



Imagine Upside Down | Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster

**Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost  
Dedication of 2025 Pledges**

**October 20, 2024**

*"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.

## **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.

## **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.

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

Allegro Maestoso from Sonata No.3 in F minor, op. 5 .....Johannes Brahms  
Lynna Bao, piano

### Welcome

#### \*Call to Worship

Margaret Reuthinger

ONE: Jesus said: come to me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

**ALL: We have come now to worship, seeking rest.**

ONE: Jesus then said: take my yoke upon you and learn from me. My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

**ALL: We have come to worship, to learn, and to share in the work of Christ. By God's grace, the burden of loving service is light.**

#### \*Hymn God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending..... *Beach Spring*

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,  
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:  
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;  
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for serving that your will on Earth be done:  
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the Church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone;  
born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred;  
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the Gospel Word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,  
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, honoring you by loving all.

Lend your joy to all our giving, let it light our pilgrim way;  
From the night of anxious keeping, loose us into generous day.  
Then when years of Earth are over, and we've lived our human span,  
God, fulfill beyond our dreaming, all our stewardship began.

**Prayer of Confession**

God of mercy, we ask for you to forgive us for the times when we have hurt other people, and for the times when we have hurt ourselves. By your mercy forgive the harmful divisions among your people. Heal our wounds of fear and hate, and free this world from self-centered ambitions for greatness, so that all may know the gift of loving service. Amen.

**Silent Reflection**

**Words of Assurance**

**Choral Anthem** Give Me Jesus..... Mark Patterson  
Sunday Choir

In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.  
Refrain: Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.  
You may have all this world, give me Jesus.  
And when I feel afraid, give me Jesus. (refrain)  
And when the trumpet sounds, give me Jesus. (refrain)

**Passing of the Peace**

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you!  
ALL: **And also with you!**

*Children in pre-school through 8<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to depart for Sunday School.*

**Moment for Mission**

Shaker Heights Community Hunger Center  
Cheri Hollins, coordinator

**The Proclamation of God's Word**

**Scripture Reading**

Mark 10:35-45

**Sermon**

Imagine Upside Down

Rev. Dr. Matt Wooster

**\*Hymn #503** (black hymnal) O Savior, Let Me Walk With You.....*Maryton*

**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 Sunday .....Duke Ellington

Lord, dear Lord above, God almighty, God of love,  
Please look down and see my people through.

**Living Out the Word of God**

**Announcements of Church Life**

**Witnessing Steward**

Rev. Brenda Grauer

**Call to Offering and Dedication of 2025 Pledges**

**Offertory** Take My Life, and Let it Be ..... Harry Huff  
Diane Julin Menges, soprano

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.  
Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.  
Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.  
Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.  
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

**\*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 of all our days and years, with eyes wide open to your mercies, we offer to you our gifts, and we offer our pledges of generosity for a future that is held secure in your hands. All that we have, and all that we are, is from you, O God. We dedicate to your ministry our offerings and our pledges, and we dedicate our lives to your service. Amen.

**\*Hymn #413** (red hymnal) Son of God, Eternal Savior.....*Weisse flaggen*

**\*Commission and Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response**

God Be With You Till We Meet Again..... *God Be With You*

God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you,  
With a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet.  
Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

**Voluntary** Fugue in C Major, BuxWV 174..... Dietrich Buxtehude  
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.*

## O Savior, Let Me Walk with You

*Washington Gladden, 1879; alt.*

1 O Sav - ior, let me walk with you in earth - ly  
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear  
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; let me be in clos - er,  
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice true; Tell me your se - cret,  
 win - ning word of love. Teach me the way - ward  
 dear - er com - pa - ny, In work that keeps faith  
 fu - ture's broad - ening way, In peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.  
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.  
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.  
 you can give, with you, O Sav - ior, let me live.

*Washington Gladden was a Congregational minister, distinguished preacher and lecturer, and author of over thirty works. Gladden wrote extensively on civic and social affairs of his day. This hymn was penned in 1879 and published in his periodical, The Sunday Afternoon.*

Tune: MARYTON L.M.  
 H. Percy Smith, 1874

# Son of God, Eternal Savior

413

Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932, alt.

WEISSE FLAGGEN 8.7.8.7.D.

"Tochter Sion," Cologne, 1741

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and truth and grace,  
 2 Lord, as thou hast lived for oth - ers, So may we for oth - ers live;  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - bove us, King of love, and Prince of peace;  
 4 See the Christ-like host ad - vanc - ing, High and low - ly, great and small,

Son of man, whose birth in - car - nate Hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
 Free - ly have thy gifts been grant - ed, Free - ly may thy serv - ants give.  
 Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease;  
 Linked in bonds of com - mon serv - ice For the com - mon Lord of all.

