

Meet Evil with Good | Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster

**Palm Sunday
April 13, 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.

Open and Affirming Statement

Plymouth Church is an Open and Affirming congregation. We celebrate and find strength in our diversity and view it as a way to understand the inclusiveness of God. We welcome people of any age, color, ability, sexual orientation or gender expression. We embrace those of varying theological and political beliefs, and differing ethnic, socio-economic, and educational backgrounds. Our congregation joyfully welcomes all to join in worship, ministry, fellowship, leadership, sacraments and blessings. With God's guidance, Jesus' example and the Spirit's inspiration, we commit ourselves to ongoing study, prayer, conversation and action, so that it may truly be said of Plymouth Church, "My house is a house of prayer for ALL people." (Isaiah 56:7)

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 8th 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 Psalm Prelude, Set II, No. 3Herbert Howells
George A. Sargeant, organ

Welcome

***Call to Worship:** Nicole Lozier

One: Cry out, people of faith! Rejoice and praise God!

All: If we did not sing praise, the very stones would cry out!

One: Cry out, with hope, for your savior draws near to Jerusalem.

All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

***Processional Hymn (insert)** All Glory, Laud, and Honor.....*St. Theodulph*

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to You, Re - deem - er, King.

(Fine)



To Whom the lips of child - ren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

Verses



1. You are the King of Is - ra - el and Dav - id's roy - al Son,
2. The com - pan - y of ang - els is prais - ing You on high,
3. The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore You went,
4. To You be - fore Your pass - ion they sang their hymns of praise,
5. As You re - ceived their prais - es, ac - cept the prayers we bring,

(To Refrain)



1. Now in the Lord's name com - ing, the King and Bless - ed One.
2. And we with all cre - a - tion in chor - us make re - ply.
3. Our praise and prayer and anth - ems be - fore You we pre - sent.
4. To You, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
5. For You de - light in mer - cy, O good and gra - cious King.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we sing, and we praise you with joyful hearts when we are among others who sing praises with us. But in times of stress, we seek scapegoats to be the targets of our anger. We betray those we love, and those who have loved us. And we turn against you. We are too busy to seek you, or too afraid to follow you. O God of steadfast love, help us to be steadfast too. Amen.

Silent Reflection

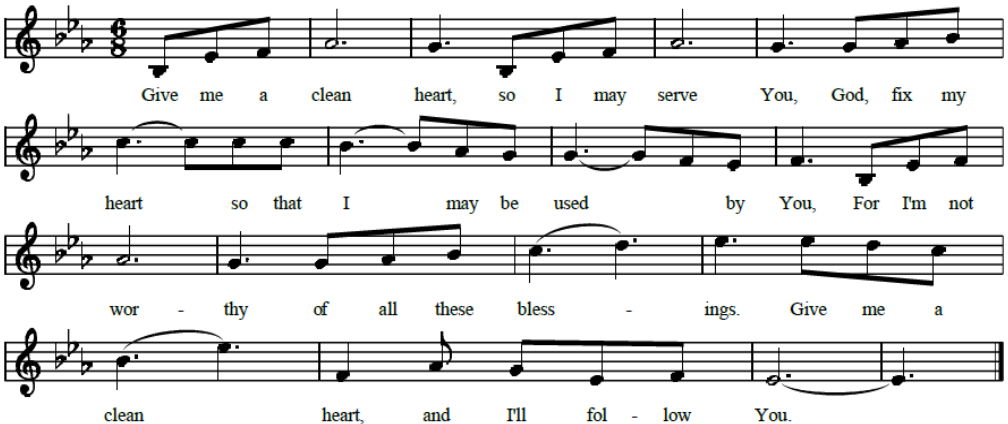
Words of Assurance

ONE: Lift up your hearts!

ALL: We lift them up to God!

*Hymn of Praise (insert) Give Me a Clean Heart*Douroux*

Sung by the choir, then by all



Give me a clean heart, so I may serve You, God, fix my
heart so that I may be used by You, For I'm not
wor - thy of all these bless - ings. Give me a
clean heart, and I'll fol - low You.

*Passing of the Peace

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you!

ALL: And also with you!

Children in pre-school through 8th grade are invited to depart for Sunday School.

The Proclamation of God's Word

Anthem All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name Barbara B. Kinyon

Plymouth Ringers

Scripture Reading

Luke 19:28-42

Sermon

Meet Evil with Good
Generational Wisdom for Trying Times, part 6

Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster

*Hymn #175 (red hymnal) Ride On, Ride On in Majesty..... *St. Drostan*

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 The First Song of Isaiah Jack Noble White

Surely it is God who saves me, I will trust in him and not be afraid,
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and He will be my Savior.

Therefore you will draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation,
And on that day you will say, “Give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name.”

Living Out the Word of God

Announcements of Church Life

Call to Offering

Offertory When I Survey the Wondrous Cross..... Gilbert M. Martin
Plymouth Choir

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

***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**

O God, no offering that we bring can compare with the offering of Jesus Christ for the world. May your generosity move us to the genuine offering of our own lives for your sake. Amen.

***Hymn #198** (black hymnal) Lift High the Cross.....*Crucifer*

***Commission and Benediction**

***Congregational Response** Ubi Caritas/Live in Charity*Taizé*

Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas Deus ibi est.

Live in charity and steadfast love, live in charity, God will dwell with you.

Voluntary Selections from “Carnaval,” op. 9 Robert Schumann
Lynna Bao, piano

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.

Ride on, Ride on in Majesty!

First Tune

*Henry H. Milman, 1791-1868, alt.*ST. DROSTANE L.M.
John Dykes, 1823-1876

1 Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! Hark! all the tribes ho - san - na cry;
 2 Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! In low - ly pomp ride on to die;
 3 Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! The wing-ed squad-rons of the sky
 4 Ride on, ride on in ma - jes - ty! Thy last and fierc - est strife is nigh;

Thy hum - ble beast pur - sues his road With palms and scat - tered gar - ments strowed.
 O Christ, thy tri - umphs now be - gin O'er cap - tive death and con - quered sin.
 Look down with sad and won - dering eyes To see the ap - proach - ing sac - ri - fice.
 Bow thy meek head to mor - tal pain, Then take, O Christ, thy power, and reign. A - men.

Alternative tune, WINCHESTER NEW, No. 115

Lift High the Cross

George William Kitchin (1827–1912)

Rev. by Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916; alt.

John 1:29–34; Rom. 5:6–11; 6:3–8; Rev. 7:9–17; 22:1–5

Refrain, in unison

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim; Let

Last time, end

all a-dore and praise that sa-cred name.

Stanzas, in harmony

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol-low where our Sav-ior trod, the
2 Each new-born ser-vant of the Cru-ci-fied bears
3 O Christ, once lift-ed on the glo-rious tree, your
4 Set up your throne, that earth's de-spair may cease, be-
5 So shall our song of tri-umph ev-er be: praise

to Refrain

Lamb vic-tor-ious, Christ the Child of God.
on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
death has brought us life e-ter-nal-ly.
neath the shad-ow of its heal-ing peace.
to the Cru-ci-fied for vic-to-ry.

Since its first inclusion in a U.S. hymnal in the 1970s, this hymn has become enormously popular. G. W. Kitchin and M. R. Newbolt were Church of England ministers. Sydney Nicholson was organist of Westminster Abbey.

Tune: CRUCIFER 10.10. with refrain
Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 1916

MUSIC NOTES

Each Sunday during the season of Lent, the organ prelude will be one of twentieth-century British composer Herbert Howells' six Psalm Preludes. The first three date from the World War I years and the remainder from the late 1930s as World War II approached. They are musical meditations on verses from the Psalms, and with the exception of the last, follow a pattern of a quiet beginning, a gradual buildup to a sustained climax, and finally a fading away to near-nothingness. The first set is less stylistically mature than the second; Howell's distinct harmonic language, though hinted at, had yet to fully flower. Set II, No 3 takes as its inspiration Psalm 33, verse 3: "Sing unto Him a new song, play skillfully with a loud noise."

Barbara B. Kinyon received her Bachelor of Music Education degree from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL and her Masters from Eastman School of Music in Rochester, NY. Her professional life included 25 years as professor of music theory and composition at Suffolk Community College on Long Island. She was deeply involved with church music ministry as organist and conductor of handbell choirs at Setauket Presbyterian Church in Setauket, NY. She wrote and published over 225 handbell compositions, including her stately setting of *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*.

Gilbert M. Martin is a native of Southbridge, Massachusetts and now lives in Dayton, Ohio. He received his Bachelor of Music degree from Westminster Choir College, Princeton, N.J., where he studied with Alexander McCurdy and George Lynn. He is currently a freelance composer and an editor of choral music. His setting of the Lenten hymn *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* is deceptively simple. It begins quietly and utilizes frequent upward changes of key to create both tension and excitement as it builds towards its climax.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Ushers: Team 4

Greeter: Charlene & Mendle Adams

Coffee Hour: MacGregor Family

Flowers: In Memory of Sarah Grube

Easter Flowers – Flowers gracing the chapel on Easter Sunday enhances our Easter joy. To donate, use the form found in the Welcome Center and return the form and donation marked “Easter Flowers” to the offering plate or on Realm. The deadline to donate is today.

Youth Group – Youth Group is this evening from 5:00-7:00pm in the Krumbine Room! All youth in 6th through 12th grades are invited to join us every time we gather for food, fun, and discussion. Tonight, we’ll be filling Easter eggs and bags for next week’s Jr. Egg Hunt.

This Week at Plymouth

Office Hours – The church office will be closed for the Easter holiday on Good Friday, April 18, and Easter Monday, April 21.

Fossil Fuel – On Wednesday, April 16, the Rev. Dr. Brooks Berndt will give us an update on how the Climate Hope ministry of the United Church of Christ has expanded to launch local chapter affiliates dedicated to addressing the interconnected crises of climate change and societal injustice. Berndt will share the inspiring story of the first affiliates which have reached beyond the walls of their churches to increase their numbers and their impact. Berndt will also share a video of this year’s Climate Hope Art Contest finalists.

Lunch Club – Join us on Wednesday, April 16 at 12:30pm in Fellowship Hall. We will share a homemade lunch and fellowship, as well as a time of prayer during Holy Week. After lunch, we will engage with scripture, song, and meditations as we contemplate the journey that Jesus took – and that we all take – during these most sacred of days in our Christian faith. The suggested donation for lunch is \$10. RSVP by TODAY, April 13.

Maundy Thursday Service and Dinner – On April 17, we will share a community meal at 6:15 pm before joining in worship and remembrance at 7:30 pm. Sign up for dinner in the Welcome Center by April 13. Worship will begin with communion and then move to the ancient service of Tenebrae, meaning shadows. Nursery will be available.

Good Friday Service – St. Paul’s Episcopal will host an ecumenical Good Friday service on Friday, April 18 from 12-3 pm at 2747 Fairmount Blvd, Cleveland Heights. Worship will be divided into seven 25 minutes sections, each focusing on one of the final statements of Jesus in the gospels. Rev. Wooster will preach during the fourth section, 1:15-1:40 pm. Worshippers are welcome to come and go during the service as schedules allow.

Jr. Easter Egg Hunt – Children 10 and under are invited to join us at 10 am on the church front lawn for our annual Jr. Easter Egg Hunt. To register, please sign up in the Welcome Center or contact Leslie at lszalay@plymouthchurchucc.org.

Easter Morning for Families with Children – Our Nursery staff will be spending Easter with their families, so there will be no childcare for Easter Sunday. Plymouth families are encouraged to worship together. Sunday School will resume April 27.

“Christ is Risen” in many languages! – On Easter morning, we will continue our recent tradition by inviting people to proclaim “Christ is Risen” in multiple languages from the pews. Welcome to all who are multi-lingual, or at least know these celebratory words, to participate.

Upcoming Events

Movie Day – On Saturday, May 3, at 1 pm, Plymouth ARE will be showing “Rustin”, the story of one of MLK’s closest associates and organizer of the 1963 March on Washington. Popcorn will be provided, and we will have a time for discussion of the film after the movie.

Organ Recital – On Sunday, May 4, at 4 p.m., Director of Music and the Arts George Sargeant will present his first recital at Plymouth. The program will feature organ music for the Easter season. A reception in the Parlor will follow.

Save the Date: Church Picnic! – The annual church picnic will take place right after worship, from 11:00-12:30, on Sunday, June 1st. More details for the event will be included in the May Perspective. We hope you can attend!

In the Community

Racial Equity Buddies Event – Saturday, April 19, book discussion, My Grandmother's Hands, Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies, by Resmaa Menakem, via Zoom, 10:30—noon. Our hosts are Akua Saunders and Barry Stees. RSVP to racialequitybuddies@gmail.com.

Racial Equity Buddies Event – Saturday, April 26, Forest Hill Church, 3031 Monticello Blvd, Cleveland Heights, 2:30- 5:30, a cultural program honoring Dr. King, with light refreshments and discussion after. Two events, a musical about the friendship between Mahalia Jackson & MLK followed by a jazz performance. Refreshments and discussion after. RSVP to racialequitybuddies@gmail.com.

Community Life

Memorial Forest – It's not too late! We are still accepting donations for the Memorial Forest. Donation forms are in the Welcome Center, and donations can be made in the offering plate or through Realm under "Green Team". The project will start this spring.

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 (this is confidential) with your needs.

Plymouth Family

Happy Anniversary to: Ella & Milton Davis

Happy Birthday to: Tommy Sutton-Lovett, Clare Katz, and Kate Hickner

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, April 13

Palm Sunday

9:30 am Coffee House @ Candy Circle Room
10:30 am Worship @ Sanct
11:00 am HCC Worship @ Chapel
11:30 am Coffee Hour @ FH
12:00 pm B&G Meeting @ Library
12:00 pm K/1 OWL @ 201
5:00 pm Youth Group @ KR

Monday, April 14

5:30 pm Bible Study @ Zoom

Tuesday, April 15

No events scheduled

Wednesday, April 16

8:30 am Fossil Fuel @ Candy Circle
11:00 am HCC Missions Team @ Candy Circle
12:30 pm Lunch Club @ FH
6:00 pm Cleveland Food Bank Volunteering
6:30 pm Plymouth Brass Rehearsal @ Sanct
7:00 pm Plymouth Choir Rehearsal @ Sanct
9:00 pm Strings Rehearsal @ Sanct

Thursday, April 17

6:15 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner
7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service @ Sanct
7:30 pm HCC Service @ Chapel

Friday, April 18

Church Office Closed

12:00 pm Good Friday Service @ St. Paul's
1:00 pm Women's AA Meeting @ Parlor

Saturday, April 19

No events scheduled

Sunday, April 20

Easter Sunday

9:30 am Coffee House @ Candy Circle Room
10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt @ Lawn
10:30 am Worship @ Sanct
11:00 am HCC Worship @ Chapel
11:30 am Coffee Hour @ FH



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 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 Children & Family Ministries, Leslie Szalay

Facility Manager, Paul Holter

Office & Communications Administrator, Brenna Threatt

Finance Manager, Kathryn Kundrat

Church Sexton, Derrick Williams

Organ Scholar, Lynna Bao



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