

# *Ash Wednesday*

March 2, 2022



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

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PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

# Plymouth United Church of Christ

March 2, 2022

7:00 P.M.

## The Family of God Gathers

### Prelude

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

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

Arr. Lorie Line

### Welcome

### Gathering Prayer †

L: Jesus began his ministry to the world, led by the Spirit into the wilderness.

**P: As we begin our Lenten journey, let us be led by the Spirit, even into the uncomfortable places.**

L: In those forty days, and in that place, Jesus was faced with hunger, doubt, and temptation.

**P: As we seek to follow Jesus, we would be led, even into the uncomfortable choices.**

L: Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted.

**P: As we continue on our path to faithfulness, we will be led by our Christ, rejoicing in the Lord our God.**

### Opening Hymn 185 Bulletin page 7

“Savior, When in Tears and Dust”

### Psalm 51 †

L: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your perfect love.

**P: In your great kindness, erase my mistakes.**

L: Wash me completely of my sin,

**P: for I never forget my need for forgiveness.**

L: Against you alone have I sinned; I’ve failed you,

**P: so you are justified to judge us.**

L: You desire truth and integrity to the core;

**P: therefore transform me from within.**

L: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

**P: Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

L: Let me hear joy and gladness; let this crushed body rejoice.

**P: Forget my sins forever and erase all my mistakes.**

L: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew my spirit.

**P: Please don't throw me out or take your holy spirit from me.**

L: Restore my joy and sustain my spirit.

**P: Deliver us from violence, O God of healing, and we will cheer for your deliverance.**

L: Holy One, open my lips,

**P: and my mouth will sound your praise.**

L: For you care nothing for sacrifices.

**P: What you love is a broken spirit ready to change.**

L: You welcome a humble heart.

**P: So bless your covenant people in your good pleasure, and rebuild the walls of the Holy City.**

## Silence

## Gospel

Matthew 5, 6, 7

*Sermon on the Mount*

## Silence

## Hymn 207 Verses 1–2 Bulletin page 8

“Just as I Am”

## Imposition of Ashes

L: Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. Bless these ashes and those who receive them. May this sign of our mortality and penitence remind us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**P: Amen.**

*(Those wishing to receive ashes will come forward.)*

L: Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

*(When all who desire have received the ashes,  
the minister leads the conclusion to the confession.)*

L: Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

**P: That we may show forth your glory in the world.**

L: Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

**P: Accept our repentance, Lord.**

L: By the cross and passion of our Lord and our Savior, your Son,

**P: Bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection. Amen.**

**L:** Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

**P: Amen.**

### **\*Assurance of Pardon**

**L:** Jesus looked up and said to a sinner: Where are your accusers? Has no one condemned you? Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again. You are forgiven.

**P: You are forgiven.**

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **\*Pax Christi**

**L:** May the peace of Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

*(Share the peace of Christ with one another.)*

## **Communion**

**Hymn 207 Verse 3 Bulletin page 8**

**“Just as I Am”**

## **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**



## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with this bread of life and cup of salvation. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

\*Hymn 207 Verse 4 Bulletin page 8

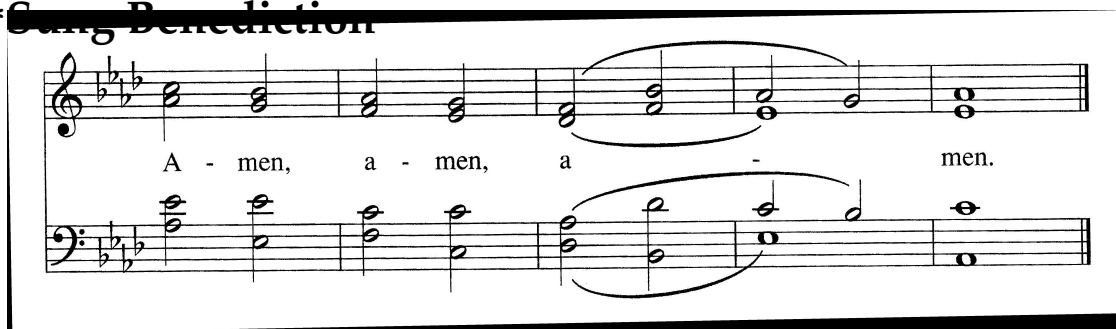
“Just as I Am”

## \*Benediction †

L: The blessing of God, who hears when you call; the grace of Christ, who reconciles you; the power of the Holy Spirit, who sustains you; remain with you in these Lenten days and for all your days, and forevermore.

