

5th Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

*“By this all people will know
that you are my disciples, if you
have love for one another.”*

JOHN 13:35, ESV



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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The Family of God Gathers

Prelude

“More Love to Thee”

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

Greetings

Call to Worship †

L: Alleluia! Christ is alive;

P: let all the people praise him.

L: Let all creation sing with joy.

P: Alleluia!

Opening Hymn 17 Bulletin page 7

“To You, O God, All Creatures Sing”

Prayer of Confession †§

God of mercy, your command to love one another across all differences opens us to new horizons, yet we often respond with fear and judgment that hinders our discipleship and blocks your goal for humanity. Forgive us, we pray, and by your Spirit help us to turn around in alignment with your path, to a way that leads to life for all creation. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon †§

L: God’s mercy is plentiful, grace enough to bring us to new life no matter how far we have strayed. Jesus commands us to love one another so that we may be more like him who loves us with a love that does not end. In his 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 Verse 2 Bulletin page 8

“Jesus Come! For We Invite You

The Service of the Word

New Testament Lesson

Revelation 21:1–6

Then I saw a new haven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Psalm 148

L: Praise the Lord!

P: **Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!**

L: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

P: **Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!**

L: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

P: **Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.**

L: He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

P: **Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!**

L: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

P: Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

L: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

P: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

L: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

P: He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him.

All: Praise the Lord!

Gospel

John 13:31–35

When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Sermon

Sermon Hymn 224 Bulletin page 9

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

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

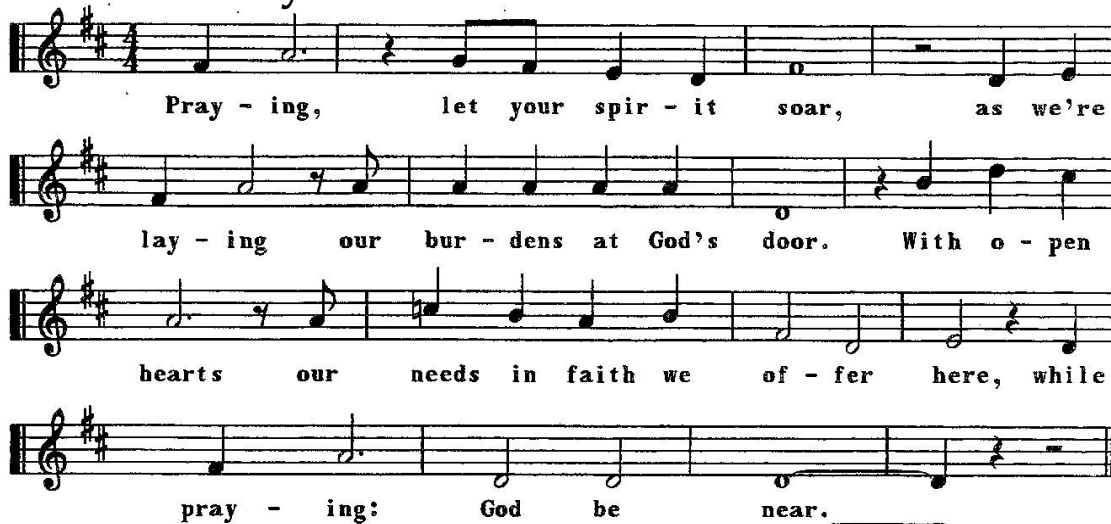
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self †§

Loving God, we give you thanks for your love and your blessings on our lives, including the new life offered us through Jesus’ resurrection. Accept these gifts for your mission to heal all creation. May they be a testament to your love for us as we share them in love for you; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Invitation to Prayer



Text and music: Frank D. Janzow ©1984 Frank D. Janzow, 1993 Sun Day Publications
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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 389 Verses 1–6 Bulletin page 10

“A New Commandment”

Benediction †§

L: Jesus has loved us so that we may love others.

P: **We go forth in peace to love and serve the Lord.**

L: May God who has made you a new creation give you the grace to grow in faith, hope, love, and justice.

