

Plymouth
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



Photo by [dominik hofbauer](#) on [Unsplash](#)

September 25, 2022

Plymouth Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

September 25, 2022 • Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost • 10 a.m.

**An asterisk invites you to stand as you are able, in body or spirit.*

Prelude

Greeting and Welcome

Pastor Charles

Announcements

- Liturgist sign-up sheet in Narthex
- Montana Jewish Project will be having a Rosh Hashana potluck this Sunday, Sept 25, at 5pm. You can contact Julie Bir if you would like to participate.

Invitation to Worship

adapted from Psalm 146

Rosana Skelton

One: Praise God! Praise God! We will praise God as long as we live!

All: We will sing praises to our God our whole lives long!

One: Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.

All: We place our trust in the God of Jacob, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever!

One: We place our trust in the God who brings justice to the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free!

All: We place our trust in the God who opens the eyes of the blind, The God who lifts up those who are bowed down; the God loves the righteous.

One: We place our trust in the God who watches over the strangers; who upholds the orphan and the widow.

All: God will reign forever, for all generations! Praise God!

*Gathering Hymn

“Trust and Obey”

(Chalice)

Unison Prayer (*please be seated*)

Rosana Skelton

God of possibilities, help us to trust in your wisdom. As you lead us through the wilderness of our lives, help us to be faithful, brave, and assured in your presence with us. We are as helpless children in the desert, but you are the great provider of all good things. [We invite you to rest in this brief moment of silence to listen for God’s loving message for you this day.] (30 seconds) Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Pastor Charles

People of God, hear the good news! God is our loving Father, protecting us from that which would bring us harm. God is our loving Mother, gathering us close and comforting us with her warmth. We are too small to see what the future may bring, but God see all possibilities, and is always encouraging us to walk in the direction that is best for us. Wherever you go, God is with you. Do not be afraid. Amen.

Congregational Response

“Above All”

Above all powers, above all kings

Above all nature and all created things

Above all wisdom and all the works of man,

You were here before the world began

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones

Above all wonders the world has ever known

Above all wealth and treasures of the earth
There's no way to measure what you're worth

Crucified, laid behind the stone
You lived to die, rejected and alone
Like a rose trampled on the ground
You took the fall and thought of me
Above all.

Prayer of Illumination

Steve Michelson

Eternal God, you are our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Be with us now as we listen for your word. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Reading from Epistles

1 Timothy 6:13-19

In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Musical Interlude

Hebrew Bible Reading

Deuteronomy 31:1-8

Pastor Charles

When Moses had finished speaking all these words to all Israel, he said to them: 'I am now a hundred and twenty years old. I am no longer able to get about, and God has told me, "You shall not cross over this Jordan." God will cross over before you, and will destroy these nations before you, and you shall dispossess them. Joshua also will cross over before you, as God promised. God will do to them as was done to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, and to their land, when they were destroyed. God will give them over to you and you shall deal with them in full accord with the command that I have given to you. Be strong and bold; have no fear or dread of them, because it is God who goes with you; and God will not fail you or forsake you.'

Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel: 'Be strong and bold, for you are the one who will go with this people into the land that God has sworn to their ancestors to give them; and you will put them in possession of it. It is God who goes before you. God will be with you; and God will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.'

Pastoral Reflection

Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People

Pastor Charles

God of Revelation, Spirit of Truth we do not know what the future will bring. We cannot see ahead past the bends in the road. We ask you to be our guide and protector. Lead us on the right path, and help us to build a

future of all people, where everyone is cared for, fed, and sheltered. Let us be a community of love, friendship, and sharing. Let us right the wrongs of the past, and heal the wounds that we have inflicted on neighbor, earth, and sky, and let the in-breaking of your realm here on Earth come forth as a result of the works that we do in your name.

Mother and Father of us all, we ask that you be with all of those for whom no one ever prays, and to empower us, so that we might work to heal this world that is our home before it is too late.

Gentle and healing God, help us love each other the way that you love us. We offer special prayers for all of the people in countries that are at war, and ask that you move in us to build a safer and more compassionate world. We pray for Ed Canty, Giles Walker, Evelyn Nelson, Marlyce "Marliss" Taylor, Art and Clara Gilreath, and Lorraine Hopgood. We lift up Margy "Marghee" Kohl, Nathan Schreder "Schrader", Greg Bolin, and Jay Sheldon as they go through cancer treatment. We pray for Anna Demaree, and Ben Sweeney. And we pray for Nancy Michelson, David Donaldson, Jeff Alberta, for Karen and for Robert.

And we close this time with the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray, saying;

And now, may our Creator God instill within you a spirit of creativity. May Jesus the Christ live inside of you, and help you to remember to love and forgive others, as well as yourself. And, may the Holy Spirit always be with you as you make your way on this journey that we call life, so that you will never be alone. Go in peace. Amen.

*Congregational Blessing *“Go Out Now in Peace”*

212 (Sing!)

Postlude



YOU'RE INVITED!

Wednesday, October 19th at 1:30 p.m.—PCC Council Meeting

October—Valerie Hellermann Exhibit and Presentation at Plymouth

November—Jeff Buscher at Plymouth

*Plymouth's Mission is to nurture our congregation and the wider community
with acts of love and a vision of God's image in all things.*

— TODAY'S MINISTERS —

*The People of Plymouth Congregational Church, assisted by
Rev. Charles Wei, Pastor
Rosana Skelton and Steven Michelson, Liturgists
Dr. Steve and Nancy Michelson, Music
Carol McKerrow, Liturgical Art*

— ANNOUNCEMENTS —

Outreach and Social Justice Committee Meeting. If you are interested in participating with the work of this committee, you are cordially invited. We will be meeting at the church on Friday, September 30 at 10:00 AM.

60th Anniversary! We will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the groundbreaking for Plymouth Congregational Church on Sunday, May 28, 2023. To help us do that, you are invited to share recipes for a church cookbook, as well as stories and memories for a booklet we can hand out. Also, if you have any pictures you would like to share, or if you have any other ideas of how we can celebrate, we welcome all of that! Please send your recipes, stories, and pictures to pccofficemgr@gmail.com.

New officers needed! We are in need of nominations and volunteers to fill Council roles and to provide Committee leadership. Please let Jan Clinard or Pastor Charles know if you're interested.

There's a prayer card in your pew rack, which you can use to let us know of prayer requests. Place your card in the offering plate as they are passed.

Welcome visitors! We are delighted to have you worshipping with us today. You are invited to fill out a Visitor Card, which you will find on the back of the pew next to the hymnals.

Child care is available during worship; please speak with an usher.

PCC Office Phone—406-442-9883

Office Manager e-mail—pccofficemgr@gmail.com

Office Hours—Monday through Thursday—9am to 1pm

Pastor Charles' e-mail—pastorplymouthmt@gmail.com

Pastor Office Hours—Tuesdays and Thursdays—9am to 4pm