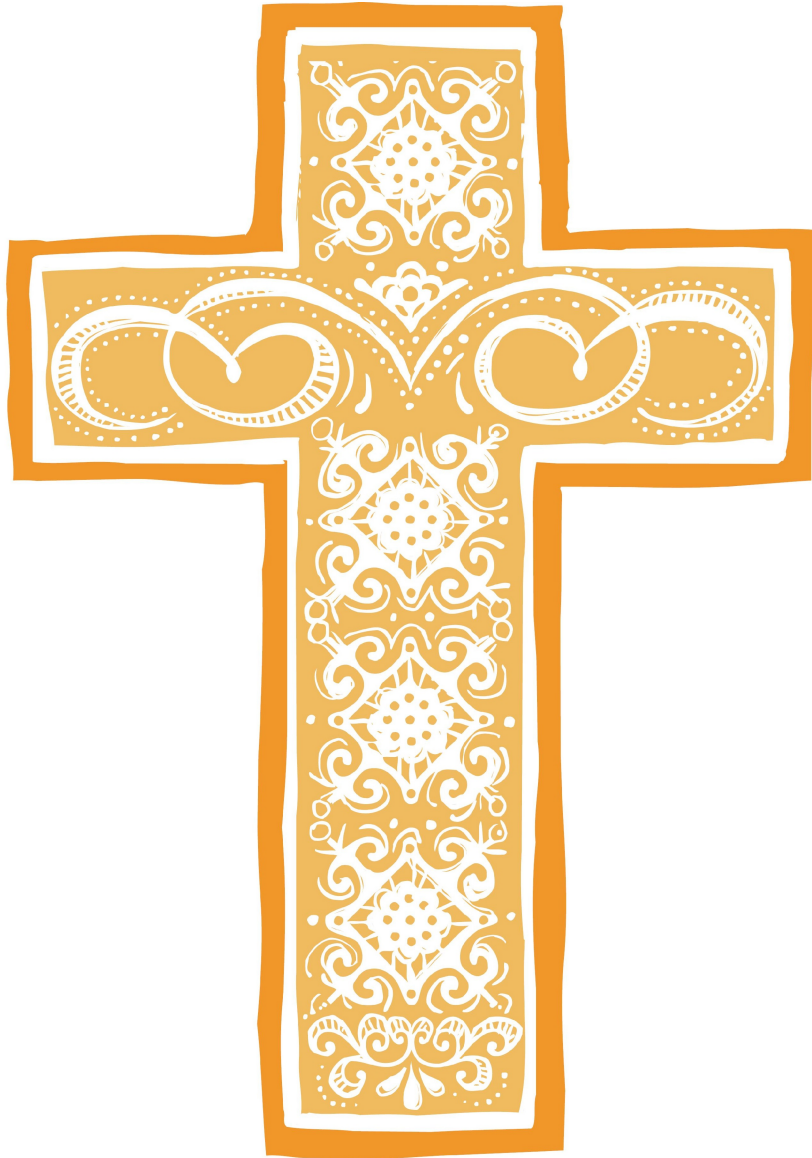


6th Sunday of Easter

May 22, 2022



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor
2010 Moholt Drive, Eau Claire WI 54703 ☎ 715-835-5475 ✉ pucc.com



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

The Family of God Gathers

Prelude

“Jesus Loves Me”

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

Greetings

Call to Worship †§

L: Alleluia, Christ is risen!

P: The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!

L: Praise our Creator, O People.

P: We praise the name of the one who gives us life!

L: Let us come together in worship.

P: We gather as God’s people to tell our story, hear God’s word, and pray to the one who loves us beyond understanding!

Opening Hymn 474 Bulletin page 7

“I’m So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me”

Prayer of Confession †§

Loving God, we confess that we are an anxious people who deny your blessing and fail to keep your word. Forgive us, we pray, for these and all our sins, that we might live in peace and reflect your love in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon §

L: Let go of all anxiety and guilt about your relationship with God, because God accepts you as you are, and knows who you can be. In Jesus’ 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 3 Bulletin page 8

“Jesus Come! For We Invite You

The Service of the Word

Psalm 67

L: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

P: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

L: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

P: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

L: The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

P: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

Gospel

John 5:1–9

After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.” Jesus said to him, “Stand up, take your mat and walk.” At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a sabbath.

Sermon

Sermon Hymn Bulletin page 9

“God, When Human Bonds Are Broken”

The Response to the Word

Offering "I Can Only Imagine"

Lorin Divine

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 †§

Giving God, as spring bursts forth its blossoms in witness to your love, you bless us from generation to generation with the new life of Easter faith. All that we have and all that we are come from you, so we gladly share this offering, that others too may be blessed to experience your love and grace. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Invitation to Prayer



Pray - ing, let your spir - it soar, as we're
lay - ing our bur - dens at God's door. With o - pen
hearts our needs in faith we of - fer here, while
pray - ing: God be near.

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 239 Verses 3–4 Bulletin page 10 “Christ Rose Up from the Dead”

Benediction †§

L: Live in love, abide in peace, and serve the Lord,

P: for God is ever present.

L: May the Lord be gracious and bless you that you may live a life of praise forever in God's light.

P: Amen!

Postlude

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee with Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

† *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: Keith 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 22

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

Tuesday, May 14

10:00 A.M. Quilters

Sunday, May 29

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

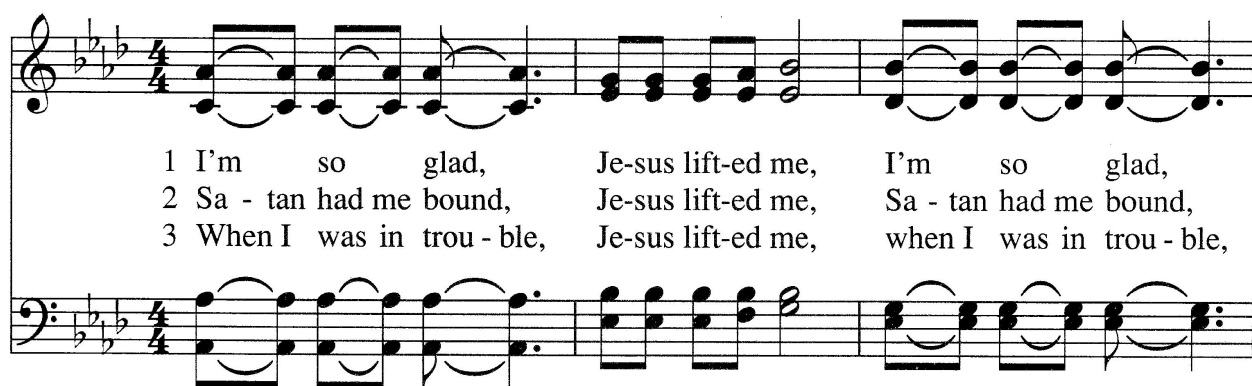
We pray for:

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

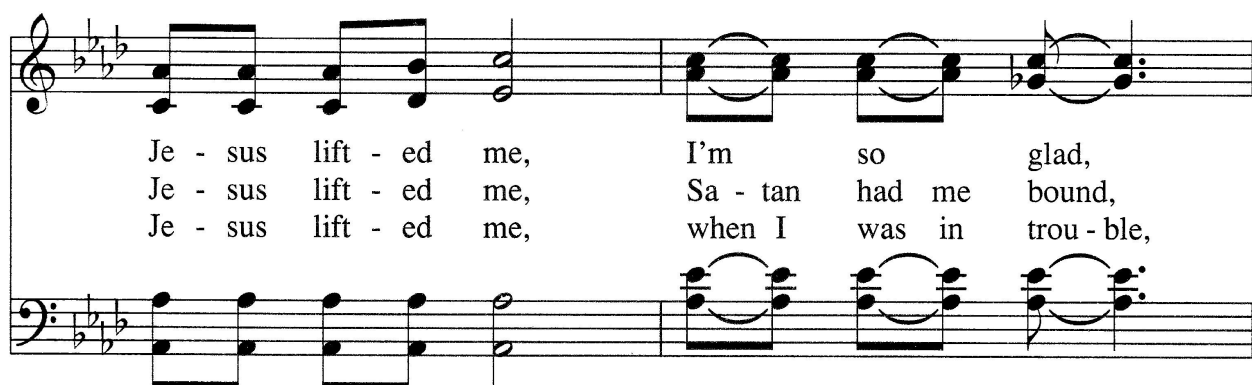
I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me

474

African-American spiritual



1 I'm so glad, Je-sus lift-ed me, I'm so glad,
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je-sus lift-ed me, Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, Je-sus lift-ed me, when I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift - ed me, I'm so glad,
Je - sus lift - ed me, Sa - tan had me bound,
Je - sus lift - ed me, when I was in trou - ble,



Je-sus lift-ed me, sing-ing glo-ry, hal-le - lu - jah, Je-sus lift-ed me.

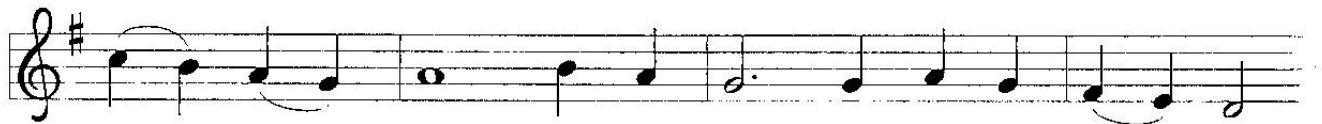
Just as the spirituals were adapted to be sung in a folk-song style during the 1960s music festivals and civil rights marches, so have they been adapted in a gospel style. This is a spiritual that especially lends itself to gospel rendering.

