



From Mountain to Valley | Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster

**Transfiguration Sunday**  
**Sacrament of Communion**  
**March 2, 2025**

*"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**

# **WELCOME!**

Here we believe that God is love;  
and that love is for everyone.

God's extravagant love changes the world  
and moves us to respond in gratitude.

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here,  
and you are invited to shape this community with your God-given gifts.

## **Sacrament of Communion**

At Plymouth Church, we celebrate the sacrament of communion on the first Sunday of the month. We believe that the communion table is the largest table in the world, and everyone is welcome. We practice an open table, where the only requirement to share in the sacramental meal is a hunger for the gifts offered by Jesus Christ. All ages are welcome to receive the sacrament, and parents/guardians are welcome to discern their children's participation. It is not necessary to be a member of this congregation or to be a baptized Christian to participate. Communion is served with grape juice, and gluten-free bread is available. Those who do not wish to receive communion may still come forward to receive a blessing from the minister, or to remain in your seat.

## **Families with Children**

Children of all ages are always welcome at Plymouth! We offer many programs and events throughout the year to foster faith development in children and fellowship among our families. We strive to make worship family-friendly and to provide support to families while attending church by offering Busy Bags, Children's Worship Bulletins, a comfort room with toys and a changing table, and a Children's Worship Space with quiet activities. Professionally-staffed childcare for kids 4 and under is available every Sunday from 9am-12pm on the second floor. Sunday School for kids Pre-K to 8<sup>th</sup> grade takes place during worship, except for on the first Sunday of the month when there is no Sunday School to encourage families to worship together and receive communion.

Large print bulletins and hearing enhancement devices are available.  
Please ask an usher.

# SUNDAY WORSHIP

## Our Approach to God

*Music calls us to worship so we may listen for God speaking to us. When the service begins with preparation music, please silence your voices and devices.*

*\*All are invited to rise in body or spirit*

**Preparation Music** Sonata #27 in E Minor, op. 90 .....Ludwig van Beethoven  
II. Nicht zu geschwind und sehr singbar vorgetragen  
Lynna Bao, piano

## Welcome

### \*Call to Worship:

Lisa Hunziker

One: We cannot limit the creativity of God's illumination.

**All: The glory of God breaks through in surprising ways.**

One: There are times when holy wonder seeps into our souls, and wakes us from sleep into awareness.

**All: In moments of awe, we know the holy gift of the given day.**

One: Facing mystery, we marvel at what is beyond our understanding.

**All: God is still speaking, let us listen in worship together.**

### \*Hymn #182 (black hymnal)

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding.....*Hyfrydol*

## Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you reveal your glory in the face and life of Jesus the Christ, but we often ignore that glory. You continue to illumine the world with your compassion, love, and justice, but we often focus on our own notions of love and justice. Forgive us for obscuring your purposes. Transform us into the likeness of Christ's love so that we may share in your power to renew ourselves while we serve you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Silent Reflection

**Words of Assurance**

ONE: Lift up your hearts!

ALL: **We lift them up to God!**

**\*Hymn of Praise** ..... *Hymn to Joy*

You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blessed,  
Wellspring of the joy of giving, ocean depth of happy rest.  
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother, all who love belong to You,  
Teach us how to love each other, by that love our joy renew.

**\*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 8<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to come to the chancel before returning to their pews for this communion Sunday. Sunday School will resume next Sunday.*

**The Proclamation of God’s Word**

**Scripture Reading**

Luke 9:28-36

**Sermon**

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**\*Hymn #152** (red hymnal) We Would See Jesus..... *Cushman*

**Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer** (debts/debtors)

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.

**Prayer Response** Come and Fill Our Hearts ..... *Confitemini Domino*

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

## **Living Out the Word of God**

### **Announcements of Church Life**

### **Call to Offering**

**Offertory** I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ..... Paul Manz  
Plymouth Choir

I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world, The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain:

In him there is no darkness at all, the night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God, shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God, I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father.

[Refrain]

I'm looking for the coming of Christ, I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.

[Refrain]

**\*Doxology**.....*Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host:

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

O God, we give you thanks for praises to sing, for wisdom to share, for bread to eat, and for gifts to offer. With your blessing, may all that we give work together for your glory. Amen.