Thou, our head, who, throned in glo - ry, For thine own dost ev - er plead,  
 Thine the gold and thine the sil - ver, Thine the wealth of land and sea,  
 By thy pa - tient years of toil - ing, By thy si - lent hours of pain,  
 Thou who pray - edst, thou who will - est That thy peo - ple should be one,

Fill us with thy love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.  
 We but stew - ards of thy boun - ty, Held in sol - emn trust for thee.  
 Quench our fe - vered thirst of pleas - ure, Shame our sel - fish greed of gain.  
 Grant, O grant our hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth thy will be done. A - men.

A lower setting may be found at No. 180

Alternative tune, IN BABILONE, No. 74

BROTHERHOOD AND SERVICE



## MUSIC NOTES

Dr. Mark Patterson is a nationally acclaimed composer, conductor and teacher. He is the Director of Music at Salisbury Presbyterian Church in Midlothian, Virginia, where he oversees a comprehensive choral program for adults, youth and children. He received his PhD in Music Education with an emphasis in choral conducting from Texas Tech University and Master of Music and Bachelor of Arts degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Patterson's 200-plus choral compositions embrace a rich variety of styles, including spirituals such as the beloved *Give Me Jesus*, which was originally written for middle and high school choirs with the changing male voice in mind.

Harry Huff was born in 1952 in Tennessee and raised a Southern Baptist. His first church music job as a teenager was in a Lutheran church. He was educated at the University of North Carolina and Yale University, after which he found his way to New York and the Episcopal church. There he briefly held positions at St. Bartholomew's Church and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine before becoming associate and protégé to Calvin Hampton at Calvary Church in 1978. Following his mentor's premature death in 1984, Harry became Calvary's music director and remained until 2004 when a theological controversy tore the congregation apart and forced him to hastily seek employment elsewhere. He ended up in Boston, where he was Associate University Organist and Choirmaster at Harvard for four years before becoming Minister of Music at Old South Church (UCC) in 2008. While there, he used his broad experience with different liturgical traditions and varied musical styles to greatly expand the church's musical offerings until his own untimely death in 2016.

*Take My Life, and Let it Be* was written in 1988 for a friend's ordination to the Episcopal diaconate. It sets the familiar hymn text by Frances Havergal to original music. His close friend Virginia Lowery has remarked that it was a highly personal expression of his own faith.

Baroque composer Dietrich Buxtehude spent his most productive years at the Marienkirche in the North German city of Lübeck. In addition to serving as music director he organized a series of evening concerts that attracted musical attendees from far and wide, most notably the young G.F. Handel and J.S. Bach. The influence of Buxtehude on Bach's early organ works cannot be overstated. His "Fugue in C" is sometimes referred to as "Gigue Fugue" since it takes the form of that sprightly Baroque dance in 6/8 time. It is often played on the harpsichord since the pedal does not enter until near the very end and the part is easily adapted to the left hand.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Today

**Ushers:** Team 4

**Greeter:** Lucas Hershberger

**Coffee Hour:** No volunteer this week. Sign up in the Welcome Center!

**Shaker Heights Community Hunger Center** – Today we recognize this important part of our community outreach program for over 3 decades. It currently feeds over 130 families and 250 individuals each month. Most clients are Shaker residents, with most of them being senior citizens. Volunteers are needed to fill bags and stock shelves on the last 2 Monday and Wednesday mornings of each month. Plymouth members and friends partner with Shaker Heights Community Church members and the Center’s coordinator, Cheryl Hollins, at Shaker Heights Community Church, 20120 Lomond Blvd. The Shaker Heights Community Hunger Center is part of the Hunger Network of Greater Cleveland, one of 70+ food pantries and hot meal sites around the city. Contact Charlene Nevans (440-247-1926) if you are interested in volunteering!

**Constitutional Change Forum** – All members are invited to learn about and ask questions regarding the proposed amendments to the church constitution. These will be voted on in a special congregational meeting on November 10, following the annual meeting. Join us immediately following the worship service, in room 102, for this forum led by council president, David Turner. Printed copies of the proposed changes are available in the Welcome Center, or by contacting the office.

## This Week at Plymouth

**Mid-Week Meditations** – Join Dr. Kate, Pastor Dillon, and members of HCC and Plymouth for a simple service centering on prayer, song, meditation, and scripture, and devotions for the week ahead. The service will be in Herr Chapel this Wednesday, October 23, at 1 pm.