All: Amen.

## \*~~Cantata~~ Benediction



## Postlude

“God Be with You”

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

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 1 ©2013 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.

## Worship Leaders

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

*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**

**Wednesday, March 2**

***Ash Wednesday***

7:00 P.M. Communion Worship  
with Imposition of Ashes

**Sunday, March 6**

***Community Table offering***

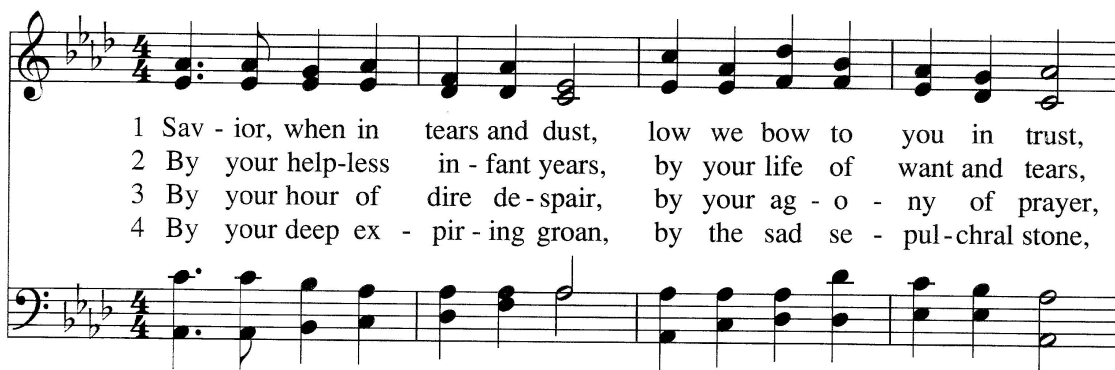
10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Communion Worship

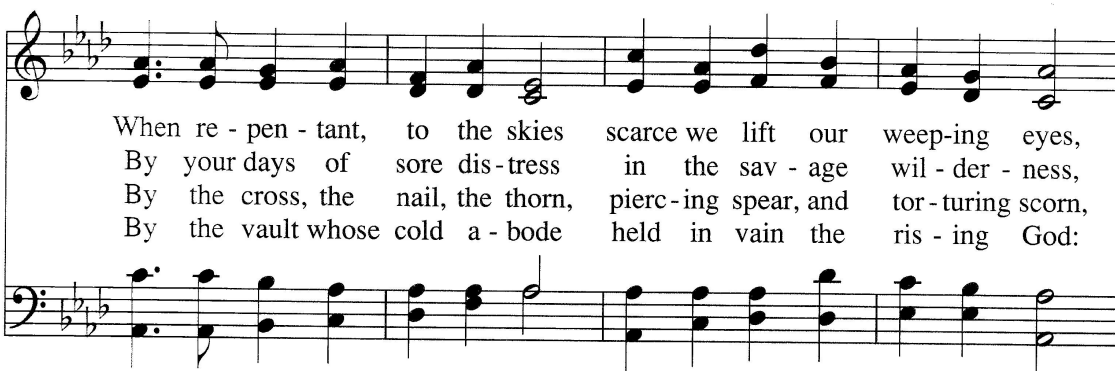
# Savior, When in Tears and Dust

185

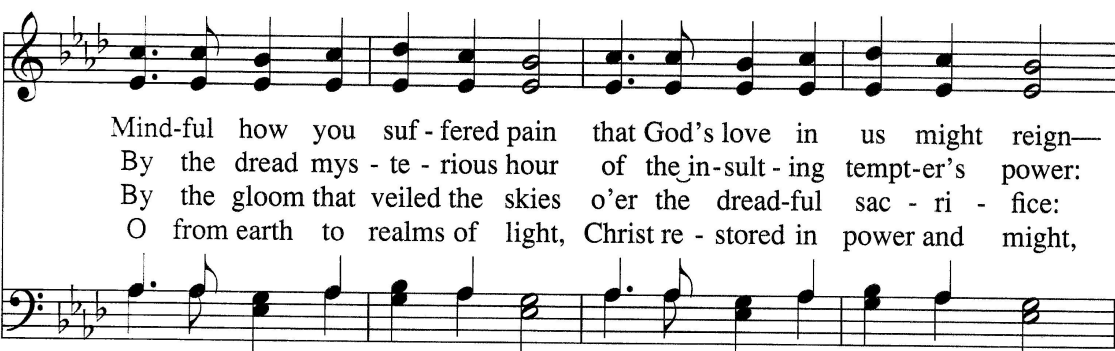
Robert Grant, 1815; alt.