Tune: I'M SO GLAD Irr.
African-American spiritual

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



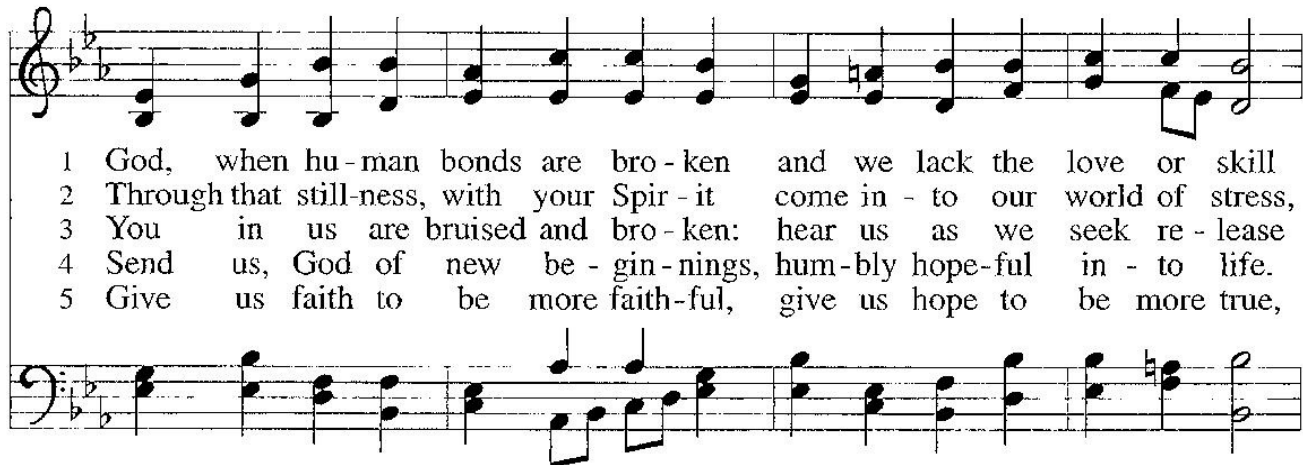
doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
 se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
 ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
 rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Text: Christopher Idle ©1982 Jubilate Hymns


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

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God, When Human Bonds Are Broken



1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill
2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,
3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease
4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.
5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,



to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.
for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.
from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.
Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.
give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

Text: Fred Kaan Music: William H. Monk Text: ©1989 Hope Publishing Company
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Christ Rose Up from the Dead

*Matt. 28:2-6; John 19:16-18; 19:38-20:18**African-American traditional; alt.**Refrain*

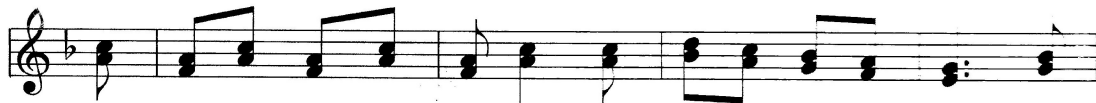
Christ rose, Christ rose, Christ rose up from the dead, Christ rose,



Christ rose, Christ rose from the dead, Christ rose Christ rose,

*Last time, etc.*

Christ rose up from the dead, and God's grace will bear my spir - it home.



- 1 They cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior up - on a com - mon cross, they
- 2 And Jo - seph begged his bod - y, and laid it in the tomb, and
- 3 An an - gel came from heav - en and rolled a - way the stone, an
- 4 Oh, Mar - y, she came run - ning and found an emp - ty tomb, oh,



cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior up - on a com - mon cross, They
 Jo - seph begged his bod - y, and laid it in the tomb, And
 an - gel came from heav - en and rolled a - way the stone, An
 Mar - y, she came run - ning and found an emp - ty tomb, Oh,



cru - ci - fied my Sav - ior up - on a com - mon cross,
 Jo - seph begged his bod - y, and laid it in the tomb,
 an - gel came from heav - en and rolled a - way the stone,
 Mar - y, she came run - ning and found an emp - ty tomb,

*to Refrain*

(1-4) and God's grace will bear my spir - it home.

This jubilee song, collected by K. D. Reddick and arranged by Phil V. S. Lindsley, appeared around 1918 in shape note style in a collection titled The National Jubilee Melodies, published by the National Baptist Publishing Board.

*Tune: ASCENSUS 7.6.7.6.7.6.9, with refrain
 African-American traditional
 Arr. Phil V. S. Lindsley, 20th century*

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

When Lydia hears the gospel, she becomes the first Christian in Europe. Led by the Spirit, Lydia's faith is decisive and her witness is immediate. The word opens her heart in love, and she opens her house in hospitality in service of the gospel. How might Lydia's witness excite your sense of ministry and mission this day? Where might you find someone searching for God's word?

Household Prayer: Morning

Holy Spirit, enliven in us a faith and witness like Lydia's, that through deepened prayer we might rise to action in service of the gospel. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God, it is night and the time for rest has come. We have served you in love this day and for this we give you thanks. Do not leave us comfortless, but send your Spirit to abide with us as we trust in you this night. Amen.

God is still speaking,