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**Words of Institution**

**Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

**Music at Communion** Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness .....Johannes Brahms  
George A. Sargeant, organ

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Gracious God, for gifts of communion, restoration, and nourishment, we give you thanks and praise. Send us forth as the body of Christ, to give comfort and hope to all. Amen.

**\*Hymn #17 (black hymnal)**

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing.....*Lasst uns erfreuen*

**\*Commission and Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response** ..... *Sicilian Mariners*

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace.  
Let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us, O refresh us, trav'ling through this wilderness.

**Voluntary** Lucis Creator ..... Dorothy J. Papadakos  
George A. Sargeant, 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.*

## We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-8; Luke 9:28-36

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1988

1 We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and  
 2 Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the  
 3 Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our

ho - ly place, Where we wait with hope and long - ing for some  
 flesh-joined Word, Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the  
 faith de - cline, We, like Pe - ter, find it tempt - ing to re -

to - ken of God's grace. Here we pray for new as -  
 heav - enly voice is heard. Eyes and hearts be - hold with  
 main and build a shrine. But true wor - ship gives us

sur - ance that our faith is not in vain, Search - ing  
 won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet: Christ with  
 cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess, That our

like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.  
 gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.  
 dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.



## We Would See Jesus; Lo! His Star Is Shining

*J. Edgar Park, 1879-1959*CUSHMAN 11.10.11.10.  
*Herbert B. Turner, 1852-1927*

1 We would see Je - sus; lo! his star is shin - ing  
2 We would see Je - sus; Mar - y's son most ho - ly,  
3 We would see Je - sus; on the moun - tain teach - ing,  
4 We would see Je - sus; in his work of heal - ing,  
5 We would see Je - sus; in the ear - ly morn - ing

A - bove the sta - ble while the an - gels sing;  
Light of the vil - lage life from day to day;  
With all the lis - tening peo - ple gath - ered round;  
At e - ven - tide be - fore the sun was set;  
Still as of old he call - eth, "Fol - low me";

There in a man - ger on the hay re - clin - ing,  
Shin - ing re - vealed through ev - ery task most low - ly,  
While birds and flowers and sky a - bove are preach - ing,  
Di - vine and hu - man, in his deep re - veal - ing,  
Let us a - rise, all mean - er serv - ice scorn - ing;

Haste, let us lay our gifts be - fore the King.  
The Christ of God, the Life, the Truth, the Way.  
The bless - ed - ness which sim - ple trust has found.  
Of God and man in lov - ing serv - ice met.  
Lord, we are thine, we give our - selves to thee! A - men.

GOD


17

# To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

Ps. 148


St. Francis of Assisi, 1225  
Adapt. Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

*Descant*


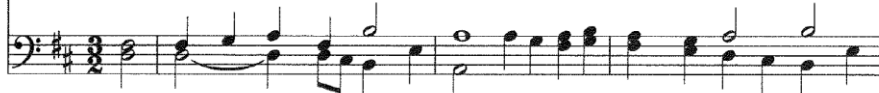


4 To you, God, day af-ter day, earth in

*Unison*

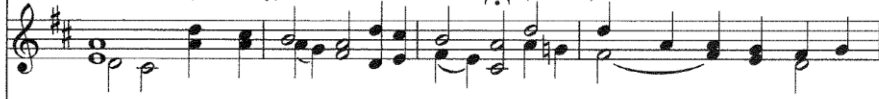


1 To you, O God, all crea-tures sing, and all cre - a - tion, ev - ery -  
2 Your wind that blows the tem-pest by, your clouds that sail a - cross the  
3 Your flow-ing wa - ters, crys - tal clear, make mel - o - dies for you to  
4 To you, O God, day af - ter day, your plan - et earth in ev - ery

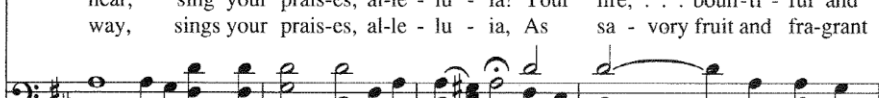


ev-ery way sings your prais-es, al-le - lu - ia! As fruit, fra - grant


*(Harmony)*



*(Unison)*



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



flower show forth glo - ry and power, sing - ing prais - es, al - le -

(Harmony)

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, al - le -  
 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!

