

Plymouth
Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



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The Anatomy of a Sermon
January 16, 2022

Plymouth Congregational Church

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Welcome! We are glad you have chosen to worship with us this morning.

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

We pray that the Spirit will move through your heart.

January 16, 2022 • Second Sunday after Epiphany • 10 a.m.

~ We Gather to Praise God ~

Prelude

Steve Michelson

Greeting and Welcome

Pastor Charles

Announcements

Congregational meeting after the service on Sunday, January 30th, to go over the budget and the annual report.

Invitation to Worship

Psalm 36:5-10

Robie Culver

Your steadfast love, O God, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O God.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!

~ *We Listen to Hear God's Word* ~

Unison Prayer

Robie Culver

Holy One, help us to remember that we were created in your image, that ours is a divine face to be loved, honored, and cherished. Help us to see you in everyone around us, and to understand how special that is. Help us to see the extraordinary in the ordinary, and to take joy in the simple pleasures of life. [30 seconds of silence - We invite you to rest in this brief moment of silence to listen for God's loving message for you this day.]

Amen.

Moment of Silence (30 seconds)

Assurance of Grace

Pastor Charles

People of God, hear the Good News! You are fearfully and wonderfully made, each and every one of you. To be human is to experience the world in a very special way, with our brains that are able to observe and analyze, and our imaginations which we use to create tools, art, music, and infinite stories and worlds. God has given us these gifts as a reflection of God's own divinity, so use them well, and appreciate the wonder with which you were made. Amen.

Congregational Response

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Prayer of Illumination

Patsy Tompkins

Reading from the Prophets

Isaiah 62:1-5

For Zion's sake. I will not keep silent. And for Jerusalem's sake, I will not

rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name given to you by the mouth of God. You shall be a crown of beauty in God's hand, a royal diadem God's hand. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for God delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

Anthem

A Song for the New Year

Plymouth Singers

Gospel Reading

John 2:1-11

Pastor Charles

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and Jesus' mother was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So, they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew, the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee,

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.

~ *We Share Our Gifts* ~

An Invitation to Share Our Gifts Pastor Charles

Offertory *Instrumental* Steve Michelson

(God's grateful people respond through giving.)

Doxology (*unison*) Nancy Michelson

***Praise God, the Source of life and birth,
Praise God, the Word, who came to Earth,
Praise God, the Spirit, Holy Flame
All glory, honor to God's name. Amen.***

Prayer of Dedication Pastor Charles

Departing Hymn *"One of Us" by Joan Osborne* Nancy Michelson

Charge and Benediction Pastor Charles

Jesus is in our midst. From the day that he was born over 2000 years ago, everything changed. God became human, lived with us, died for us, and came back from the dead so that we would know that we are loved and that we are not alone. God knows what it's like to be human, because

God experienced it through Jesus the Christ. God understands our hopes and our dreams, our pains and our fears, and will never abandon you.

And now, may our Creator God instill with 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 *"Blessed Be the Tie That Binds"*

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Postlude

Steve Michelson



— TODAY'S MINISTERS —

*The People of Plymouth Congregational Church, assisted by
Rev. Charles Wei, Pastor
Robie Culver and Patsy Tompkins, Liturgists
Plymouth Singers, Dr. Steve and Nancy Michelson, Music*

— ANNOUNCEMENTS —

We need your photos! We would like to put together a new directory. Ed Fields has graciously offered to take portrait photos for us the weekend of February 18-20, 2022. More details to follow. Please ensure your contact information has been updated with the office manager.

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.

YOU'RE INVITED!

Sunday, January 23rd at 10:00 a.m.—Worship—Sanctuary

Sunday, January 30th at 11:15 a.m.—Annual Congregational Meeting— Fellowship Hall

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