

this story sets
you free...
Gen. 18:1-15; 21:1-7



hope for us

11:30 | gathering of grace
september 17 | 2023



11:30 | gathering of grace september 17 | 2023

*please stand in body or spirit when you see an **

Welcome and Announcements

Mission Moment

Taizé

I Love to Tell the Story

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat,
What seems each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story; for some have never heard,
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

I love to tell the story; for those who know it best,
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story, that I have loved so long.
I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

***Passing of the Peace**

***Prayer of Invocation**

***Gloria**

Glory to the Creator,
and the Christ and the Spirit so near,
as it was from the start,
so it shall be forever, one God, always here.

Scripture Reading

Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

Pew Bible pages 14, 16-17

Word Through Music

Sermon

Hope for Us

Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman

Call to Offering

The Story

Brandi Carlisle

Prayer of Dedication

***Plymouth Covenant** *(Please, join in reading.)*

In the love of truth and in the spirit of Jesus,
we unite for the worship of God, and the service of all.
We seek to know the will of God and to walk in God's ways,
made known or to be made known to us;
to love one another; to proclaim the Gospel to all the world;
to work and pray for the progress of knowledge,
the promotion of justice, the reign of peace,
and the realization of our shared humanity.
And we look with faith for the triumph of righteousness
and the gift of life eternal. Amen.

Soulshine

Allman Brothers

People's Prayer *(Respond after each petition with "Lord, Hear Our Prayers")*

The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, 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.

Try a Little Kindness

If you see your brother standing by the road
With a heavy load, from the seeds he sowed
And if you see your sister fallen by the way
Just stop and say it's all going to be okay

**You've got to try a little kindness
Show a little kindness
Just shine your light for everyone to see
And if you try a little kindness
Then you'll overlook the blindness
Of the narrow minded people
On their narrow minded streets**

Don't walk around the down and out
Lend a helping hand instead of doubt
And the kindness that you show everyday
Will help someone along their way

**You've got to try a little kindness
Show a little kindness
Just shine your light for everyone to see
And if you try a little kindness
Then you'll overlook the blindness
Of the narrow minded people
On their narrow minded streets**

***Blessing**

***Closing Song**

God be with you ‘til we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a Shepherd’s care enfold you:
God be with you ‘til we meet again.

Now Sarah said, ‘God has brought
laughter for me; everyone who
hears will laugh with me.’

Today's Service Participants

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman

Liturgist: Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean

Gathering of Grace Band: Pam Gibbs, Arthur Dodge,
Tom Holland, Patrick McCarty

Lay Readers: Cindy Epperson and Bob Starr

Sound, Light, and Radio: Mark Maziar

Cameras and Video: Aaron Polson

**Justice
Matters
Kickoff**



**More info on
house meetings/
listening sessions**

TAIZÉ SERVICES

Taizé services include reflective readings, simple music, and meditation.
Consider adding a Taizé service to your community prayer practice.

All services are on Fridays at 6pm.

September 22 - Plymouth

October 27 - ECM

December 1 - FUMC

December 8 - Plymouth

December 15 - St John

Interested in receiving emails about Taizé services?

Contact Christina Bloomquist at christina.r912@gmail.com
to be added to the mailing list.

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



WELCOME!

NEW TO PLYMOUTH?



PLEASE, LET US KNOW!

SANCTUARY PROJECT LISTENING SESSIONS



Our beautiful and historic sanctuary shelters us in prayer, lifts our hearts with song, and draws the generations together to worship God. It also urgently needs our attention. Accessibility issues abound. The organ is in dire straits.

It's time to give this historic building the loving attention it deserves. The first step is assessing our capacity to fund the needed work.

Please plan to attend one of the following listening sessions to help us evaluate Plymouth's capacity to fund a capital campaign in 2024:

Monday, September 25th
7pm

Tuesday, September 26th
8am, 12 noon, or 7pm



**Sign up
here!**

PLYMOUTH CHURCH



ALL CHURCH FALL PICNIC TODAY!

4-6PM • SEPTEMBER 17
CLINTON LAKE PARK SHELTER #1



The Fellowship Board will provide grilled **hamburgers and veggie burgers!** Volunteers to sign-up for salads, side dishes, or desserts! **Sign-up TODAY** at the Featured Ministries Table!

Questions? Contact Linda Thompson or Linda Mannering at lbthompson40@gmail.com and lmanneringne@yahoo.com

Please bring your plates and utensils!

PLYMOUTH ART CLASSES

Save the date
Plymouth Art Show
October 22-29

REMAINING CLASSES

Sign up for all Plymouth
Art classes here!



For more information or
questions contact Kim Manz
music@plymouthlawrence.com



PLYMOUTH ART
2023 CLASSES

FAMILY TIE-DYE

WITH KH HARRIS
SEPTEMBER 23 • 1:00-3:00
AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH | \$10

PLYMOUTH ART
2023 CLASSES

Needle-felted Mini-Mushrooms

with Kim Brook
October 1
1:00-2:30
at Plymouth Church - \$7

PLYMOUTH ART
2023 CLASSES



FUSED GLASS ORNAMENTS

WITH BOB GENT
OCTOBER 1 • 3:00-6:00
BOB GENT RESIDENCE
NO FEE

PLYMOUTH VIRTUAL COMMUNITY AUCTION

SEPT 13 - OCT 6

The Plymouth Virtual Auction site is open for bidding!

Check often as there may be new items added throughout the auction. **Bid early/Bid often!**

Members of the auction team will be available at the Church Picnic today to help you with auction registration, and we will still take donations for the auction.

An exciting new addition to the auction is raffle baskets – check them out TODAY in the Mayflower Room!

The baskets will be on display each Sunday until the auction closes on October 6. Tickets will be sold for \$2.00 each, or 6 tickets for \$10.00.

Don't forget to SAVE THE DATE

October 6 – 6:30-8:30

Family Fun Night and auction closing

**BID EARLY
BID OFTEN!**



Plymouth Children's Ministry

WELCOME TO THE GATHERING OF GRACE!

Children and youth are encouraged to worship with their families in this service.

*Nursery services are available for infants, toddlers and Pre-K children in **Room 205 South**. We ask you to please bring your children to the nursery by 11:45!*

*There is also a family room for nursing parents in **Room 204 South**.*

There are worship bags located on the north side of the narthex that are filled for activities and coloring pages for all ages!

If you are interested in learning more about our children's programs, please reach out to Kara Holcombe, Director of Faith Formation at christianed@plymouthlawrence.com.



Plymouth
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH



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Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman, Senior Pastor
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Kim Manz, Minister of Music and Fine Arts
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Rev. Heather Coates, Pastor of Care & Welcome
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Scott Morgan, Moderator (lay leader)
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An Open & Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