

Plymouth Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



November 19, 2023
Thanksgiving Sunday / Anniversary Sunday
New Member Sunday / Christian Commitment 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

Order of Worship
November 19, 2023
Thanksgiving Sunday / Anniversary Sunday
New Member Sunday / Christian Commitment Sunday
10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *Fugue in F Major* J. S. Bach

WORDS OF WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

***HYMN 353** *For the Beauty of the Earth* Tune: Dix

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Give thanks to the Lord!

Let us call upon God's holy name.

Let us seek the Lord with all our hearts.

Let us sing praises to God and tell of all his wonderful works!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord of All, keep us mindful that every good gift comes from you. If we could number the stars, we could number the blessings you pour upon your people. Out of your abundant grace, you entrust us with the work of your kingdom. We would live as your trustworthy servants. Fill us with your Spirit and free us from fear that we might multiply your blessings of faith, hope and love. Help us to walk humbly in the way of our Lord Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray saying,

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, for ever. Amen.

RECEIVING OF NEW MEMBERS INTO PLYMOUTH CHURCH

Dalton & Kiley Easton, Thomas & Lauren Haughton, Marcie Henderson,
Karen Hollihan, Jamie Isani, Ron O'Brien & Hillary Snapp, Bernardette O'Connell,
Jaime Ojeda & Giorgia Tiberi, Jody & Hollie Schmidt, Mariah Suarez,
Win Rutherford, Charles Wendel

THE AFFIRMATION OF INTENTION

THE RESPONSE OF THE CHURCH (COMMUNITY UNITING)

We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We invite you to join us in our journey to be Christ's faithful people in this place and time. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of Plymouth Congregational Church.

MISSION STATEMENT (See cover of Order of Worship)

**Please stand if able*

ANTHEM	<i>The Road Home</i>	Stephen Paulus
GOSPEL LESSON (See Insert)		Matthew 25:14-30
SERMON	<i>"In Us God Trusts"</i>	Rev. Al Bunis

*SERMON RESPONSE (HYMN 710)	<i>We are Called to be God's People (v. 1)</i>	Tune: Austrian Hymn
	<i>We are called to be God's people, showing by our lives his grace, one in heart and one in spirit, sign of hope for all the race.</i>	
	<i>Let us show how he has changed us, and remade us as his own, let us share our life together as we shall around his throne.</i>	

2024 CHRISTIAN COMMITMENT CAMPAIGN	Michele Battle
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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	<i>May the Words of My Mouth</i>	Robert Heath
	<i>May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable unto you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.</i>	

OFFERTORY	<i>The Gift of Love</i>	American Folk Tune
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*PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY	Tune: Old Hundredth
<i>Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.</i>	

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

*SUNG PRAYER OF CONFESSON	<i>Lord, Forgive Us Our Trespasses</i>	M.A Kauffman
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Lord, for-give us our tres-pas-ses, as we for-give those who tres-pass a-against us;

Lord, for-give us our tres-pas-ses, and heal us with Your stead - fast love.

*FORGIVENESS OF SIN

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

This is the joyful feast of the people of God.

Men and women, youth and children will come from east and west,
from north and south, and gather about Christ's Table.

Come O Christ. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE BLESSING OF THE CUP

(Members of The Plymouth Church Diaconate come forward)

Giving of the Bread

Bread of the World

Tune: Wayfaring Stranger/Arr. by Donald Oglesby

Please partake of the bread as you receive.

Giving of the Cup

Please hold until all have received the cup.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give you thanks, Holy One, because you have reached out to us. You have refreshed us at your table, touched our deepest needs, and called us to a life shared in memory and hope. Send us forth with courage and joy in the name of Jesus the Christ, that we, too, may become bread and peace for one another and the world. Amen.

***HYMN 374**

Now Thank We All Our God

Tune: Nun Danket Alle Gott

***BENEDICTION**

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

John Rutter

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

Participating in today's service:

Rev. Al Bunis, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Moira McGuinn, *Associate Pastor*

Rev. Hollie Schmidt, *Associate Pastor*

Dr. Vindhya Khare, *Director of Music*

Christopher Toth, *Organist*

Dr. Donald Oglesby, *Soloist*

Diane Marxen, *Horn*

Plymouth Chancel Choir



PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH