

Plymouth United Church of Christ
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Pastor
Rev. Rachel J. Bahr
Organist/Accompanist
Marilyn Pikaart

Director of Music
William Bokhout
Sunday Sessions Director
Angela Wheeler

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 23, 2018

CENTERING THOUGHT

“True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less.”
- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, 20th century

PRELUDE *Variations on “Jesus Loves Me”* Jon Spang, Greg Sewell

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.

INTROIT *All Hail The Power of Jesus Name* Arr. by Michael Lawrence
Plymouth Brass: Kevin Dobreff, Phil Pikaart, Meg Hanson, trumpets; Sharon Wandrey, horn; David Lee Smith, Ethan Wheeler, trombones; Art Wallace, tuba.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Jesus challenges us in today’s gospel:

Many: Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.

One: Then Jesus took a little child and put it among them; and taking the child in his arms, he said to them:

Many: Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.

One: We are still learning today what Jesus came to teach us two thousand years ago. To change the world we must change the way we love and welcome all children!

Many: May we learn to love all children as if they were our own!

One: Will all the children present please lift up your voices so all of us adults can hear you? Say your name and say “Hello!”

Children: Say their names and “hello”--a happy chaos moment!

All: Welcome, children!

*OPENING HYMN *To You, O God, All Creatures Sing* (VS 1-4) 17

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

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

“We Are All One Family” -Wm. Bokhout

We are all one family, you and I (Repeat)

Though we come from different places and we all have different faces, we are all one family, you and I (Repeat all)

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Jesus Loves Me 327

Kevin Dobreff, Humberto Casanova, Bill Bokhout
English, Spanish, German

+++ Children depart for Sunday Sessions

SERVICE OF PRAYER

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

ANTHEM *All Things Bright and Beautiful*

SCRIPTURE Mark 9:30-37 (CS p 45)

*HYMN *Little Children, Welcome* 323

SERMON “A Church Worthy of Our Children” Rev. Rachel J. Bahr

ACT OF DEDICATION

Invitation

Offertory *For These Children* Marilyn Pikaart

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

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

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN *O God, Who’s Steadfast Love* 426

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Joyful, Joyful* Lani Smith