

# 7<sup>th</sup> *Sunday after Epiphany*

February 20, 2022

“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.”

Luke 6:27-28, NRSV



**Plymouth United Church of Christ** Rev. David Huber, Pastor

2010 Moholt Drive, Eau Claire WI 54703 ☎ 715-835-5475 ✉ [pcucc.com](http://pcucc.com)



[PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist](https://www.facebook.com/PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist)

## **The Family of God Gathers**

### **Gathering Music**

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

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

### **Greeting**

### **Call to Worship †§**

L: We come, those who seek to trust in God.

**P: We commit ourselves to do as Jesus would do for those around us.**

L: We come, delighting in all the wonders God provides for us.

**P: We would not worry, but open ourselves to God’s heart.**

L: We come, waiting patiently for God to speak.

**P: We will be still, listening for God’s words of hope.**

### **Opening Hymn 575 Bulletin page 7**

“O for a World”

### **Prayer of Confession ††§**

**In this season of light we find ourselves wandering the shadows of the world, merciful God. We confess that we have not followed your ways or trusted your promises. We love only those who love us; we show kindness only to those who are kind to us; we give only when we expect to receive. We hold tight to hatred, fear, and worry, though we know they are the emotions which damage and impede us. Forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your selfless love. Change our lives by your matchless grace. These things we pray through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon §**

L: Delight in the Good News! God’s grace is already poured out upon you. 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 Bulletin page 8

“Christ Be Our Light”

## The Service of the Word

### Psalm 37:1–11, 39–40

L: Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.

**P: Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.**

L: Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

**P: Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.**

L: He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

**P: Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.**

L: Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.

**P: Do not fret—it leads only to evil.**

L: For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

**P: Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.**

L: But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

**P: The salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; he is their refuge in the time of trouble.**

L: The Lord helps them and rescues them;

**P: he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them, because they take refuge in him.**

## Gospel

Luke 6:27–38

“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.

“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

## **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 †**

**Holy God, you have given us land in which to grow and thrive, food for survival and pleasure, air and water, fire and cold. Make our gifts of our gratitude bloom forth into the lives of others in the name of the one who gave everything for us. 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 584** Bulletin page 9

"I Am the Light of the World"

## Benediction †§

**L:** We leave, our hearts filled with God's love.

**P:** **We go, to share the wonders of God's laughter and hope.**

**L:** We leave, following Jesus into the world.

**P:** **We will serve alongside him in the brokenness of our neighbors and our communities.**

**L:** We leave, having heard the whispers of the Spirit.

**P:** **We will do justice by loving our neighbors, trusting in God's grace. Amen!**

## Postlude

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

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

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year C, Vol. 1 ©2012 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.***

## **This Week at Plymouth**

### **Sunday, February 20**

#### ***OCWM offering***

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Worship

### **Tuesday, February 22**

10:00 A.M. Quilters

7:00 P.M. Dartball

PB&J at Plymouth

### **Wednesday, February 23**

5:00 P.M. Foster Parent Event

### **Sunday, February 27**

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Worship

### **We pray for:**

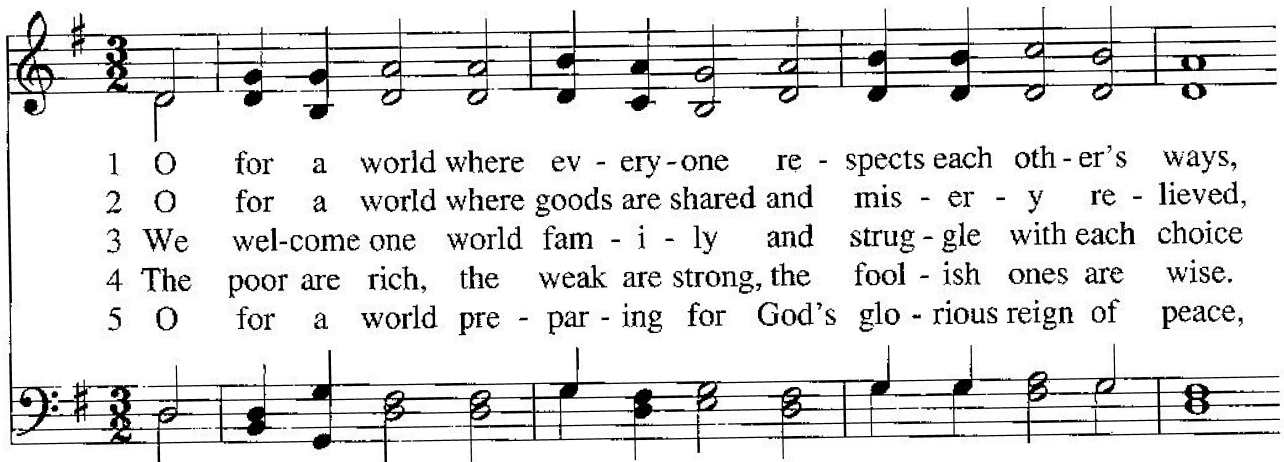
- All UCC missionaries and ordained and licensed ministers; the ministry and mission of the UCC and the Church universal