(Unison)

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.

## MUSIC NOTES

Paul Manz was a distinguished American church musician and composer. He served as Cantor of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in St. Paul, Minnesota and later as Professor of Church Music at Christ Seminary of the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. He was known as the “Dean of Hymn Festivals” since throughout his career he improvised and composed myriad hymn settings used to inspire congregational singing, often in the context of a service dedicated entirely to the singing of hymns.

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* is a relatively recent hymn, with both text and tune written by Katleen Thomerson in 1966. Manz’s setting was composed in 2000.

Johannes Brahms' *Elf Choralvorspiele (Eleven Chorale Preludes)* were his last compositions. They were written in 1896 in memory of his close friend Clara Schumann and at a time when he was increasingly conscious of his own terminal illness. They were published posthumously in 1902. His setting of *Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele (Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness)*, a Lutheran communion hymn, is the fifth of the set. It is for manuals only, with the melody in the soprano accompanied by gentle counterpoint.

Dorothy J. Papadakos was the first woman to be appointed organist at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, the largest Gothic cathedral in the world, and held the position from 1990 through 2003. Since leaving the Cathedral she has pursued a career as a silent film accompanist, composer, playwright, and author.

*Lucis Creator (O Blessed Creator of the Light)* was written for the dedication of the Festival Trumpet stop at St. Matthew's Episcopal Cathedral in Dallas. It takes as its theme a Gregorian chant commonly sung at Vespers, though it is equally appropriate for Transfiguration Sunday or any other Christian festival that celebrates light in some way. It is quite the romp; its rapidly shifting meters and jazzy rhythms and harmonies are far removed from the simplicity of plainsong!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Today

**Ushers:** Team 3

**Greeter:** Michael Schiavoni

**Mardi Gras Brunch** – Join us after worship for a special brunch to celebrate the last Sunday before Lent. We will be burning palm leaves as we prepare for the Lenten season. The Green Team will be accepting donations to kick start funding for their first initiative, a Memorial Forest being planned for this spring! You can visit our information table to hear more about our plans.

## This Week at Plymouth

**Fossil Fuel** – Join us Wednesday, March 5, from 8:30-9:30 for a performance by Dillon Shipman and Diane Julin Menges. “The Many Ways God and Faith are Found in American Music” will venture into the world of Faith in American music and will feature various musical genres in which God and faith are explored and proclaimed.

**Ash Wednesday Services March 5, Noon and 7:30 pm** – Our journey through Lent begins with worship services shared with Heights Christian Church, including the imposition of ashes. Both services will be available to join from home by Zoom.

**Ash Wednesday Dinner** – A congregational dinner beginning at 6 pm will precede the evening Ash Wednesday service. The suggested donation is \$10/person or \$25/family. Please sign up by today in the Welcome Center, so we can plan for food.

**Moving Right Along** – Members of Plymouth and other local churches will be walking in the footsteps of Ohio immigrant neighbors by engaging in activities inviting us to imagine and respond. Local organizers and aid agencies will be sharing about the work they do and how we can get involved. A meal from Aladdin’s Lebanese Restaurant will be served. Advanced registration is required by this Wednesday, March 5. Sign up on the church website or by contacting the office. Questions? Email at [immigrationjusticeprogramming@gmail.com](mailto:immigrationjusticeprogramming@gmail.com).

## Upcoming Events

**Lenten Dinners** – Join us on Wednesdays 6-7:30 pm throughout Lent for a shared Lenten Dinner. We will share a meal and then share a “Faith Talks” program. The suggested donation is \$10/person or \$25/family. A sign-up sheet is in the Welcome

Center for you to mark which weeks you plan to attend. A minimum of 25 reservations will make each week possible, so please sign up by the Sunday before.

