Plymouth
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

November 8, 2026 • 11 a.m.
Faithful Response Sunday

PRELUDE

TRUMPET VOLUNTARY — *Jeremiah Clarke (c.1700)*

AN OCCASIONAL TRUMPET VOLUNTARY — *Patrick Gowers (2004)*

Please rise in body, mind, or spirit, as you are able, for every hymn.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN LET THE WHOLE CREATION CRY (page 6) *"Salzburg"*

CALL TO WORSHIP Dan Dressen

One: Come, let us breathe together.
All: We celebrate the gift of breath.
One: Come, let us be together.
All: We are grateful for the gift of life.
One: Come, let us pray together.
All: We are grateful for the gift of faith.

Please be seated.

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Tender, loving God, 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 for ever. Amen.

Peace Candle Response DEO DICAMUS GRATIAS *Gottfried A. Homilius (1714–1785)*

Let us thank God.

Welcome Birdie Cunningham

Anthem UNION *Edward Barnes, 1988*
From Zion Songster, 1820

Come brothers and sisters who love one another,
And join in the spirit today;
We gather together in sweet heavenly union,
To practice the heavenly way.
With joy and thanksgiving we praise Him who loves us;
His light, a bright shining way.
Our souls are inspired, our hearts lifted higher,
Whenever we worship and pray.

So many before us have shared in our chorus
Of praise, adoration, and love;
Their story's example, a glorious sample
Of how God works from above.
Like old father Noah and ten thousand more,
Who were frightened, but never afraid,
Some were cast among lions, some bound with rough irons,
But always God heard as they prayed.

There was Jacob and Joseph, Elias and Moses,
Who prayed, and God heard from His throne.
There was David and Daniel, Isaiah and Samuel,
Who knew they were never alone.
There was Abraham, Isaac, and Solomon, too,
Who told us that God heard them pray;
There was Matthew, and Hannah, Paul, John and Suzanna,
And Esther, and Jonah we'll say. *(continued)*

Now this is our witness, and proof of God's swiftness
In answering each of our prayers.
We know that God heard them, His words reassured them,
Their testaments all declare.
Each calling, each blessing, each sign that He sends,
A wondrous miracle rare;
And the truth He provides us will strengthen and guide us,
And light up the love we share.

Now some folks deny it, they won't even try it,
They claim it's just time spent in vain;
But that kind of notion won't curb our devotion,
When we've got the proof—it's plain.
God gave us the power, the very same power,
As those who traveled before,
And there's nothing can stop us, no storm's gonna rock us,
We'll only be prayin' some more!

—*From* Zion Songster*, 1820*

SHARING GRACE

SCRIPTURE READINGS DEUTERONOMY 8:11-18 Rev. JT Smiedendorf

One: These are the words of our ancient tradition.

All: **May these words become Living Wisdom within us, among us, and beyond us.**

SERMON RESPONDING FAITHFULLY TO THE GIFT OF LIFE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

One: In deep humility and gratitude to God, who shepherds and comforts us, let us bring our offerings to God.

All: **In thanks and gratitude, we offer these gifts to you.**

You may use the QR code on page 5 to give.

OFFERTORY YE SHALL HAVE A SONG *Randall Thompson*
(from "The Peaceable Kingdom") *(1936)*

Ye shall have a song, as in the night when a holy solemnity is kept; and gladness of heart, as when one goeth with a pipe to come into the mountain of the Lord.

—Isaiah 30:29

PRESENTATION AND CONSECRATION OF GIFTS

You are asked to bring forward your Estimate of Giving (or I Responded Online card) and place it in the bowl.
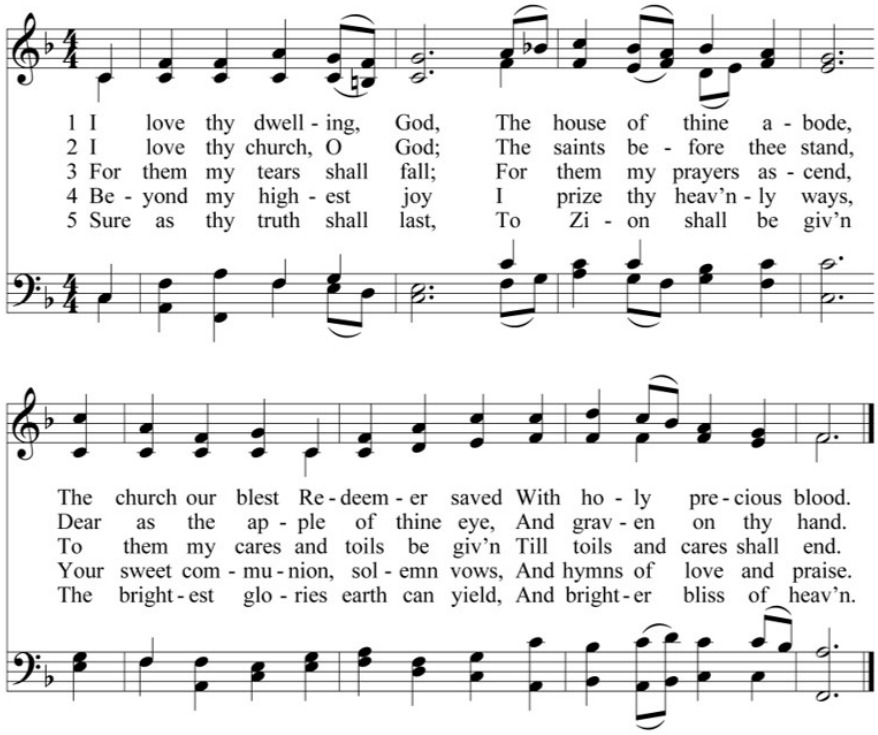
DOXOLOGY *"Dix"*

Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love that crowns our days!
Bounteous source of every joy, let thy praise our tongues employ;
Singing thus through all our days: Praise to God, immortal praise! Amen.

Please be seated.

PASTORAL PRAYER

RECESSIONAL HYMN I LOVE THY DWELLING, LORD *"St. Thomas"*



BENEDICTION

As the postlude is played, you are welcome to leave the sanctuary or stay and enjoy the music.

POSTLUDE PRELUDE (from "Suite for Organ") *Paul Creston (1958)*

CHANCEL FLOWERS are given in loving memory of Connie Buran Schreck, David John Buran and Dwayne Cody by Ann Buran and Ginny Buran Cody.

CHURCH REGISTER

IN MEMORIAL
Terry Armstrong (October 26, 2026)
Dwayne Cody, *husband of* Ginny Buran (October 21, 2026)

IN HOSPICE CARE
Wes Bue, *husband of* Denise Eng-Bue, *father of* Beck Eng-Bue

HOME AND HOSPITAL VISITS: Plymouth's ministers and Director of Congregational Care call upon members of the church in their homes, hospitals, or care and rehabilitation centers. If you know of someone who would like a visit, please contact Birdie Cunningham at 612-977-1261.

GIVE, USING REALM CONNECT
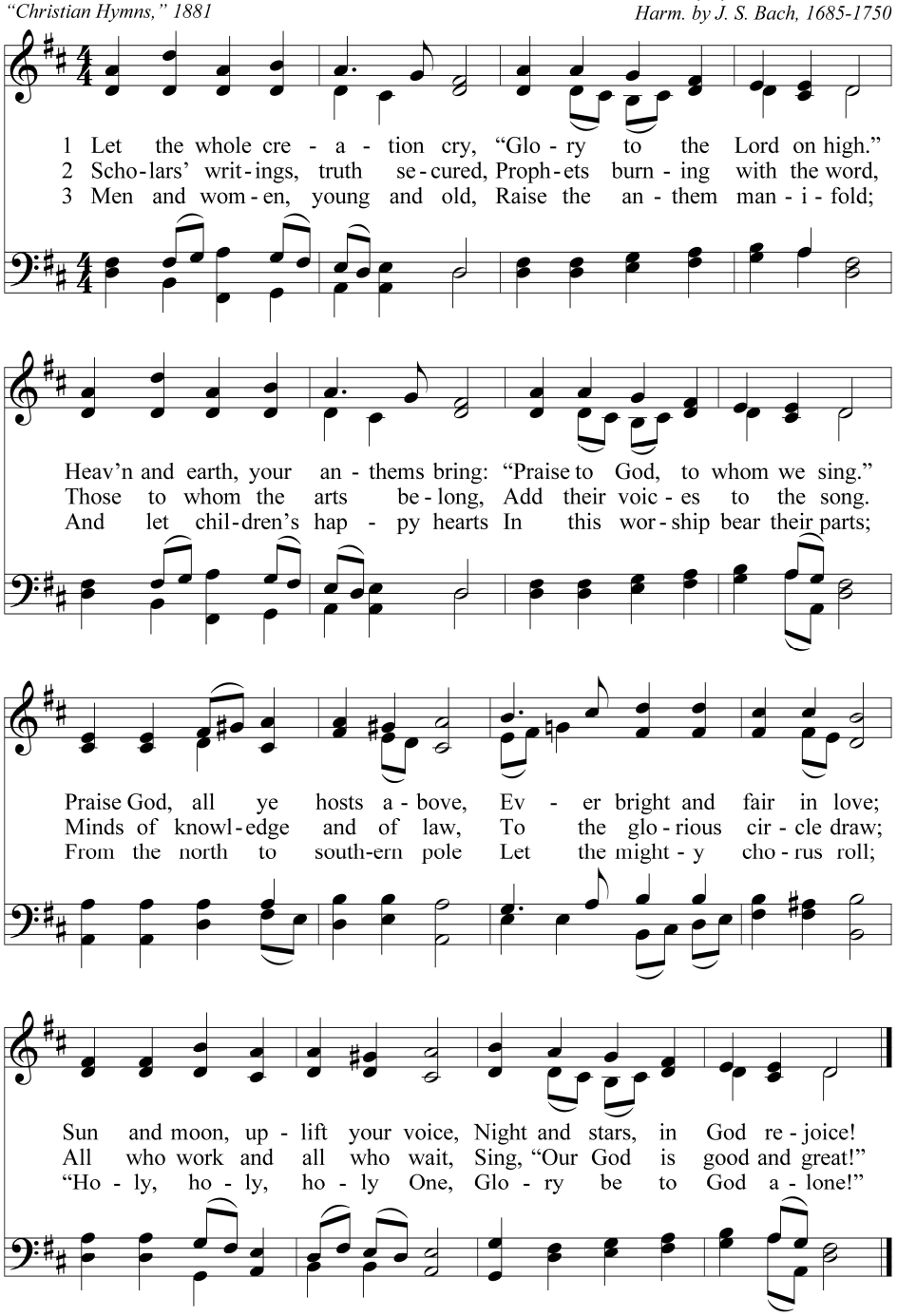
If you would like to donate, please do so by scanning the QR code with your cell phone's camera.