**Fall Fiesta** – Join us for our first ever “Fall Fiesta” at Plymouth on Saturday, October 26 from 4-8pm in Fellowship Hall. We’ll have a costume party, games, crafts, a Mexican inspired dinner, Day of the Dead flag making in honor of All Saints Day, and a viewing of the movie “Coco.” All are welcome for the entire evening, or just come to the parts

that work well for you and your family! Please sign up in the Welcome Center or contact Leslie or Dillon with any questions or if you're interested in volunteering.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry** – Our knitting ministry will meet on October 30 at 11:30 am in Room 102. All crafters are welcome! Please join us.

**Souls to the Polls** – Adult Faith and Life is coordinating carpools to the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections for early in-person voting on October 27 and November 3, after Sunday worship. Please sign up in the Welcome Center.

### **Upcoming Events**

**Annual Meeting** – The annual meeting is scheduled for November 10, immediately following the worship service. An agenda of the meeting can be found in October's issue of Perspective or in This Week at Plymouth email.

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**Pilgrimage to the US Southern Border** – Find information about the pilgrimage in the welcome center and sign up to receive updates in plans. Scholarships available for this pilgrimage, as well as payment plans! Registration ends December 10th! This year, the Heartland Conference, UCC is co-sponsoring the event with Plymouth and already people from other UCC are interested and registering.

### **Community Life**

**Pledge Drive Update** – 63 people have pledged a total of \$397,544.36. There is \$227,455.64 remaining to meet our goal of \$625,000. \$34,450 has already been donated in advance for 2025. Thank you for your generosity as we imagine together!

**Sarah Grube Memorial Fund at Shaker Schools Foundation** - A memorial fund has been organized in memory of Sarah Grube, a beloved member of Plymouth Church. The fund will "grant an annual award to a rising student activist at Shaker Heights High

School. In the spirit of Sarah’s mentorship, this award will recognize a student who exemplifies Sarah’s fearless commitment to social, political, environmental, or economic change in their community with a scholarship.” For more information and to donate, visit [shakerschoolsfoundation.org/sarah-grube-memorial-fund/](http://shakerschoolsfoundation.org/sarah-grube-memorial-fund/)

**All Saints Sunday** – On November 3, we will prayerfully remember by name all those who have died in the past year. To include a loved one in this solemn remembrance, please share their name with Pastors Matt or Dillon by October 30. We will also honor all of the beloved saints in our lives who have died, no matter how long ago, by creating a remembrance table. Bring a photo, memento, candle, or personal item to add to the table on November 3 as you enter the service.

**Little Free Pantry** – We are embarking on a rehabilitation project for the pantry! To donate to the project or food stocking, please use the “Little Free Pantry” designation in Realm or on the check memo line. Shelf stable food will remain available 24/7 in our Little Free Pantry, or a secured bin during repair, located at the north end of the parking lot by the Children's Garden. Questions? Contact Pastor Dillon.

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

**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:** Brian & Jessica Shields and Yaa & John Ansah

**Happy Birthday to:** Teddy Cahill, Janet Daniel, Kenya Gilbert, Aisha Violette, Brian Gilbert, Kenneth Noetzel, Marcia Christian, Jane Corteville, Kathryn Rodgers, and Megan Hensley

## This Week's Calendar

### Sunday, October 20

10:30 am Worship @ Sanct  
11:00 am HCC Worship @ Chapel  
11:30 am Coffee Hour @ FH  
11:45 am Constitution Forum @ 102  
5:00 pm High School OWL @ KR

### Monday, October 21

9:00 am Hunger Center Volunteering  
5:30 pm Bible Study @ Zoom  
6:30 pm Finance Meeting @ Library

### Tuesday, October 22

No events scheduled

### Wednesday, October 23

9:00 am Hunger Center Volunteering  
1:00 pm Mid-Week Meditation @ Chapel  
7:00 pm Council Meeting @ 102  
8:00 pm AA Meeting @ KR

### Thursday, October 24

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

### Friday, October 25

1:00 pm Women's AA Meeting @ Parlor

### Saturday, October 26

4:00 pm Fall Fiesta @ FH

### Sunday, October 27

10:30 am Worship @ Sanct  
10:45 am Coffee and Christ @ KR  
11:00 am HCC Worship @ Chapel  
11:30 am Coffee Hour @ FH  
11:45 am Green Team @ 102  
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



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