



September 20, 2026 • 11 a.m.

PRELUDE

CORTEGE AND LITANY

Marcel Dupré
(1921)

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY “Unser Herrscher”
(see page 5)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Karen Erickson

One: Behold the dawning of God’s new day and the beauty of all creation.

All: We bless the gift of this day with words of prayer and anthems of praise.

One: For Love Divine gathers us in the shelter of God’s tent and holy dwelling place.

All: We gather to know the Truth that is Love and the Love that is Truth.

One: In the kiss of love and truth, there is liberation and justice, peace and joy.

All: We gather to know, ever deeper, who and whose we truly are.

✠ 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 THE SPACIOUS FIRMAMENT
ON HIGH

Ian Kellam
(1992)

The spacious firmament on high with all the blue ethereal sky,
And spangled heavens, a shining frame, their great Original proclaim.
Th'unwearied sun, from day to day, does its creator's power display,
And publishes to every land the work of an Almighty Hand.

What though, in solemn silence, all move round the dark terrestrial ball?
What though no real voice nor sound amidst their radiant orbs be found?
In reason's ear they all rejoice, and utter forth a glorious voice;
Forever singing, as they shine, "The Hand that made us is divine."

—Based on Psalm 19; Joseph Addison, 1672-1719

WELCOME

Rev. Kate Taber

ANTHEM

BRETHREN, WE HAVE MET
TO WORSHIP

Shape-note hymn
arr. Alice Parker, 1999

Brethren, we have met to worship
And adore the Lord our God;
Will you pray with all your power
While we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the Spirit
Of the Holy One comes down;
Brethren, pray and holy manna
Will be showered all around.

Is there here a trembling jailer
Seeking grace and filled with fears?
Is there here a weeping Mary
Pouring forth a flood of tears?
Brethren, join your cries to help them;
Sisters, let your prayers abound;
Pray, O pray that holy manna
May be scattered all around.

Sisters, will you join and help us?
Moses' sisters aided him.
Will you help the trembling mourners
Who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior,
Tell them that he will be found;
Sisters, pray and holy manna
Will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely,
Let us love each other, too;
Let us love and pray for sinners
Till our God makes all things new.
Then he'll call us home to heaven,
At his table we'll sit down;
Christ will gird himself, and serve us
With sweet manna all around.

—George Atkin

SHARING GRACE

One: These are the words of our ancient tradition.

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

SERMON

TRUE SELF, FALSE SELF

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 8 to give.

OFFERTORY

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING

Welsh melody
arr. Katherine K. Davis, 1939

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who guideth us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light!

God's law God enforces, the stars in their courses,
The sun in its orbit, obediently shine.
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing,
With glad adoration a song let us raise,
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

✠ Please rise in body, mind, or spirit, as you are able. ✠

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

Rev. JT Smiedendorf

RECESSIONAL HYMN

SING PRAISE TO GOD
(see pages 6-7)

*"Jubilee Brunelle"***BENEDICTION**

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

POSTLUDE

CHORALE PRELUDE ON THE
HYMNTUNE, "HANOVER"
("O worship our God, all glorious above")

Sir Hubert H. Parry
(1916)



CHANCEL FLOWERS are given by Nancy and Brian Siska in memory of Nancy's beloved brother, Buck Pentecost.

Today's Music: The music for today includes several 'family notes' for Philip and Carolyn Brunelle. The prelude by Marcel Dupré was played at their wedding 61 years ago; Dupré was for many years organist at St. Sulpice church in Paris, France and a renown composer of music for organ.

Alice Parker was a composer, arranger, conductor, and teacher. Parker was a longtime friend of the Brunelles and conducted the Plymouth Choir on a 2003 visit. "On the Common Ground" was given its world premiere by Plymouth's Solo Quintet after Alice sent Philip the music—her final composition. She passed away at age 98 having composed 5 operas, 33 cantatas, 40 hymns, and many choral works in collaboration with Robert Shaw.

Katherine Davis was an American composer, pianist and arranger best known for her Christmas song, "The Little Drummer Boy." She composed over 600 compositions for choirs; this morning's offertory was composed using the melody of the Welsh folk song, "The Ash Grove."

Ian Kellam's hymn (the Peace Candle Response) was composed for Carolyn's 50th birthday, and the recessional hymn – also by Ian Kellam – celebrated Philip's 50th birthday.

OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY

Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737

Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

UNSER HERRSCHER 8.7.8.7.7.7.

Melody by Joachim Neander, 1650-1680

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is based on the tune 'Unser Herrscher' by Joachim Neander. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with a vocal line and a basso continuo line. The lyrics are as follows:

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau-ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee, Come thou al - so un - to me;
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, Here thy seed is du - ly sown;
4 Thou my faith in-crease and quick-en; Let me keep thy gift di-vine;
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee; Let thy will be done in-deed;

Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty, Waits for God who an - swers prayer.
Where we find thee and a - dore thee, There a heav'n on earth must be.
Let my soul, where it is plant-ed, Bring forth pre-cious sheaves a - lone.
E - ven when temp - ta - tions thick-en, May thy word still o'er me shine,
May I un - dis-turbed draw near thee While thou dost thy peo - ple feed;

O how bless-ed is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
To my heart O en - ter thou, Let it be thy tem - ple now.
So that all I hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.
As my guid-ing star through life, As my com-fort in all strife.
Here of life the foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

SING PRAISE TO GOD

Percy Dearmer, 1867-1936, alt.

JUBILEE BRUNELLE 8.7.8.7.8.8.8.7.

Ian Kellam, 1993

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The score is divided into three systems, each with a vocal staff and a piano accompaniment staff. The lyrics are written below the vocal staves.

1 Sing praise to God, who spoke the Word In
2 For A - mos of the proph - ets first, The
3 For Soc - ra - tes, who phrase by phrase, Led
4 For all the po - ets, who have wrought Through

diff - 'ring tongues and man - ners. For those great seers a -
vast con - fu - sion rend - ing Of man - y gods that
us to truth, un - shrink - ing, And left for Pla - to's
mu - sic, words, and vi - sion To tell the beau - ty

lone who heard Writ Truth up - on their
blest or curst To find One, Good, Tran -
might - y grace To mould our ways of
of God's thought By art's sub - lime pre -

ban - ners; For those who once blazed out the way,
 scend - ing; For all who taught the world to rise
 think - ing; For all who wres - tled sane and free
 ci - sion; Who bring our high - est dreams to shape

For those who still lead on to - day, To
 Out of the old fa - mil - iar lies, To
 To win th'un - seen re - al - i - ty. To
 And help the Soul to find es - cape, To

God be thanks, To God be thanks, To

God be thanks and glo - ry.

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*; 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*

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.

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.

CHURCH REGISTER

CONVALESCING

Peg Birk, after wrist surgery

UPCOMING MEMORIAL SERVICE

The memorial service for Nick Nash will be held at Plymouth Church on Monday, September 21, 2026 at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

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.

Plymouth Congregational Church • 1900 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403
612/871-7400 • www.plymouth.org • E-mail: churchinfo@plymouth.org