If you have not yet set up your new account, please contact Emily Venell at emilyv@plymouth.org or (612) 791.0753.

LET THE WHOLE CREATION CRY

Based on Psalm 148
Stopford A. Brooke, 1832-1916, alt.
"Christian Hymns," 1881

SALZBURG 7.7.7.7.D.
Melody by Jakob Hintze, 1678
Harm. by J. S. Bach, 1685-1750



Worship & Program Staff: Rev. JT Smiedendorf, *Acting Lead & Intentional Interim Minister*; Rev. Kate Taber, *Director of Spiritual Formation,* Birdie Cunningham, *Director of Congregational Care;* Nina Jonson, *Director of Children, Youth & Families;* Philip Brunelle, *Organist-Choirmaster*; Marie Scholtz, *Associate Music Director*; Laura Caviani, *Chapel Trio Director*; Sonja Thompson, *Assistant Organist;* Cody Bourdot, *Director of Theater Arts & A/V Production*

The Plymouth Choir: Philip Brunelle, *director*; **Solo Quintet:** Maria Jette & Kathryn Rupp, *soprano*; Lisa Drew, *alto*; Dan Dressen, *tenor*; and James Bohn, *bass*

Today's Music: Today's prelude combines the familiar "Trumpet Voluntary" by Jeremiah Clarke, organist at St. Paul's Cathedral and later at the Chapel Royal, with a setting by Patrick Gowers, an English composer known for his film scores and as keyboardist for the New Swingle Singers. He also composed music for guitarist John Williams and several anthems which the Plymouth Choir have performed.

Edward Barnes, an award-winning composer, lyricist and producer, is on the faculty of the Juilliard School in New York City. His operas and musical theater works have been produced across the USA.

"The Peaceable Kingdom" was commissioned by the League of Composers to Randall Thompson in 1935 who chose a primitivist painting, "The Peaceable Kingdom" by Edward Hicks, known as "the preaching Quaker of Pennsylvania." Thompson was inspired by the painting and a passage in Isaiah referencing the theme of peace. He taught at the Curtis Institute of Music and at Harvard University where his students included Leonard Bernstein and Samuel Adler.

Today's postlude was composed by Paul Creston, whose work includes 6 symphonies, music for wind band, and numerous concerti. His last major work was his "Organ Symphony" commissioned by the American Guild of Organists and premiered in 1982 at the Kennedy Center with Philip Brunelle as conductor.

Plymouth Congregational Church gratefully acknowledges that we are on the sacred traditional territory of the Dakota people. It is an honor to live, pray, seek justice, and create community alongside Dakota, Ojibwe, and other Indigenous people in the Twin Cities.

Many African American spirituals and hymns were never credited to their creators or were claimed by other individuals. When Plymouth Congregational Church uses music or music texts created by people who were kept in chattel slavery, we will donate to a historically Black institution as a reparative action in honor of the creators and their descendants.

Coloring Page for All Ages

