

*Plymouth Congregational Church*  
*United Church of Christ*



*January 17, 2021  
Second Sunday after Epiphany/  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday*

*With welcoming hearts  
Plymouth seeks to share the transforming love of Christ  
through  
Faith-filled worship, prayer, and study  
Hope-filled service and outreach  
Love-filled fellowship*

Plymouth Congregational Church

Worship Service

Sunday, January 17, 2021

10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday after Epiphany/Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday

**PRELUDE**

**INTROIT**

*Woke Up This Morning*

Cynthia Gray

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**HYMN**

*Amazing Grace*

Tune: NEW BRITAIN

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Lord calls us to worship, from all corners of the earth.

***The Lord calls us to love one another as He loved us.***

The Lord calls us to join Him on a journey of faith, hope and love.

***The Lord calls us by name, each of us, created in the Image of God.***

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

***Holiest one, in this season of Epiphany, the light found in your Son is made manifest to the world, near and far. In our worship, may we feel your Holy Spirit stirring our hearts to faithful, just and righteous lives, in service to Christ and to one another. Bless our praying, our singing, our reading and our speaking, that it all would be music to your ears O Lord, proclaiming our love and gratitude for your grace. And we continue our prayers in the words Christ taught us to pray...***

***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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***

**FIRST READING**

Mark 1: 14-20

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." <sup>16</sup> As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." <sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup> As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup> Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Zach Dunn & Thaddaeus Elliot

**ANTHEM***Fishers of Men*

Dadee Reilly

**SECOND READING**

Mark 12:28-34

<sup>28</sup> One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; <sup>30</sup> you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' <sup>31</sup> The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." <sup>32</sup> Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; <sup>33</sup> and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." <sup>34</sup> When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

**SERMON**

"Called to a High Standard"

Rev. Al Bunis

**SERMON RESPONSE***O Love, How Deep, How Broad*

Tune: PUER NOBIS

**CALL TO PRAYER**

The Lord be with you,  
**and also with you.**

Let us pray: O Lord, show your mercy upon us,  
**and grant us your salvation.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us,  
**and may your Holy Spirit live within us.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER****PRAYER RESPONSE***He's Got the Whole World*

Tune: WHOLE WORLD

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Here Am I, Lord

Psalm 40

***Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.***

I waited, I waited for the Lord,  
And He stooped down to me.  
He put a new song into my mouth,  
Praise of our God.

***Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.***

You delight not in sacrifice and offerings,  
But in an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.

Then I said, "See, I have come."

***Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.***

Your saving help I have not hidden in my heart;  
Of your faithfulness and salvation I have spoken.  
I made no secret of your merciful love  
And your faithfulness to the great assembly.

***Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.***

**OFFERTORY**

*There Is A Balm in Gilead*

Traditional/Douglas Mears

**BENEDICTION**

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *Lift Every Voice and Sing* J. Rosamond Johnson/Greg Gilpin

**POSTLUDE**

**Participating in today's service:**

Rev. Al Bunis, *Senior Pastor*

Ricardo Rincon, *Lay Liturgist*

Andrea Burt, *Interim Director of Children's Ministries*

Zach Dunn, *Executive Administrator/Co-Youth Coordinator*

Thaddaeus Elliot, *Administrative Assistant/Co-Youth Coordinator*

Gerry Brenes, *Director of Music*

Christopher Toth, *Organist*

Andrew Lujan & Kunya Rowley, *Soloists*

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