



Resurrection + Trust = Transformation | Pastor Dillon Shipman

**Second Sunday of Easter
April 27, 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 Moderato from Symphonie Romane ... Charles-Marie Widor
George A. Sargeant, organ

Welcome

*Call to Worship:

Mary Powell

ONE: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

ALL: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

ONE: We have not seen the risen Christ,

ALL: but we see him in the lives of those transformed by grace.

ONE: We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,

ALL: but we have seen him in the faces of everyone whose love encourages us.

ONE: We have not touched his wounds from the cross,

ALL: but we have been called to bring healing and peace to everyone in the world.

***Hymn #230** (black hymnal) Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*St. Kevin*

Prayer of Confession

God of the empty tomb, when we hesitate to speak of your hope, forgive us, and give us voice. When we find it difficult to love another, forgive us, and give us new compassion. When we want to stand with the high and mighty, forgive us, and put us next to those who are oppressed on the margins. When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts, forgive us, and send us out to share your grace. When we cannot believe your Word of new life, forgive us, and fill us with your joy. We pray this all in the name of the Risen Christ. 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,
Well- spring of the joy of living, 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!**

The Proclamation of God's Word

Choral Anthem His Eye Is On the Sparrow Mark Hayes
Sunday Choir

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely and long for Heav'n and home,
When Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Refrain

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow, And I know He watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, Whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing, When hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him, from care He sets me free:
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. (*Refrain*)

Scripture Reading

John 20:19-31

Sermon

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***Hymn #245** (black hymnal) The Day of Resurrection.....*Lancashire*

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.

Congregational Response Come and Fill Our Hearts With Your Peace *Taizé*

Come and fill our hearts with Your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with Your peace. Alleluia.
(Sung twice.)

Living Out the Word of God

Announcements of Church Life

Call to Offering

Offertory We Shall Not Be Moved.....*African-American Spiritual*
Plymouth Folk Revival

We're on the road to freedom, we shall not be moved,
We're on the road to freedom, we shall not be moved.
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters, we shall not be moved.

Refrain

We shall not, we shall not be moved, we shall not, we shall not be moved,
Just like a tree planted by the waters, we shall not be moved.
Voices raised together, we shall not be moved,
Voices raised together, we shall not be moved.
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters.
We shall not be moved. **(Refrain)**

Tho' all Hell assail us, we shall not be moved,
Tho' all Hell assail us, we shall not be moved.
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters,
We shall not be moved. **(Refrain)**

Glory hallelujah, we shall not be moved,
Anchored in Jehovah, we shall not be moved.
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters,
We shall not be moved. **(Refrain)**

***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**

Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of faith, and the ability to trust even when we struggle to believe. We humbly dedicate these offerings as an expression of our gratitude for your boundless love and the hope you have given us through the Risen Christ. May these gifts be used to spread the good news of your resurrection, peace, forgiveness, and new life with all the world around us. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

***Hymn #193** (red hymnal) Thine is the Glory*Judas Maccabeus*

***Commission and Benediction**

***Congregational Response** Go Now in Peace.....Natalie Sleeth

Go now in peace. Go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you everywhere you may go.
(Sung twice.)

Voluntary Toccata on *Gaudeamus Pariter* James Biery
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.

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

230

Attrib. to John of Damascus (c. 696–c. 754 C.E.)
 Transl. John Mason Neale, 1872; alt.

Exod. 15; Luke 24

1 Come, you faith - ful, raise the strain of tri - um - phant glad - ness;
 2 Spring has dawned on earth to - day; Christ has burst from pris - on,
 3 Now the joy - ous sea - son, bright with the day of splen - dor,
 4 Nei - ther might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dim por - tal,

God has brought all Is - ra - el in - to joy from sad - ness;
 And from three days' sleep in death as the sun has ris - en;
 With the roy - al feast of feasts, comes its joys to ren - der;
 Nor the watch - ers, nor the seal hold you as a mor - tal;

Loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;
 All the win - ter of our sins, long and gray, is fly - ing
 Comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem who with true af - fec - tion
 But to - day a - mid the twelve you still stand, be - stow - ing

Led them with un - moist-ened foot through the Red Sea wa - ters.
 From the Light, to whom we give laud and praise un - dy - ing.
 Wel-comes in un - wear - ied strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion.
 Peace and joy which ev - er - more pass - es hu - man know - ing.

Little is known of St. John of Damascus, an early Greek theologian, but his writings have survived. Among these are poems that have been made into hymns and some that have been integrated into Greek Orthodox liturgy.

