

Plymouth United Church of Christ
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Director of Music
William Bokhout

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Marilyn Pikaart

Sunday Sessions Director
Angela Wheeler

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, July 15, 2018

CENTERING THOUGHT

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

PRELUDE

*But Now I See
Joy*

-Richard Williamson
-Garrett Parker

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *We gather in dialogue with each other, planning and sharing our response to God’s call to discipleship.* (If you wish to make an announcement, please come forward and sit in the front pew to use a microphone.)

WE GATHER IN WORSHIP, our dialogue with God, the ground of being.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jesus is Lord!

If Jesus is Lord, then Caesar was not.

Jesus is Lord!

If Jesus is Lord, then no other political leader can be.

Jesus said, “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should love one another.”

***OPENING HYMN** *O for a World* 575

***OPENING PRAYER**

***WE GREET EACH OTHER** Greet one another in the peace of Christ.

SERVICE OF PRAYER

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer (we use “debt” and “debtors”)

SCRIPTURE Galatians 3:28 (CS p 189); Luke 4:16-21 (CS p 61)

SPECIAL MUSIC *O Worship the King* Arr. Gordon Schuster
Trumpet Trio: Margaret Hansen, Kevin Dobreff, Phil Pikaart

SERMON “Reclaiming Jesus” Rev. Forrest Hoppe

***HYMN** *Spirit of the Living God* 283

PRAYER (In Unison)

Gracious God, you have called us through your son Jesus, from our separate lives to form one community, grant us a spirit of unity and love. Help us live a common life in which our differences enrich us rather than divide us, our mistakes unite us in forgiveness rather than exclude in judgement, where all are welcome and respected, and our goal is to serve rather than to be served. Give us the courage, strength and faith to be the community we profess to be, so we can be a model to our nation and world. We pray this in the spirit of our Lord, Jesus the Christ. Amen

ACT OF DEDICATION

Invitation

Offertory *Go Down, Moses* Arr. Christian Morris
Brass Trio

***Doxology** *I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* -Trad. AfricanAmerican

**I’m gonna live so ___ God can use me ___ an-y-time,
Lord ___ and an-y-where. __.** (Repeat)

***Prayer of Dedication**

***CLOSING HYMN** *In the Midst of New Dimensions* 391

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *All Hail The Power of Jesus Name* -Anthony Giamanco

*Indicates those who are able are asked to stand.

Leader: Do you offer your encouragement for him as he retires?

People: We do, with the help of God.

Leader: Do you, Doug, release this local church from turning to you and depending on you?

Doug: I do, with the help of God.

Leader: Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here and on the relationship with another who will come to serve?

Doug: I do, with the help of God.

WITNESS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Leader: On behalf of the Grand West Association of the Michigan Conference, United Church of Christ, I witness to the words spoken: words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release. The member churches of our association and conference hold each of you in prayer. We pledge our support in the transitions signified in this service.

On behalf of the Michigan Conference, United Church of Christ, I too, witness to the words spoken today and bring prayerful support to this time of transition for this congregation.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER O God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care. The time we were together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other in the name of Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN *God of Grace and God of Glory* 436

CHORAL BENEDICTION *An Old Irish Blessing* Denes Agay

*POSTLUDE (Congregation seated) *Toccata* -Charles-Marie Widor
Lee Engstrom—Guest Organist

*Indicates those who are able are asked to stand.