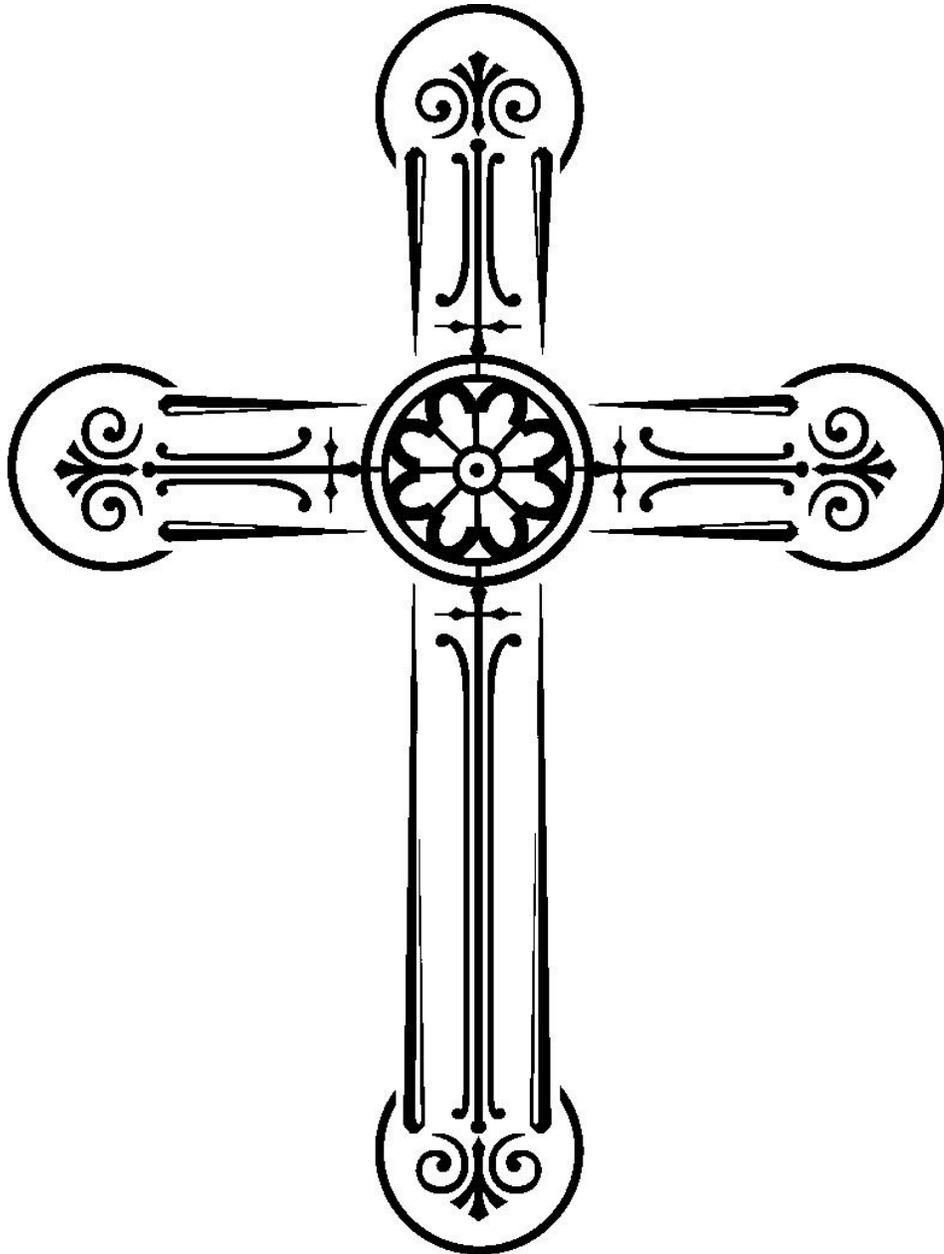


16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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

 PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

The Family of God Gathers

Gathering Music

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

“Pavane”

Maurice Ravel

Greeting

Call to Worship †§

L: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous.

P: God is full of compassion.

L: Let us walk in the presence of the Lord.

P: Let us praise God’s loving kindness.

Opening Hymn 379 Bulletin page 6

“Come, We Who Love God’s Name”

Prayer of Confession †§

Merciful God, we call to you for help. Forgive us for what we have done in opposition to your will, for those things we have not undertaken, and those that we have left undone. Forgive us for not loving you and our neighbors as we ought, and for denying our dependence on you. Lead us away from fear and selfishness and into the light of your loving kindness. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon §

L: God is merciful and desires our wholeness, and so 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.

The Service of the Word

Psalm 116:1–9

L: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

P: Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

L: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

P: Then I called on the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I pray, save my life!”