# O for a World

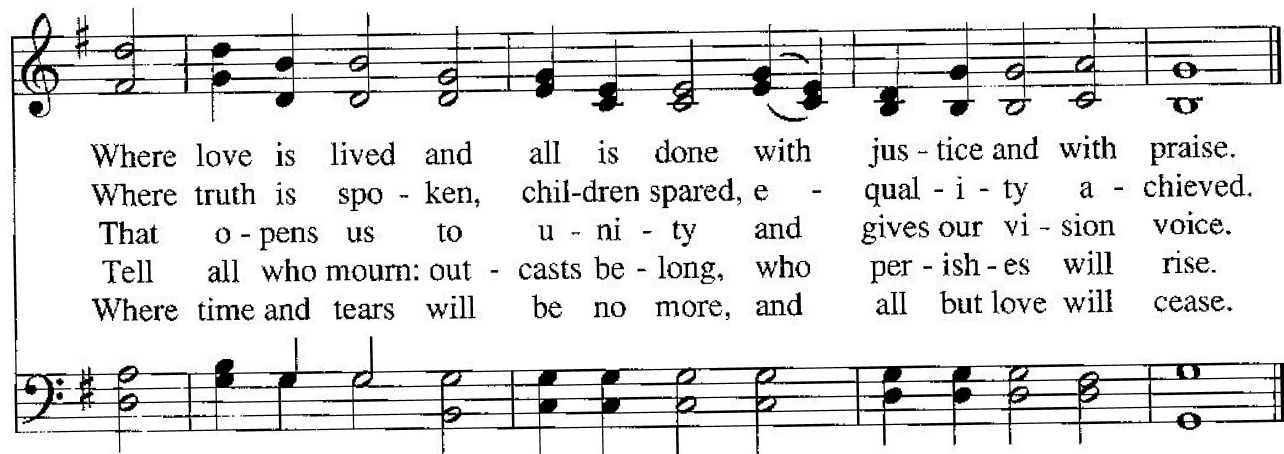
575

Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

Acts 4:32-35; 1 Cor. 1:26-31; 1 Pet. 3:8-12



1 O for a world where ev - ery-one re - spects each oth - er's ways,  
 2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,  
 3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice  
 4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool - ish ones are wise.  
 5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,



Where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.  
 Where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
 That o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.  
 Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.  
 Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

*Inspired by Charles Wesley's phrase "O for a thousand tongues" and the familiar tune Azmon, Miriam Therese Winter wrote this hymn envisioning a new world order for the Presbyterian Women's Triennial Conference in 1982. It was later recrafted and recorded by the Medical Mission Sisters.*

Tune: AZMON C.M.  
 Carl G. Gläser, 1828  
 Adapt. Lowell Mason in Modern Psalmody, 1839

# CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

Bernadette Farrell

## Verses



1. Long-ing for light, — we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2. Long-ing for peace, — our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3. Long-ing for food, — man-y are hun-gry. Long-ing for
4. Long-ing for shel-ter, man-y are home-less. Long-ing for
5. Man-y the gifts, — man-y the peo-ple, man-y the



1. truth, — we turn to you. Make us your own, —
2. hope, — man-y de-spair. Your word a-lone —
3. wa-ter, man-y still thirst. Make us your bread, —
4. warmth, — man-y are cold. Make us your build-ing,
5. hearts that yearn to be-long. Let us be ser-vants



1. your ho-ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.
2. has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv-ing voice.
3. bro-ken for oth-ers, shared un-til all are fed.
4. shel-ter-ing oth-ers, walls made of liv-ing stone.
5. to one an-oth-er, mak-ing your king-dom come.

## Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the dark-ness.



Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to-day.

Text and Music: Bernadette Farrell ©1993 Bernadette Farrell  
All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-703808

## I Am the Light of the World

John 8:12

Jim Strathdee, 1969; rev. 1981

In response to a Christmas poem by Howard Thurman

*F* *Unison Introduction* *Refrain* *Bb* *C* *F*

"I am the light of the world!

You peo-ple come and fol-low me!"

If you fol-low and love you'll

*Last time, end*

learn the mys-ter-y of what you were meant to do and be.

- |   |          |      |        |         |                    |          |          |
|---|----------|------|--------|---------|--------------------|----------|----------|
| 1 | When the | song | of the | an-gels | is                 | stilled, | when the |
| 2 | 7        | To   | find   | the     | lost and lone-ly   | one,     | 7 to     |
| 3 | 7        | To   | free   | the     | pris-oner from all | chains,  | 7 to     |
| 4 |          | To   | bring  | hope    | to ev-ery task you | do,      | 7 to     |

star in the sky is gone,  
 heal the bro-ken soul with love,  
 make the pow-er-ful care,  
 dance at a ba-by's new birth,

When the  
 7 To  
 To re -  
 7 To

sag-es and the shep-herds have found their way home, the  
 feed the hun-gry chil-dren with warmth and good food, To  
 build the na-tions with strength of good will, to  
 make mu-sic in . . . an old per-son's heart, and

*Return to* *Refrain*

work of Christ-mas is be-gun:  
 feel the earth be-low, the sky a-bove!  
 see all God's chil-dren ev-ery-where!  
 sing to the col-ors of the earth!

**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 has God sent you to be a preserver of what is good and healthy? How is your family living up to the wisdom that Joseph showed in caring for the people of Egypt and, eventually, even his own kin?

***Household Prayer: Morning***

In the morning when I rise, O God, you are with me strong and sure, turning my dreams into insights and teaching me the delights of your law. You preserve my life day after day, and in return, I rejoice at the new dawn. Guard my waiting this day, O Lord, guide my feet and my hands, give me stillness and patience so that I may give delight to myself and to those I meet; in Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

***Household Prayer: Evening***

Lord, throughout this day you have rescued us from harm and despair, giving us instead the joy of accomplishment and fellowship with our family and friends. Protect us through the night, Holy One, that in our dreams we will not be shaken but will see you face to face and wake renewed. We take refuge in you; in Jesus' name. Amen.

# **God is still speaking,**