces us with life; though we thirst for more and more, he offers us the cup of salvation; though we gossip and slander one another, he speaks the truth in love to us; though we would divide each other by class, race, or condition, he calls us to oneness in you.

P: Recalling your steadfast love in Christ, and knowing we cannot understand your grace until that eternal day when we can know your heart, we take this bread and this cup, praising and blessing you for these gifts of hope and joy.

L: Holy God of Truth, though we come to your Table as many, may your Holy Spirit make us one body and one spirit. As you feed us with the Bread of Life,

may we feed those who know true hunger; as your justice illumines our hearts' darkness, may we be a beacon to the oppressed and lost; as you speak to us the truth in love, may we be a voice for the powerless and forgotten; as you restore us to wholeness, may we bind up our shattered world.

P: Through Christ who saved us, all glory and honor are yours, God, who created us in your own image, through the Holy Spirit, in our midst making us your people, now and forever. Amen.

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, forever. Amen.

Distribution

Prayer of Thanksgiving ☩§

Bountiful God, at this table you graciously feed us with the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation. May we who have reached out our hands to receive this sacrament be strengthened in your service; we who have sung of your praises tell of your glory and truth in our lives; we who have seen the greatness of your love see your face in our neighbors. Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit. Amen.

Closing Music 77 Verse 2 Bulletin page 10 “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Benediction †§

L: Nourished by Christ, go now to imitate God's love, feeding the hungry, forgiving the hateful, and spreading the fragrance of grace wherever there is need.

P: God feeds us forever with the bread of life and upholds us with steadfast love.

L: You are blessed, redeemed, and gifted with grace through Christ our Lord!

All: Amen!

Postlude

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year B, Vol. 2 ©2014 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.

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

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From the text of A Prayer Book for Australia.

§ Modified/written by Rev. David Huber

Worship Leaders

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

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 August is sponsored by Mimi Pederson in honor of her 51st wedding anniversary.

This Week at Plymouth

Sunday, August 8

Prayers for the People

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Communion Worship

Monday, August 9

7:00 P.M. Leadership Team

Tuesday, August 10

10:00 A.M. Quilters

Sunday, August 15

OCWM offering

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Worship

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: Maria Patton, Mimi Pederson, Kevin & Jean Phillips, Kenny (Annette) Polden, Gloria Polden

United at the Table

Unidos en la fiesta

Refrain / Estribillo



U - ni - dos en la fies - ta, la_a - le - grí - a
U - nit - ed at the ta - ble: all our joy is



se_ha-ce can - ción. U - ni - dos en la fe,
joined in song. U - nit - ed in the faith:



la_a - le - grí - a se_ha - ce_o - ra - ción.
all our joy to God be - longs.



1 Can - ta - re - mos al Se - ñor
1 We will praise God, we will sing
2 We will praise God, we will feast
3 We will praise God, we will play



a - le - lu - yas con him - nos y sal - mos,
al - le - lu - ias with hymns and with psalm - o - dy;
at the boun - ti - ful ta - ble of life and grace;
al - le - lu - ias with rhy - thm and in - stru - ments;



por - que gran - de_es el a - mor
we will praise God for the love
we will praise God and give thanks
we will praise God for the love

Refrain / Estribillo



que_en no - so - tros por siem - pre mos - tró.
that sus - tains us e - ter - nal - ly.
for com - mu - nion with ev - 'ry race.
that in - vites all cre - a - tion to dance.

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I Am The Bread Of Life

Suzanne Toolan

VERSES



1. I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not___
2. The bread that___ I will give is my flesh for the life of the
3. Un - less you___ eat of the flesh of the Son of___
4. I am the Res - ur - rec - tion I am the___
5. Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that___ you are the___



1. hun - ger; you who be - lieve shall not thirst. No - one can
2. world, and you who eat of this bread, you shall___
3. Man and___ drink of his blood, and drink
4. life. You who be - lieve in___ me, ev - en___
5. Christ, the___ Son of___ God, Who



1. come to me un - less the___ Fa - ther beck - ons.
2. live for ev - er. You shall___ live for - ev - er.
3. of his blood, you shall not have life with - in you.
4. if you die, You shall___ live for - ev - er.
5. has come in - to the world___

REFRAIN



And I will raise___ you up,___ and I will raise___ you



up,___ and I will raise___ you up___ on the last___ day.

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Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Luke 2:29; Rom. 1:16

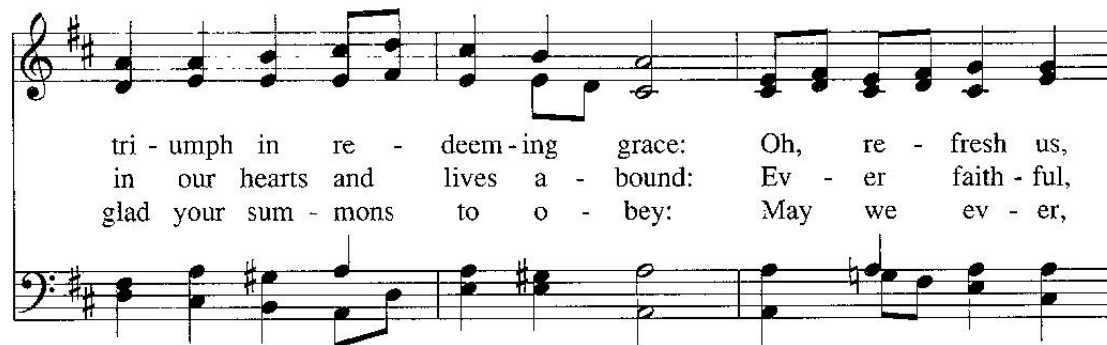
Attrib. to John Fawcett, 1773; alt.



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2 We give thanks and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's
 3 So that when your love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the



joy and peace; Let us each your love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound; May the fruits of your sal - va - tion
 world a - way, Fear of death shall not ap - pall us,



tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: Oh, re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound: Ev - er faith - ful,
 glad your sum - mons to o - bey: May we ev - er,



oh, re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to the truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er live with you in end - less day.

Influenced by George Whitefield's preaching, John Fawcett joined the Baptist church, and served as minister in Wainsgate, England, for fifty-four years. Yielding to the persuasion of his parishioners, he declined invitations to move elsewhere. He wrote more than 160 hymns.

Tune: SICILIAN MARINERS 8.7.8.7.8.7.
 Sicilian melody, 18th century
 The European Magazine and Review, 1792

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

What do you hunger for in life? Do you hunger only for things you truly need, or do you hunger for things you want but which may not be good for you or for those around you?

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, as I break the fast of evening rest give me an appetite for your good gifts. Let my hunger be satisfied with the nourishing bread of life you offer in Jesus Christ, that I may receive strength for the journey this day holds. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord Christ, you are the bread that has sustained me. Let me rest in peace, trusting that the grace you have given me for this day will be renewed like manna in the wilderness, nourishment for the challenge of tomorrow and confirmation of the promise of eternal life. Amen.

God is still speaking,