P: **Amen!**

Postlude

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

† *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 • Guest Preacher: Rev. Mike Wolfe • 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 May is sponsored by Mimi Pederson in honor of Plymouth congregation.

This Week at Plymouth

Sunday, May 15

OCWM offering

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Worship

Tuesday, May 17

10:00 A.M. Quilters

Saturday, May 21

8:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M.

Spring Thrift & Bake Sale

Sunday, May 22

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
- St. John's UCC and Hope UCC as they install Rev. Deborah Kunkel as their pastor and teacher

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

Ps. 148

St. Francis of Assisi, 1225

Adapt. Miriam Therese Winter, 1993



- 1 To you, O God, all crea-tures sing, and all cre - a - tion, ev - ery -
 2 Your wind that blows the tem-pest by, your clouds that sail a - cross the
 3 Your flow-ing wa - ters, crys - tal clear, make mel - o - dies for you to
 4 To you, O God, day af - ter day, your plan - et earth in ev - ery



- thing sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your burn-ing sun with gold-en
 sky sing your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your morn-ing ris - es with a
 hear, sing your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! Your fire, . . . boun-ti - ful and
 way, sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia, As sa - vory fruit and fra-grant



- beam, your sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam sing your prais-es,
 song, and lights of eve - ning sing a - long, sing your prais-es, al-le -
 bright, re - mem - bering your warmth and light, sings your prais-es,
 flower show forth your glo - ry and your power, sing - ing prais-es,



- lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

- 5 Now we who are of ten-der heart,
 for-giv-ing oth-ers, take our part,
 sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia!
 To you we lift our pain and care,
 re-ceive the bur-dens that we bear,
 sing-ing prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

- 6 In you, a kind and gen-tle death
 pre-pares to hush our fi-nal breath,
 sing-ing prais-es, al-le-lu-ia!
 Christ goes be-fore us to re-new
 the way that leads us home to you.
 Hear our prais-es, al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

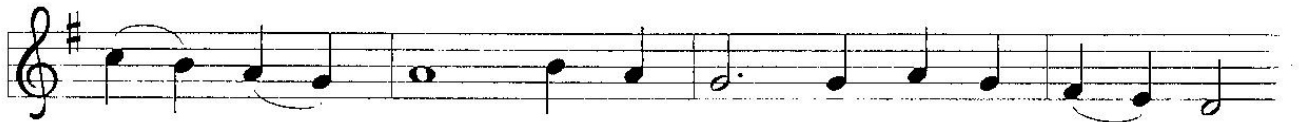
Miriam Therese Winter described her thoughts about adapting this text: "As I entered into communion with the word and spirit of the hymn, I felt called to enable that unknown-to-me poet's wisdom to live on into the future, a moving commission, and also felt a bond with the one who had gone before."

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN
 8.8.4.4.8.8. with alleluias
 Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623
 Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
 Descant, The New Century Hymnal, 1993

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You



1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
 2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
 3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
 4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing



friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
 paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
 pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
 to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,



speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
 let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
 chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
 all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
 se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
 ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
 rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Text: Christopher Idle ©1982 Jubilate Hymns

Music: Harold Fridell ©1957, 1985 H.W. Gray

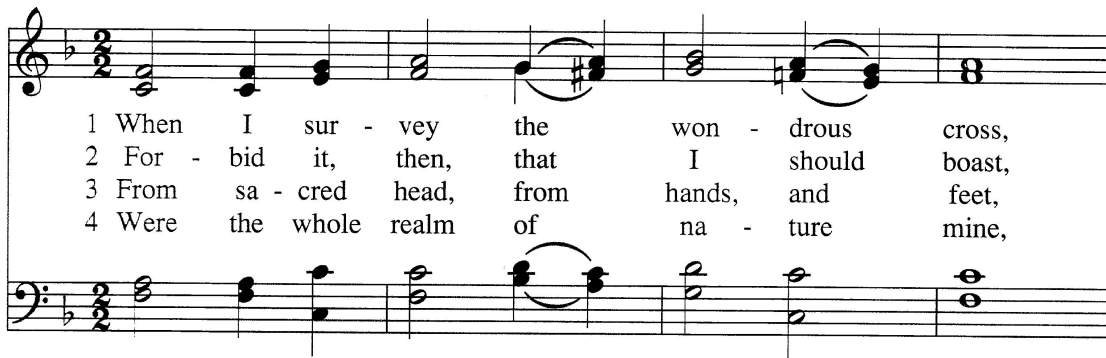
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When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