L: Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

P: The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

L: Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

P: For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling. I walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel

Mark 8:27–38

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Sermon

Offering

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self †§

Lord, you give us everything we have. We return with joy a portion of your gifts, giving to the work of your church and your world what is already yours: ourselves, our lives, and our means. Make good come from these gifts. Teach us to use what we have with wisdom and compassion. Amen.

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, forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn Bulletin page 8

“The Summons”

Benediction †§

L: Do not be afraid of what may come.

P: We set our mind on what Christ Jesus has done and showed us to do.

L: May God's presence abide with you always, keeping you strong and gentle for the sake of the goodness that is willed for you.

All: Amen!

Postlude

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year B, Vol. 2 ©2014 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.
§ Modified/written by Rev. David Huber

Worship Leaders

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

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 September is sponsored by Pete Spitt in memory of his brother Wallace and his wife Sharon.

This Week at Plymouth

Sunday, September 12

Prayers for the People

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Worship

Tuesday, September 14

10:00 A.M. Quilters

7:00 P.M. Leadership Team

Sunday, September 19

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: Aurora (Matt) Robison, Mel & Bobbie Rude, Doug & Nancy Salter, Louise Sanders, Lil Savage
- Rev. Michael Southcomb and the congregation of St. Stephen's UCC in Merrill as they install him as their pastor and teacher.

Come, We Who Love God's Name

*Ps. 48:1-2; Heb. 12:22-24; Rev. 4:2-11**Isaac Watts, 1707; alt.*

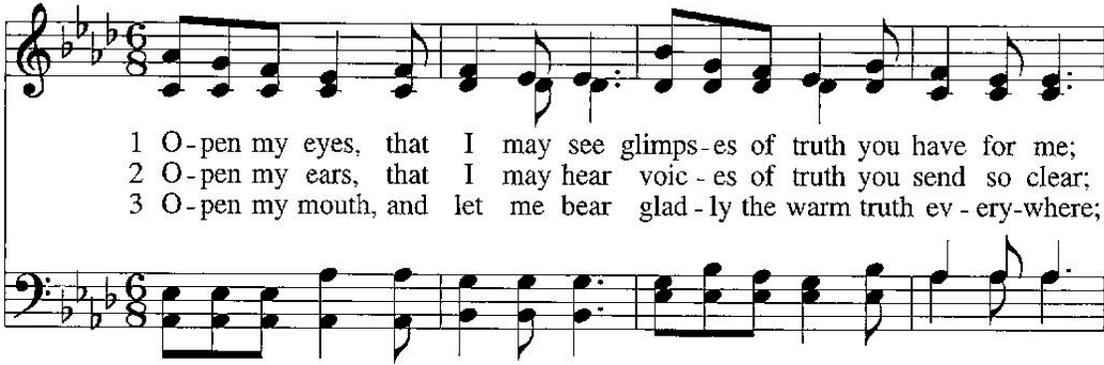
1 Come, we who love God's name, and let our joys be known;
 2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;
 3 God's grace on earth is found, the seeds of glo - ry sown;
 4 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou - sand sa - cred sweets
 5 Then let our songs a - bound, and ev - ery tear be dry;

To - geth - er God's great love pro - claim, and thus sur - round the throne.
 But we our thanks and praise will bring for love so deep and broad.
 Ce - les - tial fruits on earth - ly ground from faith and hope have grown.
 Be - fore we reach the heav - en - ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets.
 We're trav - eling through Em - man - uel's ground, to great - er worlds on high.

A story concerning this hymn holds that the pastor of a New England church once asked the choir to lead the singing of the second stanza on a Sunday when it threatened to "refuse to sing" because of a disagreement in the congregation. Needless to say, the choir acquiesced.

Tune: ST. THOMAS S.M.
 Williams' New Universal Psalmist, 1770
 Alternate setting: MARCHING TO ZION

Open My Eyes, That I May See



1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth you have for me;
2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth you send so clear;
3 O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev - ery - where;



place in my hands the won - der - ful key that shall un - lock and set me free.
and while the mes - sage sounds in my ear, ev - ery - thing false will dis - ap - pear.
o - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare love with your chil - dren thus to share.



Si - lent - ly now, on bend - ed knee, read - y I wait your will to see;



o - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
o - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
o - pen my heart, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!

WORDS and MUSIC: Clara H. Scott (1841-1897), alt.

OPEN MY EYES
8.8.9.8.8.8.8.4.

Public domain

The summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

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

How do you seek God's wisdom in your life? What are the signs and symbols of God's presence that surround your everyday life?

Household Prayer: Morning

As I open my eyes, I can see the heavens that tell of your glory. Allow me to be part of this creation that proclaims your handiwork and your real presence in the world. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

As the day winds down, allow me to find satisfaction in the thought that I have taken my cross and followed you. Allow me to find rest in the knowledge that I did not act as if I was ashamed of you. And if I failed you, forgive me and allow me to find solace in the new mercies of the morning. Amen.

God is still speaking,