Tune: ST. KEVIN 7.6.7.6.D.
 Arthur S. Sullivan, 1872

The Day of Resurrection

245

John of Damascus, 8th century
Transl. John Mason Neale, 1862; alt.

Mark 16:1-6

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,

the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;
the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,
We lis - ten for the teach - ings once heard so calm and plain,
Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,

our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
for we, too, want to fol - low and raise the vic - tor strain.
for Christ a - gain has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of four systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the staves. The key signature changes from one flat (B-flat) to two sharps (D major) in the third system.

A Greek canon—an extended poem of eight or nine odes, each based on a scriptural canticle—was the source of this hymn. John of Damascus gave up a high government position to enter a monastery.

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
Henry T. Smart, 1836

Thine Is the Glory

Edmond L. Budry, 1854-1932
Tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939

JUDAS MACCABEUS 5.5.6.5.6.5.6.5. with Refrain
Georg F. Handel, 1685-1759

1 Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con- quering Son; End - less is the
2 Lo! Je - sus meets thee, Ris - en from the tomb; Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, Glo - rious Prince of life! Life isnought with-

vic - tory Thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, Scat - ters fear and gloom; Let his church with glad - ness
out thee; Aid us in our strife; Make us more than con- quers,

Rolled the stone a - way, Kept the fold - ed grave - clothes
Hymns of tri - umph sing, For her Lord now liv - eth;
Through thy death - less love; Bring us safe through Jor - dan

REFRAIN

Where thy bod - y lay.
Death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con- quering Son;
To thy home a - bove.

End - less is the vic - tory Thou o'er death hast won. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff. The music concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

MUSIC NOTES

Charles-Marie Widor composed ten symphonies for organ. The first eight are equally at home in church and concert hall while the last two are expressions of Widor's Roman Catholic faith, thoroughly religious works inspired by two forms of architecture - Gothic and Romanesque. Both take Gregorian Chant as their starting point. The tenth is based on the Psalm appointed for Easter Day *Haec dies, quam fecit Dominus (This is the day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.)* The first movement begins with a flourish for the right hand followed by a statement of the chant in the left. After that, the chant dissolves into contrapuntal texture, though it appears unadorned several more times as the movement builds to a brief toccata-like climax with the chant in the pedal. An extended diminuendo follows and brings the movement to a close.

Mark Hayes was raised in a creative musical environment, beginning piano lessons at age ten and developing his improvisational skills at an early age. He earned a B.M. in piano performance, magna cum laude, from Baylor University. During his college years his dream of becoming a composer and arranger was born and nurtured. His setting of *His Eye Is On the Sparrow* combines a delightfully simple choral part with a lilting piano accompaniment.

Toccata on "Gaudeamus Pariter" comes from a set of three preludes on Easter hymns by American composer James Biery, who was Minister of Music at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church (Presbyterian) in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan. *Gaudeamus Pariter* is the less familiar of two melodies associated with the Easter hymn *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*. The music takes the form of an improvised French-style toccata, in which the melody is heard in the pedal accompanied by carillon-like figures for the manuals.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today

Ushers: Team 1

Greeter: Doug & Mary Powell

This Week at Plymouth

Fossil Fuel – Join us on Wednesday, April 30 at 8:30 am in Room 102, for Dick Pogue’s presentation on the Reagan administration.

Movie Day – On Saturday, May 3, at 1 pm, Plymouth ARE will be showing “Rustin”, the story of one of MLK’s closest associates. Popcorn will be provided, and we will have a time for discussion of the film after the movie. Please sign up by *today!*

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.

Upcoming Events

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!

Cleveland Pride – Plymouth will be joining the Pride march and hosting a booth at the festival on June 7. More information and sign up to come. Save the date!

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: Stephen & Hope Murphy

Happy Birthday to: Dan Farmer and Eilidh Horn

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, April 27

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
4:00 pm Brown Campbell Memorial @ Sanct
5:00 pm Youth Group @ Off-Site

Monday, April 28

9:00 am Hunger Center Volunteering
5:30 pm Bible Study @ Zoom

Tuesday, April 29

No events scheduled

Wednesday, April 30

8:30 am Fossil Fuel @ Candy Circle Rm
9:00 am Hunger Center Volunteering

Thursday, May 1

6:30 pm Plymouth Ringers @ Bell Rm
7:00 pm Scout Meeting @ FH
7:30 pm Plymouth Choir @ Choir Rm

Friday, May 2

1:00 pm Women's AA Meeting @ Parlor

Saturday, May 3

1:00 pm ARE Movie Event @ FH

Sunday, May 4

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
4:00 pm George Sargeant Recital @ Sanct



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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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