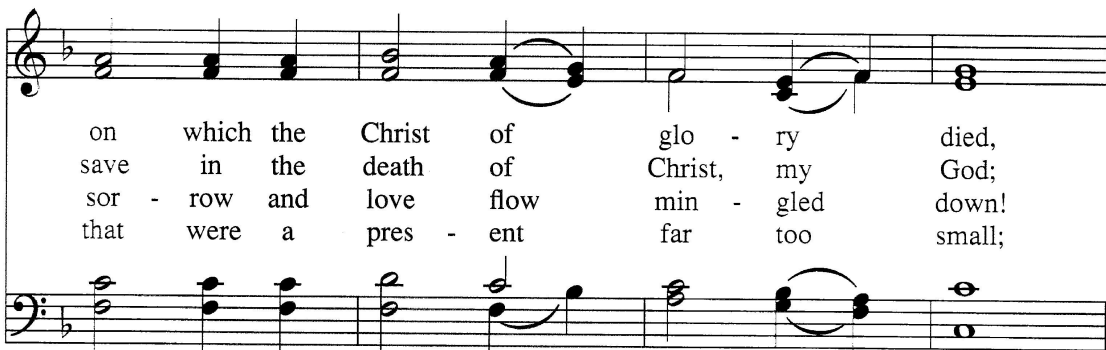
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Isaac Watts, 1707; alt.

