



100 Year anniversary of the
Dedication of the Sanctuary
Third Sunday in Lent

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

March 12, 2023

“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

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

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

Preparation Music Prologue (*Suite for Organ*).....James H. Rogers
James Riggs, organ

James H. Rogers (1857-1940) was organist at Plymouth in 1923 when the sanctuary was dedicated. He played his entire “Suite for Organ” at the dedication of the then E. M. Skinner organ (as pictured on cover of bulletin) on March 18, 1923 to a full house.

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

Lisa Mann

ONE: Surely the Lord is in this place.

ALL: This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

ONE: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

ALL: I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Adapted from the service of dedication, March 25, 1923

***Hymn (Red) 260** The Church’s One Foundation *Aurelia*
Sung as the opening hymn on March 25, 1923, at the Service of Dedication of the Auditorium as it was called then.

Confession

All: O God of mercy, We are never satisfied with our lot. We rebel and complain when things don’t go our way. Our hearts chase after things that become gods to us and consume our time, energy, and attention. We spend little time in communion with you, and then we doubt your presence. We build sturdy buildings, but we do not give the same time to building sturdy practices of faithfulness. We hope that you will not treat us as we deserve, but according to your grace. Amen.

Response..... *Dust and Ashes*

Choir: Dust and ashes choke our tongue in the wasteland of depression. Holy Spirit, come, walk with us tomorrow through all gloom and grieving to the paths of resurrection.

ALL: Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the desert sands, bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.

Silent Reflection

Words of Assurance

***Hymn of Praise**.....*Nettleton*

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
Come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.

***Passing of the Peace**

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

During the Waving of the Peace, children in pre-school to 6th grade are invited to depart for Sunday School.

Litany of Renewed Dedication

ONE: Thus saith the Lord: For now have I chosen and hallowed this house,
that my name may be there forever: and mine eyes and mine heart
shall be there perpetually.

ALL: To the glory of God, by whose favor we have built this house; to the honor of Jesus, son of the Living God; to the praise of the Holy Spirit, source of light and life; we dedicate this house.

ONE: For worship in prayer and song; for the ministry of the word; for the celebration of the holy sacraments; we dedicate this house.

ALL: For the comfort of those who mourn; for strength to those who are tempted; for help in right living; we dedicate this house.

ONE: To the memory of our beloved dead, to the gentle and true of former times,
to all who have unloosed the bonds of ignorance and wrong;
we dedicate this house.

ALL: As a tribute of gratitude and love, we, the people of this congregation, now consecrating ourselves anew, dedicate this entire building in the name of God. Amen.

Adapted from the service of dedication, March 25, 1923

Music Christ is Made the Sure Foundation..... Dale Wood
The Plymouth Choir

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the Head and Cornerstone; chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the Church in one; Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone. To this temple where we call thee, come, O Lord of hosts, today; with thy wonted loving-kindness hear thy servants as they pray, and thy fullest benediction shed within its walls always. Laud and honor to the Creator, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One, One in might, and One in glory, while unending ages run. (Latin hymn, 7th century; translated John Mason Neale)

The Proclamation of God's Word

Reading from Scripture Exodus 17:1-7

Sermon Water from the Rocks Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster
God in the Wilderness Sermon Series Part 3

***Hymn (Black) 481** As Pants the Hart for Cooling Streams.....*Martyrdom*

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.

Response Help, Save and Strengthen UsEleanor Daley

Living Out the Word of God

Announcements of Church Life

Call to Offering

Offertory Poor Wayfaring Stranger.....arr. Steven Mark Kohn
Mitchell Warmbein, soloist

I am a poor wayfaring stranger, a' trav'lin' through this world of woe, and there's no sickness, toil or danger in that bright land to which I go. I'm go-in' there to meet my mother/father, I'm go-in' there no more to roam. I'm go-in' over Jordan, I'm just a' go-in' over home.

***Doxology**.....*Old 100th*

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**

All: Gracious God, you are giver of all good gifts. Bless our generosity, and bless our offerings to the service of making real your will, on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

***Hymn (Black) 18** Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer.....*Cwm Rhondda*

***Commission and Benediction**

***Congregational Response**..... *Dust and Ashes*

ALL: Take us by the hand and lead us, lead us through the desert sands, bring us living water, Holy Spirit, come.

Voluntary The Welsh Tune, *Cwm Rhondda* Paul Manz
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.