

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 5, 2023

Pledge Sunday

One who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,
and one who sows bountifully will reap bountifully.
Give, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver.
God is able to make all grace abound toward you,
that you, always having all sufficiency in all things,
may have an abundance for every good work.

2 Corinthians 9:6-8



"The Gleaners," Jean-Francois Millet (1853)

Sunday, November 5, 2023
Service of Holy Communion

Tolling of the Bells

Prelude

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Haan

Call to Worship

Psalm 24

*Opening Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

Welcome and Announcements

Unison Prayer of Confession

One: "Great indeed is the faithfulness of God, and yet our hearts are not so reliable. We wander. We argue. We forget. We divide ourselves with anger and bitterness and falsehood. In the ritual of reconciliation, with the promise of amazing grace, we strive to come back together again. We start with the truth. We confess our sins, to God, and also, to each other. Please join me in the Unison Prayer..."

All: Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You call us to one table, yet we pursue our own course. You promise us the abundance of all creation, but in greed and envy, too many families go without. You promise us the bread of life, but in our pride and arrogance, the world goes hungry. You promise us the waters of peace with justice, but in our violence and discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Jesus. Have compassion on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, in this house, and at your table, by the power of your Holy Spirit.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Even when our cups run dry, God's grace overflows.
Even when our plates are empty, God's generosity overflows.
And even when our hearts are barren, God's love overflows.
Friends, you have been called and claimed by the God of all things.
By the abundance of God's grace and by the power of Christ's love,
your sins have been forgiven.
Give thanks and live.

*Passing of the Peace

One: "The Peace of Christ be with you."

All: And also with you!

Exodus 15:22-27

Blessing

Sermon

Senior Choir Anthem

At the Table of Our God

Wagner

Prayers of the People

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.*

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Gathering of Annual Pledges

Offertory

Pastorella

Bach

Doxology

Each week, we sing and sign an inclusive Doxology (ASL).

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that Love has done.

Creator, Christ, & Spirit one. Amen.

Invitation to the Table

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy

A Deacon will signal your pew when to come forward to receive the bread and cup. If you would prefer not to come forward, they can serve you directly in your pews. This morning, the bread is allergen free and the cup contains grape juice. Bring both back to the pew with you, and wait until all have been served, so that we may eat together.

Post Communion Prayer

Sharing the Elements

* As the Spirit guides you, we encourage you to rise in body or spirit.

*Communion Hymn	<i>Let Us Break Bread Together</i>	<i>(PH 288)</i>
*Closing Hymn	<i>My Life Flows On</i>	
Benediction		
Choral Response		
Postlude	<i>Praise Him with the Sound of the Trumpet</i>	<i>Simone</i>

At the Table of Our God

Wagner

At the table of the world some have plenty, some have none.

At the table of our God all are plentifully fed.

Blow us by your Spirit to love! Blow us by your Spirit to care!

Hurricane and breath, hurricane and breath, fill us with a vision of love!

At the table of the world some have honor, some have scorn.

At the table of our God all are welcomed and renewed.

Copyright 1989 by Hope Publishing



Following the Closing Hymn, we encourage the congregation to remain risen, in body or spirit, to receive the Benediction, which is both blessing and commission. You may sit for the Choral Response and Postlude in quiet contemplation.

All are invited to the Parish Hall for coffee, tea, and snacks. We understand it can be difficult to step into a room of strangers. We hope, with every cup and cookie, we can deepen our connections and learn a little more about each other each week.

* As the Spirit guides you, we encourage you to rise in body or spirit.

For the Beauty of the Earth

St. 1-3, Folliot S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.

St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,

For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
 For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Folliot S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

Tune: DIX 7.7.7. with refrain
 Conrad Kocher, 1838
 Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

821

My Life Flows On

How Can I Keep from Singing?

1 My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.
 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.
 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

In the *New York Observer* of August 7, 1868, this text was titled "Always Rejoicing," and was attributed to "Pauline T." This may well be where the Baptist pastor and musician to whom it is usually credited encountered the words that he later published with his tune.

Bulletin Reminders

After worship, Rev. Morisse will be available for conversation in the Parish Hall.



FALL LEAF RAKING

November 18 & November 19

Help older residents in need of your services.

Meet at the Plymouth Church on...

Saturday (8:45 a.m./12:45 p.m.) and

Sunday (12:45 p.m.)

Sam Swisher will be taking signups in the Parish Hall during Coffee Hour Sundays, or via email, at ccvolrec@gmail.com.

6-WEEK DISCUSSION GROUP ON PRAYER

What really happens when we pray? Does it really matter? Are there right and wrong ways to pray? If you have questions about prayer, or if you have things you've learned that you can share with others, come join a 6-week discussion group on prayer. We'll use the *Lord's Prayer* as a guide to understand Jesus' vision on prayer and learn from and encourage each other in the process. The plan is to meet Wednesday evenings, at church, but the schedule can be adjusted according to people's availability. If you're interested, contact **Shari Van Hook**, at 508.308.4961, or shari.vanhook@gmail.com.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH WELCOMES TIMOTHY'S TOY BOX FOUNDER

Next Sunday, **November 12**, Sharon Gilbert, founder of *Timothy's Toy Box*, a Framingham non-profit supported by our church, will be here to share her story with us. We invite folks to bring unwrapped new toys to donate, anytime starting October 26, and leave them in the Pack 'n Play in the foyer of the Parish Hall. Any questions, call Mattie Schadt at 774.217.3477. *Find link to wish list in your Wednesday Email.*

CLEAR EGG CARTON DRIVE

Our neighbor on the Common, the Framingham Historical Society, has a great need for clear egg cartons that can be used for their upcoming Tag Sale. Please leave your donations in the bin marked "Egg Carton Donations" in the Parish Hall foyer.

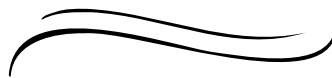
SUNDAY COFFEE KLATCH

The November Klatch leaders are **Meg Doucette** and **Elizabeth Tustian**, who will be sending out emails to the November Klatch team in the next couple of weeks. See *Wednesday Email for November roster.*

The Plymouth Church in Framingham

STAFF DIRECTORY

MINISTERS	ALL THE PEOPLE
SENIOR PASTOR	REV. GREGORY MORISSE
MINISTER OF MUSIC	ELISSA PUTUKIAN
PLYMOUTH HOUSE DIRECTOR	JEN GUNNELL
YOUTH MUSIC DIRECTOR	LESLIE RANDALL DOOLEY
OPERATIONS MANAGER	NANCY MCALLISTER
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER	JOHN CENTO
SEXTONS	PHILIP NYKONCHUK JOHN JOSSELYN



The Plymouth Church in Framingham

Our Core Values

- Community
- Intergenerational Life
- Service and Social Action
- Worship and Spiritual Life
- Welcome and Hospitality

Our Bedrock Beliefs

- We believe we are called to be kind, love justice, and walk humbly with God.
- We believe that God is present with us always in times of trial and rejoicing.
- We embrace Jesus' call to love and serve one another.
- We believe that God hears and answers our prayers.
- We believe in the fullness of God's grace (unmerited favor).