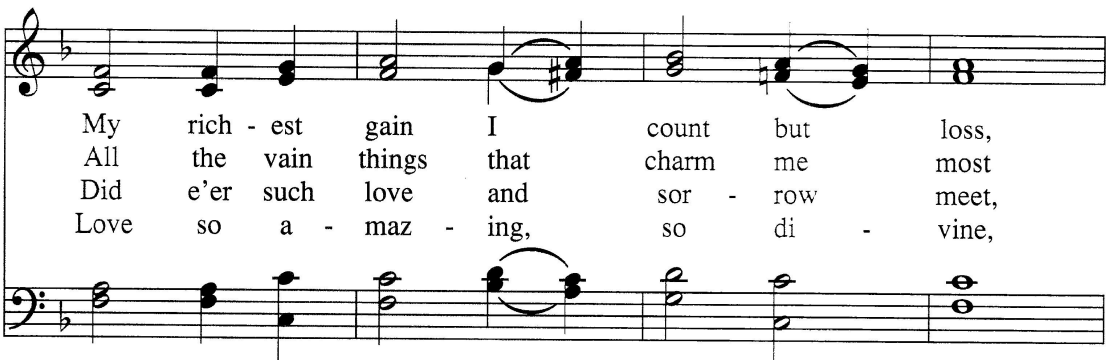
Gal. 6:14; Phil. 3:7-8



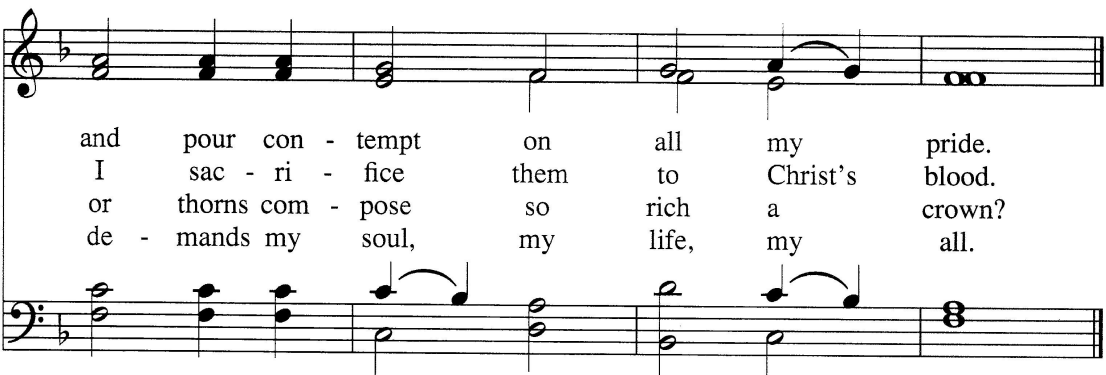
1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross,
 2 For - bid it, then, that I should boast,
 3 From sa - cred head, from hands, and feet,
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,



on which the Christ of glo - ry died,
 save in the death of Christ, my God;
 sor - row and love flow min - gled down!
 that were a pres - ent far too small;



My rich - est gain I count but loss,
 All the vain things that charm me most
 Did e'er such love and sor - row meet,
 Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,



and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 I sac - ri - fice them to Christ's blood.
 or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Originally titled "Crucifixion to the World by the Cross of Christ," this hymn has been acclaimed as one of the finest in the English language. Isaac Watts' hymnody grew out of his dissatisfaction with the restraints of the metrical psalters.

Tune: HAMBURG L.M.
 Lowell Mason, 1825

Un mandamiento nuevo

Matt. 22:34–40; Mark 12:28–34;
John 13:34–35; 14:6; 15:9–12; 1 John 4:7–21

William Loperena, 1965; rev. 1993
English version, Carolyn Jennings, 1993

(Refrain)

Je-sus a new com-mand-ment has giv-en us:
that we should love each oth-er just as our God loves us.

1 2 to Stanzas Last time, end

us. us.

(Stanzas)

1 The clear sign of all true Chris-tians
2 Those who do not love their neigh-bors

is the way they love each oth-er.
do not tru-ly love their Sav-ior. (to Refrain)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 3 Christ, the Light, the Truth, and true Life,
bids us share our love and par-don. | 7 In true char-i-ty and lov-ing,
God is pres-ent here a-mong us. |
| 4 Let us all for-give each oth-er
as by God we are com-mand-ed.
(Refrain) | 8 Let us come to Je-sus' ta-ble
with our love for one an-oth-er.
(Refrain) |
| 5 We are tru-ly friends of Je-sus
if we free-ly give our par-don. | 9 Glo-ry be to the Cre-a-tor;
glo-ry be to Christ, our Sav-ior; |
| 6 In our liv-ing and our dy-ing,
God is ev-er there to love us.
(Refrain) | 10 Glo-ry be to God, the Spir-it,
Ho-ly Trin-i-ty for-ev-er.
(Refrain) |

Originally written for a Maundy Thursday service, this hymn has received widespread use throughout Puerto Rico, where William Loperena is a Dominican priest working on the development of ecumenical liturgies.

Tune: LOPERENA 8.8. with refrain (10.7.6.)
William Loperena, 1965
Arr. Luis Olivieri and Roberto Milano, 1993

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

In Acts 11:1–18, Peter, led by the Spirit, discloses God's new directions to heal creation, and the church reconfigures its social boundaries. The Gentiles, who were excluded from the church in Jerusalem because their eating habits were judged to be vile and unclean, are now included by the reconciling work of the Spirit. Where is God's Spirit opening us to new directions in mission this day?

Household Prayer: Morning

Delivering God, each day we awaken to your goodness and our hearts cry out in praise as you set us to tasks for the life of the world. Do not let us hinder your love, but strengthen our will, as we offer thanks in every simple gesture of this day. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Faithful God, the nightly dance of earth, moon, and stars speaks of your gift: love given, love received. We give thanks this night for the love you have shown to us this day. Let us rest in your peace and awaken in joy. Amen.

God is still speaking,