



Plymouth Church
UNITED CHURCH *of* CHRIST

2860 Coventry Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120
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Sixth Sunday
Of Easter

May 22, 2022

“My house is a house of prayer for all people.” (Isaiah 56:7)

Plymouth is A Just Peace Church and An Open and Affirming Congregation

Please scroll down for Hymns

Our Approach to God

Preparation Music Prelude in G Major.....Felix Mendelssohn
James Riggs, organ

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

ONE: When the powers of the world overwhelm us,

ALL: Guard our spirits from resignation.

ONE: When oppression remains the way of the world,

ALL: Fan the flames of our anger into acts of solidarity.

ONE: Let us gather with each other and with God.

ALL: For in us and between us, the Spirit lives and moves.

***Hymn (Red) 38** Morning Has Broken.....*Bunessan*

Confession Rev. Mendle Adams

ALL: O God of righteousness, when we find ourselves at an advantage, we are prone to wielding influence in self-serving ways. Unravel within us any urge to assert power over another. When we find ourselves called to new ways of serving others, and to new relationships, we are often too reluctant to embrace change. Free us to respond to the urging of your Spirit. When we are stuck in our ruts, may your loving vision lift us up onto right paths, by your reconciling grace. Amen

Silent Reflection

Words of Assurance

***Hymn of Praise** Celtic Alleluia Christopher Walker
(Sung once by leader and then several times by ALL)

Alleluia!

***Passing of the Peace**

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

Children's Message

Children in pre-school through 5th grade are invited to come forward for the Children's Message before they depart for Sunday School.

Reception of New Members

Ella Davis, Milton Davis, Lisa Mann

Liturgy of Membership

*** Plymouth Church Covenant**

ALL: Nurtured by God's grace,
Challenged by Christ's witness,
Emboldened by the Holy Spirit,
We are creating a true community,
Each of us a diverse expression of One God.

Acknowledging our role in God's mission
Through our faith and amidst our doubts,
We explore our call to live the Gospel.

Opening our hearts to God's ongoing revelation,
We steward our gifts in faithful discipleship.

Leading lives of compassion, sharing and celebration,
We join with God in building a world of peace, justice, and liberation.

*** Welcome and Reception**

We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and challenges of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love, and be witnesses to our risen Savior.

Introduction of New Members

The Proclamation of God's Word

Reading from Scripture

Acts 16:9-15

Sermon Mission, Mutuality, and Lydia's Purple Cloth

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster

***Hymn** (Black) 539 Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?.....*Servant Song*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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.

Choral Response A Repeating Alleluia.....Calvin Hampton

Living Out the Word of God

Announcements of Church Life

Parting Blessing for Kevin Anderson

Call to Offering

Offertory Christ Hath a Garden.....Gerald Near

The Plymouth Choir

Christ hath a garden walled around, a paradise of fruitful ground, chosen by love and fenced by grace from out the world's wide wilderness. Like trees of spice his servants stand, there planted by his mighty hand; by Eden's gracious streams, that flow to feed their beauty where thy grow. Awake, O wind of heaven and bear their sweetest perfume through the air: stir up, O south, the boughs that bloom, till the beloved Jesus come: that he may come, and linger yet among the trees that he hath set; that he may evermore be seen to walk amid the springing green.

(Robert Bridges after Isaac Watts)

***Doxology**

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Spirit of Creation, may our gifts of money and wise action flow unfettered to where they are needed. May we dance open-heartedly with the ebb and flow of giving and receiving, for our thriving is intertwined. We dedicate these gifts to your guidance, and to the service of the human family. Amen.

***Hymn (Black) 495** Called as Partners in Christ's Service..... *Beeche*

***Commission and Benediction**

***Congregational Response** *Nueva Creacion*

Go forth, O people of God; go forth, O people of God!
A new law, and a new promise, all creation is reborn.
Go forth, O people of God; go forth, O people of God!

Voluntary Recessional in G Major..... Fanny (Mendelssohn) Hensel

James Riggs, organ

Many in the congregation wish to remain seated for the Voluntary. If you choose to leave, please be aware of those still participating in this part of the service. The Voluntary is music for worship and we ask that all be respectful of one another's worship practices, including those participating via livestream. Following the Voluntary, you may greet the ministers.

Prayers and liturgy in today's service are adapted from "enfleshed."

Scroll down for Hymns

Morning Has Broken

38

Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-

BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4.D.
Gaelic Melody

Harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948

In unison

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the

spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing!
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion,

Praise for the morn - ing! Praise for the sing - ing Fresh from the Word!
Of the wet gar - den, Sprung in c - le - ness Where his feet pass.
Praise ev - ery morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

MORNING

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

53

Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-

1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

Richard Gillard was born in England and later made his home in New Zealand. Largely self-taught, Gillard has described his musical style as "folk." This is the best known of his many songs in the United States.

Tune: SERVANT SONG 8.7.8.
Richard Gillard, 1977
Arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham, 1977; adap

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

495

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

John 15:12-17; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:14-22



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life



We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 That sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



E - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 Blend-ing hu-man skills to-gether gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.