

November 27, 2022

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"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

Scroll Down For Hymns

Preparation Music O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (*An Advent Suite*).....Charles Callahan
James Riggs, organ

Welcome

*Call to Worship

ONE: Now is the time of watching and waiting.

ALL: Now is the time of pregnant expectation.

ONE: Now is the season of hope unfolding.

ALL: The cold winter season when hope is waiting to be born.

ONE: Let us come before God with receptive and willing spirits.

**ALL: May our souls magnify God's name and may our spirits rejoice
in God our Savior!**

***Hymn (Black) 609** Now Is the Time Approaching.....*Webb*

Confession

ALL: O God whose glory is revealed to our sight, we confess our unreadiness for your rule in our midst. We live fragmented lives. Our values become unmoored. Fear and insecurity move us to self-interest and self-sabotage. We become content to stay just where we are in a state of spiritual arrested development. Give us a voice to call above the din of distractions and lead us to you. Amen.

Silent Reflection

Words of Assurance

***Hymn of Praise***Winchester New*

Then cleansed be every life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

*Passing of the Peace

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Song

He came down that we may have hope. (3x's) Hallelujah forevermore. (Cameroon Song)

Children’s Message

Children in pre-school through 5th grade are invited to come forward for the children’s message, and depart for Sunday School following the lighting of the Advent candle.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Nicole, Zachary, Wesley & Elliot Lewis

The Proclamation of God’s Word

Scripture and Music

Isaiah 2:1-5 (A Canticle of Peace) Joseph W. Clokey
The Plymouth Choir

And it shall come to pass in the latter day that the Lord’s house shall be established in the top of the mountain, and many shall go and say: Come ye and let us go into the house of the Lord. And he will teach us his way, and we will walk in his paths. And he shall judge between the nations. And shall reprove many nations. And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, nation shall not lift sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war anymore, come ye, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Sermon

Swords or Ploughshares?
God in Real Life, Part 1

Rev. Dr. Matthew Wooster

***Hymn** (Black) 104 We Hail You God’s Anointed.....*Ellacombe*

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 Creator of the Stars of Night*Conditior Alme Siderum*

Living Out the Word of God

Announcements of Church Life

Call to Offering

Offertory Watchman, tell us of the Night.....Alan Hovhaness
Diane Julin Menges, soloist

Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are. Traveler o’er yon mountain’s height see that glory beaming star. Watchman, does its beauteous ray aught of joy or hope foretell? Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel. Watchman, tell us on the night, higher yet that star ascends. Traveler, blessedness and light, peace and truth, its course portends. Watchman, will its beams alone gild the spot that gave them birth? Traveler, ages are its own; see, it bursts o’er all the earth. Watchman, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn. Traveler, darkness takes its flight; doubt and terror are withdrawn. Watchman, let thy wanderings cease; hie thee to thy quiet home. Traveler, lo, the Prince of Peace, lo, the son of God is come! (John Bowring)

***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**

God of the church, you are not enriched by our gifts so much as you enable us to share our gifts for the enrichment of the whole congregation, and the world beyond these walls. We present ourselves to be useful to each other and to you. Amen.

***Hymn (Black) 122** Come, O Long-Expected Jesus *Stuttgart*

***Commission and Benediction**

***Congregational Response** Wait for the Lord *Taizé*
Wait for the lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart!

Voluntary People, Look East!.....*Kristina Langlois*
Sol Rizatto, 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.

Scroll Down For Hymns

Now Is the Time Approaching

609

Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1859; alt.

Jer. 33:14-16; Isa. 11:6-9; 61:11

1 Now is the time ap - proach - ing, by proph-ets long fore - told,
 2 Let all that now di - vides us re - move and pass a - way,
 3 O long - ex - pect - ed dawn - ing, come with your cheer - ing ray!

when all shall dwell to - geth - er, se - cure and man - i - fold.
 like mists of ear - ly morn - ing be - fore the blaze of day.
 Yet shall the prom - ise beck - on and lead us not a - stray.

Let war be learned no long - er, let strife and tu - mult cease,
 Let all that now u - nites us more sweet and last - ing prove,
 O sweet an - tic - i - pa - tion! It cheers the watch - ers on

all earth a bless - ed gar - den that God shall tend in peace.
 a clos - er bond of un - ion, in bless - ed lands of love.
 to pray, and hope, and la - bor till Christ's new realm is come.

Jane Laurie Borthwick's text titled "Anticipation of Heaven" was published in her *Thoughts for Thoughtful Hours* (1859). George J. Webb, American organist and music publisher, originally wrote this music for a secular song, "Tis dawn, the lark is singing."

Tune: WEBB 7.6.7.6.D.
 George J. Webb, 1837

We Hail You God's Anointed

104

James Montgomery, 1821; alt.

Px. 72



1 We hail you God's a - noint - ed, the long - a - wait - ed One!
2 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
3 The wise shall bow be - fore you and gold and in - cense bring;
4 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, you on your throne shall rest;



Hail in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!
and joy and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth.
all na - tions shall a - dore you, and praise all peo - ples sing;
from age to age more glo - rious, all - bless - ing and all - blessed:



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;
Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go.
To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows be said,
The tide of time shall nev - er your cov - e - nant re - move;



to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
and righ - teous - ness, in foun - tains, from hill to val - ley flow.
your realm is still in - creas - ing, with you, O Christ, as head.
your name shall stand for - ev - er, your change - less name of Love.



Written as a Christmas hymn for the Moravian settlement in Yorkshire, England, this hymn has enjoyed widespread popularity from the beginning. It is characteristic of Montgomery's deep faith and passion for social justice.

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
Gesangbuch der herzoglichen Württembergischen katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784

Come, O Long-Expected Jesus

122

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.

1 Come, O long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set all peo-ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope to all the earth im - part;
3 Born all peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, you came to reign!
4 By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it, come to claim us as your own;

From our fears and sins re - lease us; grant us your true lib - er - ty.
Dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, en - ter ev - ery long - ing heart.
Born to rule on earth for - ev - er, come, be known to us a - gain.
By your all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, let us share your cross and crown.

Charles Wesley, the brother of John Wesley

THE SPECTATOR 1787