

Plymouth Area Giving-Thanks Ecumenical Service



November 23, 2021

7:00 p.m.

At Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

For reflection:

“The measure of the land and the measure of our bodies are the same. Say to us if you can say it, that you were sent by the Creative Power to talk to us.” -Chief Joseph

Prelude

We invite you to reflection and contemplation.

Welcoming

Musical Offering

*Call to Worship

One: Worship Adonai in gladness; come before God with joy. Enter God's gates with Thanksgiving; with gratitude sing out God's praise.

All: Adonai, Creator of the heavens and the earth, provides food for the hungry and brings justice to the oppressed.

One: Praise the Creator who works great wonders, who enables us from birth, Who treats us with compassion.

All: God covers the sky with clouds, bringing rain, bringing forth bread from the earth to sustain us, providing wind to gladden the human heart. How shall

we thank God for our blessings?

One: Let us share our bread with the hungry; let us not turn away from the needy.

All: Clothe the naked and shelter the homeless, help those who have no help.

One: Let us not take our blessings for granted. Let us share them with others, with thanks.

All: Sing a new song to Adonai. Where the faithful gather, let God be praised.

***Gathering Hymn**

We Praise You, O God

NCH (black) #420

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are as follows:

1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship you, God of our moth - ers and fa - thers;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer,

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
through life's storm and tem - pest our guide you have been.
and glad - ly our song of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you, we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you nev - er will for - sake us,
Our sins now con - fess - ing, we pray for your bless - ing;

we bless your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
and with your help, O God, in life's strug - gles we win.
to you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

***Gathering Unison Prayer**

Great Spirit of Truth: We come this evening hoping to center around humility and gratitude. We look for Your path of selflessness and we pray for hope. We confess our sins of casting people aside. Immanent Mystery, let us know that in Your great love we may rest and find deep assurance. Let us care for one another during this hour: give us thankful hearts which may lead to continued strength. Amen.

Readings

Reading One

Philippians 4: 4-7

Reading Two

Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address - Greetings to the Natural World

Reading Three

Jonah 2

Message

Rev. Sara M. Holland

Response

Prayers of the People

Lord’s Prayer

**All: 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.**

Invitation to the Offering

This evening’s offering will go to support the work of the Plymouth Area Community Closet.

Offertory Anthem

Good and Simple Gifts

Natalie Sleeth

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Creator God, we thank you for the out-pouring of your life-giving hope, into the world and into each one of us, guiding us, uniting us and enriching all humankind. As we bring forward this offering, we ask that our giving and our daily living may bring forth the fruits of justice and peace for all. Amen.

***Hymn**

God of the Sparrow God of the Whale

NCH (black) #32

Verses 1-3, & 5

The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of three systems of music. The first system has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature of 3/4. The notes are: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The second system has notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The third system has notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The lyrics are arranged in columns corresponding to the notes.

1 God of the spar - row God of the whale
2 God of the earth-quake God of the storm
3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross
4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick
5 God of the neigh - bor God of the foe

God of the swirl - ing stars How does the crea-ture say
God of the trum - pet blast How does the crea-ture cry
God of the emp - ty grave How does the crea-ture say
God of the prod - i - gal How does the crea-ture say
God of the prun - ing hook How does the crea-ture say

Awe How does the crea-ture say Praise
Woe How does the crea-ture cry Save
Grace How does the crea-ture say Thanks
Care How does the crea-ture say Life
Love How does the crea-ture say Peace

***Benediction**

Postlude

The Postlude ends our gathered worship and sends us into the world where our true service begins.

We encourage people to carefully consider National Day of Mourning as well as Thanksgiving this year. National Day of Mourning falls on the same date and honors indigenous ancestors as well as Native resistance. Tonight, we remember the Abenaki people of the lakes region as well as others displaced as a result of colonization. We

hold gratitude for all who have come before us and continue to aim for deep reconciliation as it is a part of gospel living. As a part of any feast, consider lighting a simple candle to honor those who have passed as a result of violence.

Grace and peace to you this evening.

Leaders this evening:

The Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor and Teacher, Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Ashley Rose, Organist, Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Eileen Torrey, Worship Coordinator, Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

David Williams, Director of Music, Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Wayne Martin, Liturgist

If you or anyone you may know needs help to purchase a turkey for thanksgiving, we have some \$15 vouchers to give. Please email: office@uccplymouth.org or call the office at 603-536-2626.