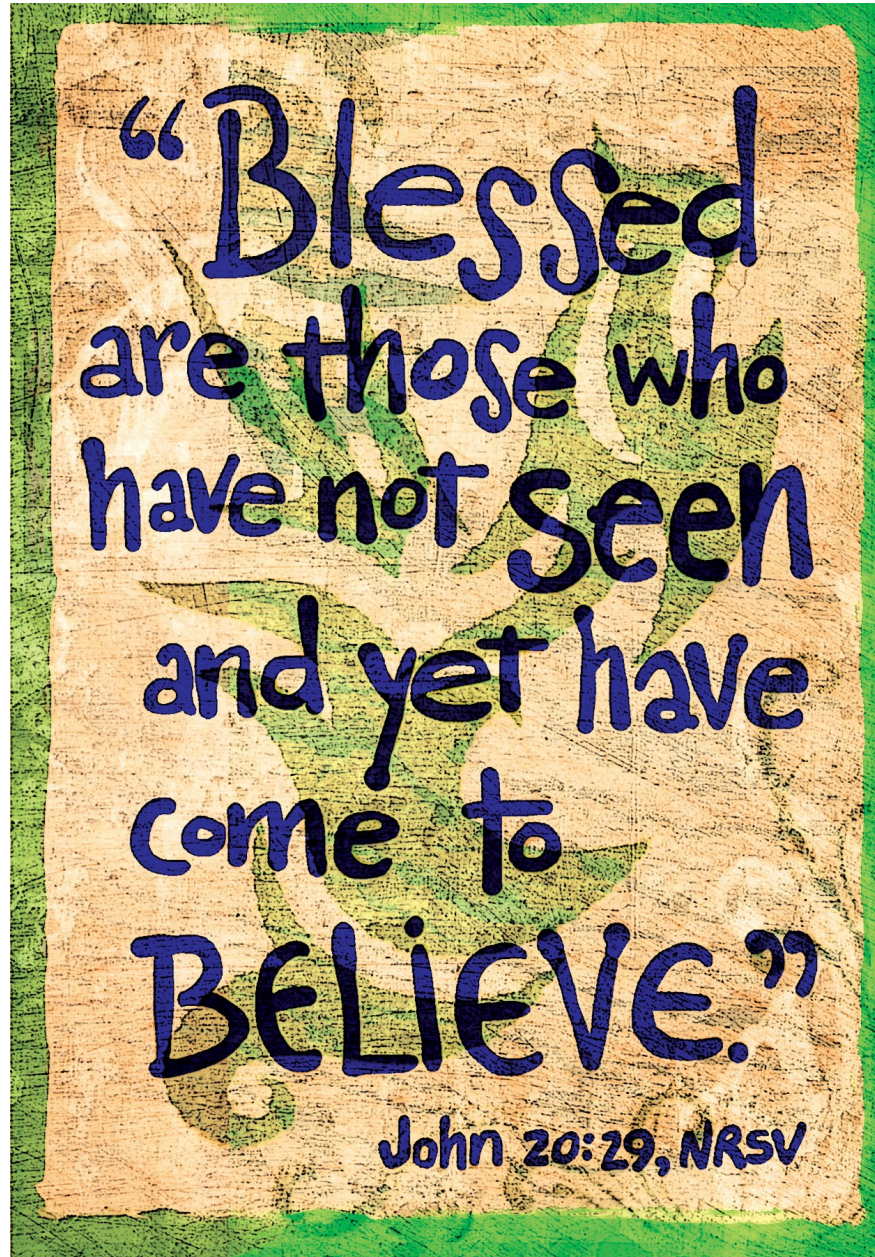


2nd Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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



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

The Family of God Gathers

Prelude

“The Day of Resurrection”

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

Greetings

Call to Worship †§

L: Praise God with clapping hands; praise God with hands comforting a child.

P: Praise God with silent hearts; praise God with hearts broken for the world.

L: Praise God with electric guitars; praise God with soft piano.

P: Praise God with be-bop and hip-hop; praise God with a hallelujah chorus.

L: Praise God with dancing steps; praise God with feet walking for justice.

P: Let everything that breathes praise God! Let us praise God!

Opening Hymn 253 Bulletin page 7

“Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!”

Prayer of Confession †

God of the empty tomb and our empty hearts, when we are afraid to speak our faith in the world, forgive us and help us to find our voice. When we are afraid to forgive and to love again, forgive us and give us the power to forgive. When we are afraid to stand up to misguided authority, join with the weak to make us all strong. When we are confined by our hurts, touch us with your wounded hands and set us free. When we are locked behind our doubts and fears, pass through our barricades, open our hearts, and give us peace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon †§

L: Christ comes with healing light into our locked places and shadowy hurts, resurrecting our spirits and breathing new life into us. You are free to bring peace, forgiveness, and new life to the world as followers of Jesus Christ, in whose name you are forgiven!

P: You are forgiven! Alleluia!

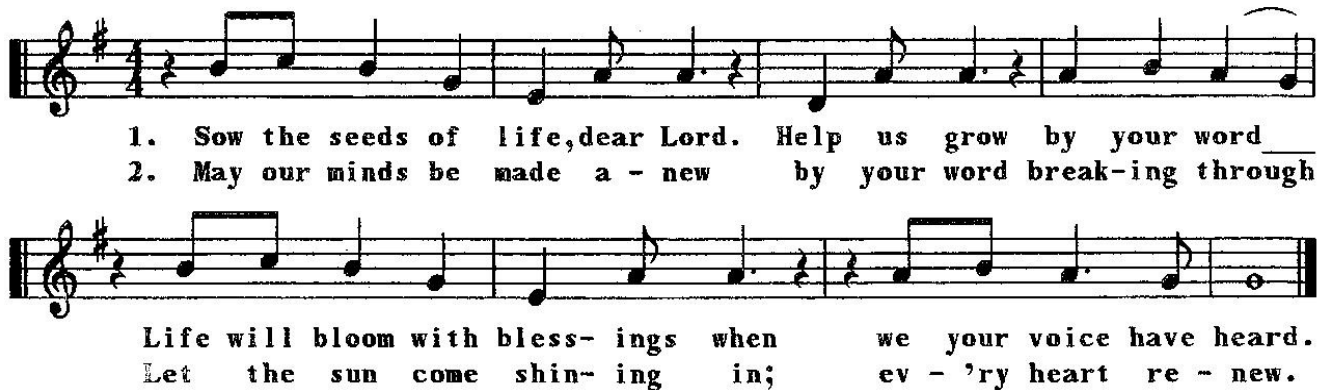
L: May the peace of Christ be with you!

P: And also with you!

Passing the 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 Song



1. Sow the seeds of life, dear Lord. Help us grow by your word__
2. May our minds be made a - new by your word break-ing through

Life will bloom with bless- ings when we your voice have heard.
Let the sun come shin- ing in; ev - 'ry heart re - new.

Text and music: Frank D. Janzow ©1984 Frank D. Janzow; 1993 Sun Day Publications
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The Service of the Word

New Testament Lesson

Acts 5:27–32

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Psalms 150

L: Praise the Lord!

P: Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!

L: Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!

P: Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

L: Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!

P: Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!

L: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!

P: Praise the Lord!

Gospel

John 20:19–31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sermon

Sermon Hymn 254 Bulletin page 8

“These Things Did Thomas Count”

The Response to the Word

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 ‡§

We could keep our treasures locked up where they never see the light of your love, or we can offer them back to you so that those who live in the shadows of poverty might be fed, those who walk the streets of loneliness find a community, and those who long for peace will find an end to the violence in their lives. And so we open our hearts and bring these gifts in joyous praise of you. Bless them to be used for our ministry in your name. 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, for ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn Bulletin page 9

“Sing a New Song”

*Benediction ‡†§

L: God sends us forth with songs of joy in our hearts.

P: **We will go to sing of hope to all who are empty of life as we gather them close to our hearts.**

L: Jesus calls us to step out of our fears into lives of witness.

P: **We will go to breathe peace into all the broken places around us.**

L: May you be filled with the grace and peace of the God who is and was and is to come, and with the Spirit of Jesus Christ who loves us and sets us free.

P: **Amen!**

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

Cross illumination for April is sponsored by Lil Savage in memory of her brothers, Paul and Carl.

This Week at Plymouth

Sunday, April 24

10:00 A.M. Coffee
10:30 A.M. Worship

Tuesday, April 26

10:00 A.M. Quilters

Sunday, May 1

Community Table offering

10:00 A.M. Coffee
10:30 A.M. Communion Worship
11:30 A.M. Pot luck

We pray for:

- All houses of worship—churches, temples, and mosques in the Chippewa Valley who provide ecumenical and interfaith combined fellowship and service to our community.

A toi la gloire, ô Ressuscité!

(Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!)