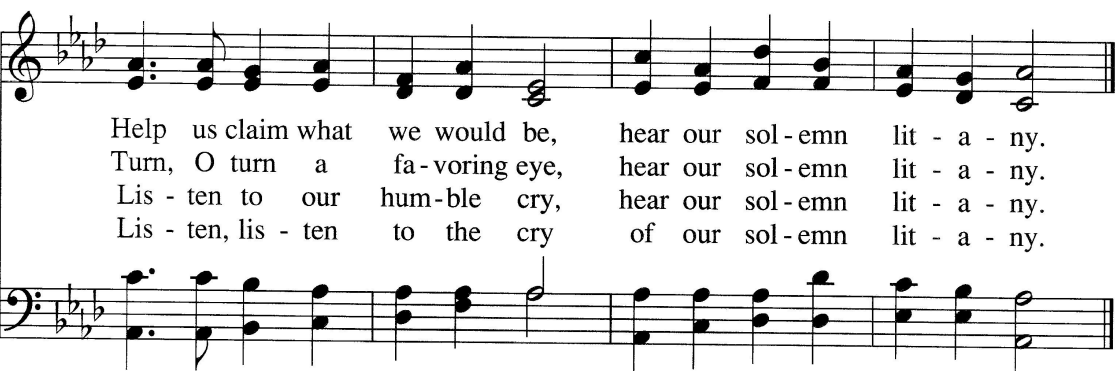
1 Sav - ior, when in tears and dust, low we bow to you in trust,  
 2 By your help-less in - fant years, by your life of want and tears,  
 3 By your hour of dire de-spair, by your ag - o - ny of prayer,  
 4 By your deep ex - pir - ing groan, by the sad se - pul-chral stone,



When re - pen - tant, to the skies scarce we lift our weep-ing eyes,  
 By your days of sore dis-tress in the sav - age wil - der - ness,  
 By the cross, the nail, the thorn, pierc-ing spear, and tor - turing scorn,  
 By the vault whose cold a - bode held in vain the ris - ing God:



Mind-ful how you suf - fered pain that God's love in us might reign—  
 By the dread mys - te - rious hour of the in-sult - ing tempt-er's power:  
 By the gloom that veiled the skies o'er the dread-ful sac - ri - fice:  
 O from earth to realms of light, Christ re - stored in power and might,



Help us claim what we would be, hear our sol - emn lit - a - ny.  
 Turn, O turn a fa - voring eye, hear our sol - emn lit - a - ny.  
 Lis - ten to our hum - ble cry, hear our sol - emn lit - a - ny.  
 Lis - ten, lis - ten to the cry of our sol - emn lit - a - ny.

Robert Grant—English lawyer, member of Parliament, advocate general, humanitarian, and author of a number of significant hymns—was born in India. He returned near the end of his life to become governor of Bombay.

Tune: SPANISH HYMN 7.7.7.7.D.  
 Traditional melody  
 Arr. Benjamin Carr. 1824

# Just as I Am

207

Charlotte Elliott, 1836; alt.

John 6:37; Eph. 2:14

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that your  
 2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a  
 3 Just as I am, you will re - ceive, will wel - come,  
 4 Just as I am, your love un - known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, And that you called in -  
 con - flict, many a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with -  
 par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause your prom - ise  
 ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be yours, and

vit - ing me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
 in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
 I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!  
 yours a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

*This text appeared in Charlotte Elliott's Invalid's Hymn Book, published in England in 1836. Disabled at age thirty, she continued a career of writing and editing. This hymn has been translated into many languages.*

Tune: WOODWORTH L.M.  
 William B. Bradbury, 1849

***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 can I give alms, pray, or fast without regard for the attention of others? How does Jesus' admonition to do these acts in secret compare to his earlier command in the Sermon on the Mount: "Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:16)? What is the reward that God gives to those who give alms, pray, and fast?

**Household Prayer: Morning**

Dear God, you call me to repentance as I begin this new day. If through careless ways I ignore your grace, O Lord, prick my heart, shake me, make me aware of your abiding presence, and lead me in the way of everlasting life. Amen.

**Household Prayer: Evening**

[Pray Psalm 51:10] Create in me a clean heart, O God, And put a new and right spirit within me. Amen.

# **God is still speaking,**