



**Plymouth
Church**
UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST

**Seventh Sunday
Of Easter**

May 29, 2022

2860 Coventry Road, Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120
216.921.3510 • www.plymouthchurchugcc.org

“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

Our Approach to God

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.

Preparation Music Meditation on *Simple Gifts*.....arr. Michael Larkin
James Riggs, piano

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

ONE: When the world’s deep wounds remind us how precious but fragile life is,

ALL: We remember that our lives depend on one another.

ONE: When we grieve. When we are afraid. When we no longer know what to feel.
We remember this is our sanctuary.

ALL: There is no depth of doubt or despair we can’t bring to God and one another.

ONE: The Holy One is here, sharing in our longings, bearing witness to our lament.

ALL: Our God does not abandon us!

**from Enfleshed*

***Hymn (Black) 611** O Day of God, Draw Near.....*St. Michael*

Confession

ALL: God, our strength, the world is full of so much that is wonderful and so much that is terrible. Hope is hard to find when we are confronted by stories of war, of gun violence, of loss of life, of toxic masculinity weaponized, of bigotry and racism killing people of color. We confess the sins of our society. May we do something. Amen

Silent Reflection

Words of Assurance

***Hymn of Praise** We Are ForgivenHal H. Hopson

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God (repeat).

***Passing of the Peace**

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Children in pre-school-5th grade are invited to depart for Sunday School.

The Proclamation of God’s Word

Reading from Scripture

James 1:17-27

Sermon

A little nuance

Rev. Matthew Bauhof

***Hymn** God, we have heard it*Herzliebster, Jesu*

God, we have heard it, sounding in the silence:
News of the children lost to this world's violence.
Children of promise! Then without a warning,
Loved ones are mourning.

Jesus, you came to bear our human sorrow
You came to give us hope for each tomorrow.
You are our life, Lord God's own love revealing.
We need your healing!

Heal us from giving weapons any glory;
Help us, O Prince of Peace, to hear your story;
Help us resist the evil all around here;
May love abound here!

By your own Spirit, give your church a clear voice;
In this world's violence, help us make a new choice.
Help us to witness to the joy your peace brings,
Until your world sings!

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"God, We Have Heard It" was written on the day of the shootings at Columbine High School in Colorado

Litany in the Wake of a Mass Shooting

ONE: Give to the departed rest

ALL: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Prayers of the People and The 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 forever, Amen.

Congregational Response Come, Bring Your Burdens to God.....South African
(Sung once by leader, then twice by congregation)

Come, bring your burdens to God; come, bring your burdens to God;
Come, bring your burdens to God, for Jesus will never say no.

Living Out the Word of God

Announcements of Church Life

Call to Offering

Offertory At the River.....Aaron Copland

John Mills, soloist

Shall we gather by the river, where bright angel's feet have trod, with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God. Yes we'll gather by the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river, gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God. Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease, soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.

***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**

God, may we always take the opportunity to share in your restorative work in the world. May we share in the work of justice and peace. Bless these gifts, may they work towards justice and peace in our world. Amen.

***Hymn** (Black) 591 This Is My Song.....*Finlandia*

***Commission and Benediction**

***Congregational Response** Go, My Children.....*Ar Hyd Y Nos*

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me; Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here my spirit's power filled you, here with tender comfort stilled you; Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

Voluntary Song of Peace.....Jean Langlais

James Riggs, organ

This piece is for the departed. The lingering chord at the end represents eternity. Played today in remembrance of people who have died in service of their country and of victims of gun violence.

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Please Scroll Down for Hymns

O Day of God, Draw Near

611

R. B. Y. Scott, 1937; alt.

Ps. 105:7; 2 Pet. 3:8-15

1 O Day of God, draw near in beau-ty and in power,
2 Bring to our trou-bled minds, un - cer-tain and a - fraid,
3 Bring jus-tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure,
4 Bring to our world of strife your sov-ereign word of peace,
5 O Day of God, draw near as at cre - a - tion's birth;

Come with your time-less judg-ment now to match our pres-ent hour.
The qui-et of a stead-fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.
And fine-ly build for days to come foun-da-tions that en-dure.
That war may haunt the earth no more and des-o-la-tion cease.
Let there be light a - gain, and let your reign be - gin on earth.

R. B. Y. Scott was a theologian, Old Testament scholar, and social reformer who taught at McGill University, Montreal, and

Tune: ST. MICHAEL S.M.
Trente quatre Pseaumes, Geneva, 1551

CITIZENSHIP

591

This Is My So

Ps. 82:8

Lloyd Stone

1 This is my song, O God of all the na-tions, a song
2 My coun-try's skies are blu-er than the o - cean, and sun-l

peace for lands a - far and mine. This is my home, t
beams on clo-ver-leaf and pine; But oth - er lands hu

coun-try where my heart is; here are my hopes, m
sun - light, too, and clo - ver, and skies are ev - er

dreams, my ho - ly shrine; But oth - er hearts in oth - er lands
where as blue as mine. O hear my song, O God of all

beat - ing with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
na - tions, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

These stanzas, published during the period between the two

Tune: FINLANDIA 10.10.10.10
..... Cabell