**Plymouth 101** – Are you interested in learning more about the church, how to get involved or the process of becoming a member? You're cordially invited to Plymouth 101, an informational gathering with refreshments and fellowship. We'll meet in the parlor directly after Sunday worship on March 9.

**Piano Concert** – Save the Date! On Sunday, March 16, at 4 pm, Plymouth's organ scholar, Lynna Bao, will present a piano recital in the Sanctuary. More details to come.

### **Community Life**

**Plymouth Church T-Shirts** – Want to show your Plymouth Church pride? We have a new T-shirt available for purchase to spread the word about Plymouth! The Evangelism & Growth Committee created these shirts for everyone in the church to wear at events like Pride, volunteering or anywhere you choose. The shirts come in a variety of background colors and sizes. They are \$22.52 plus shipping. To order, go to <https://www.bonfire.com> and search "Plymouth Church". If you need assistance with ordering, please contact Beth Karr at [BethKarr@aol.com](mailto:BethKarr@aol.com) or (216) 973-8919 by April 12.

**Pastoral Care** - If you have a Pastoral Care need or have an emergency, please contact Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster at 330-714-9471.

**Little Free Pantry** - Shelf stable food is available 24/7 from our Little Free Pantry, located in the north end of the parking lot, near the Children's Garden.

**Financial Assistance** - Do you need help paying a bill, rent, or buying food and other essentials? Through the loving support of this community, funds are available. If you are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to email Rev. Matt Wooster at [mwooster@plymouthchurchucc.org](mailto:mwooster@plymouthchurchucc.org) (this is confidential) with your needs.

### **Plymouth Family**

**Happy Anniversary to:** Harry & Helen Mercer and Jim & Mary Bright

**Happy Birthday to:** Rose McIntyre, Doug Powell, Kenyon Mau, Rebecca Molyneaux, Sigrid Reynolds, Kay Brenneman, Peter Sweeney, Johannes Woolfrey, Rich Salmon, Lisa Hunziker, Abby Haffke, Nora Farmer, and Lily Farmer

## This Week's Calendar

### Sunday, March 2

10:30 am Worship @ Sanct  
11:00 am HCC Worship @ Chapel  
11:30 am Mardi Gras Brunch @ FH  
12:00 pm HCC Hospitality Hour @ Parlor  
12:00 pm K/1 OWL @ 201  
5:00 pm High School OWL @ KR

### Monday, March 3

5:30 pm Bible Study @ Zoom

### Tuesday, March 4

No events scheduled

### Wednesday, March 5

8:30 am Fossil Fuel @ Candy Circle Room  
12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service @ Sanct  
1:00 pm Book Group @ 102  
6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Dinner @ FH  
7:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service @ Sanct

### Thursday, March 6

6:30 pm Plymouth Ringers @ Bell Room  
7:00 pm Boy Scouts Meeting @ FH  
7:30 pm Plymouth Choir @ Choir Room

### Friday, March 7

1:00 pm Women's AA Meeting @ Parlor

### Saturday, March 8

5:30 pm Moving Right Along @ FH

### Sunday, March 9

#### Daylight Saving Time Begins

10:30 am Worship @ Sanct  
11:00 am HCC Worship @ Chapel  
11:30 am Coffee Hour @ FH  
12:00 pm Plymouth 101 @ Parlor  
12:00 pm K/1 OWL @ 201  
12:00 pm B&G Meeting @ Library  
12:00 pm Shipman Pastoral Relations @ 102  
12:00 pm Personnel Meeting @ 204  
5:00 pm Youth Group @ KR



### Give Online

Use this QR Code to give online. If you would like to make recurring online gifts, please use your REALM login. If you don't have an account, please email [kkundrat@plymouthchurchucc.org](mailto:kkundrat@plymouthchurchucc.org) to request access.

## Ministers of Plymouth Church

The Congregation of Plymouth Church

Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster

Designated Associate Minister, Pastor Dillon Shipman

Director of Music & the Arts, George Sargeant

Director of Christian Education, Leslie Szalay

Facility Manager, Paul Holter

Office & Communications Administrator, Brenna Threatt

Finance Administrator, Kathryn Kundrat

Church Sexton, Derrick Williams

Organ Scholar, Lynna Bao



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