Matt. 28:1-10; John 20:19-29; 1 Cor. 15:54-55

Edmond L. Budry, 1904

Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1993



1 A toi la gloi - re, ô Res - sus - ci - té! A toi la vic - toi - re,
 1 Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One! End - less is the vic - tory
 2 See, it is Je - sus, Je - sus has ap - peared; do not doubt at all for
 3 Am I still fright - ened? One whom I a - dore, Je - sus, lives a - gain, gives



pour l'é - ter - ni - té! Bril - lant de lu - miè - re, l'ange est de - scen -
 you o'er death have won. An - gels clothed in ra - diance rolled the stone a -
 noth - ing you will fear. Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph
 peace for - ev - er - more. Je - sus is my vic - tory, life and strength and



du, il rou - le la pier - re du tom - beau vain - cu.
 way; con - quered is the grave in which your bod - y lay.
 sing; tell it with - out ceas - ing: Death has lost its sting.
 Head; Je - sus is my glo - ry, noth - ing shall I dread.

Refrain



A toi la gloi - re, ô Res - sus - ci - té!
 Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One!



A toi la vic - toi - re, pour l'é - ter - ni - té!
 End - less is the vic - tory you o'er death have won.

Swiss pastor Edmond L. Budry may have drawn his inspiration for this hymn from a German Advent poem set to Handel's triumphant music. The tune Judas Maccabeus is adapted from a chorus in Handel's oratorio of the same name.

Tune: JUDAS MACCABEUS
 5.5.6.5.6.5.6.5. with refrain
 G. F. Handel, 1751

These Things Did Thomas Count

254

Thomas H. Troeger, 1984

John 20:19-31

1 These things did Thom - as count as real: the warmth of
 2 The vi - sion of his skep - tic mind was keen e -
 3 His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied that one could
 4 May we, O God, by grace be - lieve and thus the

blood, the chill of steel, The grain of wood, the heft of
 nough to make him blind To an - y un - ex - pect - ed
 live when one had died, Un - til his fin - gers read like
 ris - en Christ re - ceive, Whose raw, im - print - ed palms reached

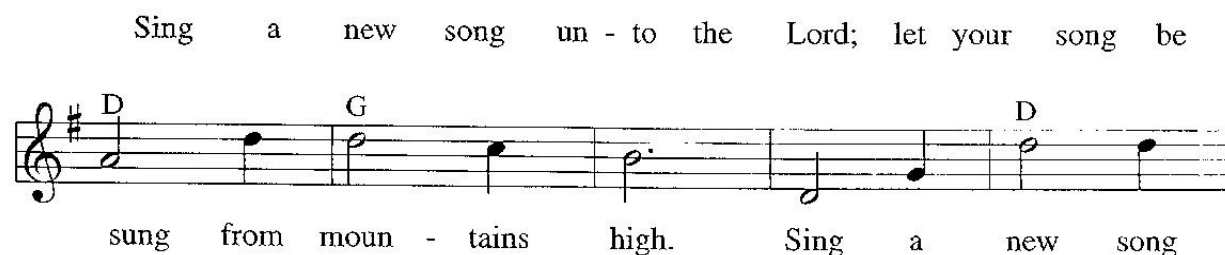
stone, the last frail twitch of flesh and bone.
 act too large for his small world of fact.
 Braille the mark - ings of the spear and nail.
 out and beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

The author cites his "reading of twentieth-century theology and its coming to terms with the limits of the enlightenment and rational cognition" as the foundational thought for this text.

Tune: DISTRESS L.M.
 The Sacred Harp, 1844
 Arr. Jonathan McNair, 1993

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Sing a new song



- 1 Yah - weh's peo - ple dance for joy; oh, come be -
- 2 Rise, O chil - dren, from your sleep; your Sav - ior
- 3 Glad my soul, for I have seen the glo - ry



fore the Lord, and praise the Lord on
 now has come. The Lord has turned your
 of the Lord. The trum - pet sounds; the



glad tam - bou - rines, and let your trum - pet sound.
 sor - row to joy, and filled your soul with song.
 dead shall be raised. I know my Sav - ior lives.

Text and music: Daniel Schutte ©1972, 1974 Daniel Schutte, admn. New Dawn Music
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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

Question for Reflection

Thomas doubted the resurrection until he saw the nail holes and put his finger in the wound of the risen Christ's hands and side. We, too, have been wounded in this life, and our society often teaches us to hide our wounds and vulnerabilities. What might happen if, like Christ, we invited those shut down by life to explore our wounds?

Household Prayer: Morning

Gracious God, you are the God who is and was and is to be. Thank you that Christ has freed us to be a kingdom of priests serving you and your world. Give me a deeper sense, as I move through this day, of what it means to say that you are my "Alpha and Omega," my A to Z. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Jesus, tonight I remember that your gospel gives me the power to forgive any and all, through the gift of your Holy Spirit, and that includes forgiving myself. Breathe your peace into me so that even if I pierced you today, I can still see you coming to embrace me with your freedom and love this night. Amen

God is still speaking,