A large, stylized purple cross graphic is centered in the background. The cross is composed of several overlapping, semi-transparent purple shapes that create a layered, three-dimensional effect. The background is white, and the overall design is clean and modern.

**THE  
WAY  
OF  
THE  
CROSS**

**Lent 1**

**9:30 COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE**

---

Sunday • February 22 • 2026

# Lent 1 THE WAY OF THE CROSS

Sunday • February 22 • 2026

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

Greetings

Plymouth Chimes

Prelude

Barbara Ballard

**I Want to Be Ready**

Howard Helvey

\*Call to Worship

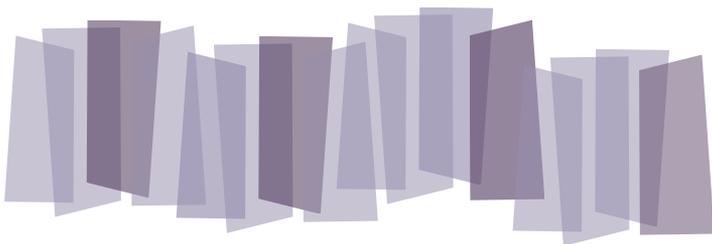
- Leader Claim us, O God, from the blindness,  
which is not even aware that it is sinning;
- People From the pride, which cannot admit that it is wrong;**
- Leader From the self-will,  
which can see nothing but its own way;
- People From the self-righteousness,  
which can see no flaw within itself;**
- Leader From the evasion, which always puts the blame  
on someone or something else;
- People From the heart so hardened that it cannot repent.**
- All Claim us, O God, so that we may be redeemed  
by your grace.**

# \*O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my  
 2. The name of Je - sus charms our fears, and  
 3. Christ speaks, and lis - tening to his voice new  
 4. My gra - cious Sav - ior and my God, as -  
 5. To God all glo - ry, praise, and love be

dear Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my  
 bids our sor - rows cease, is mu - sic in the  
 life the dead re - ceive; the mourn - ful wak - en  
 sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the  
 now and ev - er given by saints be - low and

God and King, the tri - umphs of God's grace!  
 sin - ner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.  
 to re - joice; the poor in heart be - lieve.  
 earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.  
 saints a - bove, the church in earth and heaven.



## \*Prayer of Confession *(Please, join in reading.)*

God of love, we come before you with hearts broken and weary.  
We confess that we have nurtured despair  
and given it safe harbor to grow within us.  
We have indulged in disdain for our enemies and neighbors.  
We have not loved you with our whole hearts.  
Grant that being truly repentant,  
We may be truly forgiven.  
May your grace cover the distance  
between us and all you have promised,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## \*Assurance of God's Love

## \*Song of Response

**Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days vs. 1 & 3** 81  
*(Found in your pew hymnal.)*

## Cherub Choir

**Love Grows One by One**

Carol Johnson

*Paula Aiken, director  
Merilee Dymacek, accompanist*

## Kindergarten Stepping Stone Blessing

Children attending Sunday School go to their designated line up spot after the **Stepping Stone Blessing**. Teachers and guides will be holding signs to help you locate where your child should line up!

## One Heart at a Time

Matt Maher

*Gathering of Grace Band*

## 81 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

ST. FLAVIAN CM

Claudia F. I. Hernaman, 1873; alt.

Day's Psalter, 156

1. Lord, who through-out these for - ty days For us didst fast and pray,  
 2. As Thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend, And didst the vic - tory win,  
 3. And through these days of pen - i - tence, And through Thy Pas - sion - tide,  
 4. A - bide with us, that so, this life Of suf - fering o - ver - past,

LENT

Teach us with Thee to mourn our sins, And close by Thee to stay.  
 O give us strength in Thee to fight, In Thee to con - quer sin.  
 Yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.  
 An Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy We may at - tain at last!

## Scripture Reading

**John 11:1-44**

*Pew Bible NT pg. 104*

Reader    The Word of God for the people of God.  
**All        Thanks be to God!**

## Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land

Kyle Johnson

*Chancel Choir  
Marilyn Epp, accompanist*

## Sermon

Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean

## Call to Offering

## Offertory

**Crowded Table**

The Highwomen

*Gathering of Grace Band*

**\*Doxology** *(Please, join in singing.)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, you heavenly host;  
praise God, and Christ and Holy Ghost.**

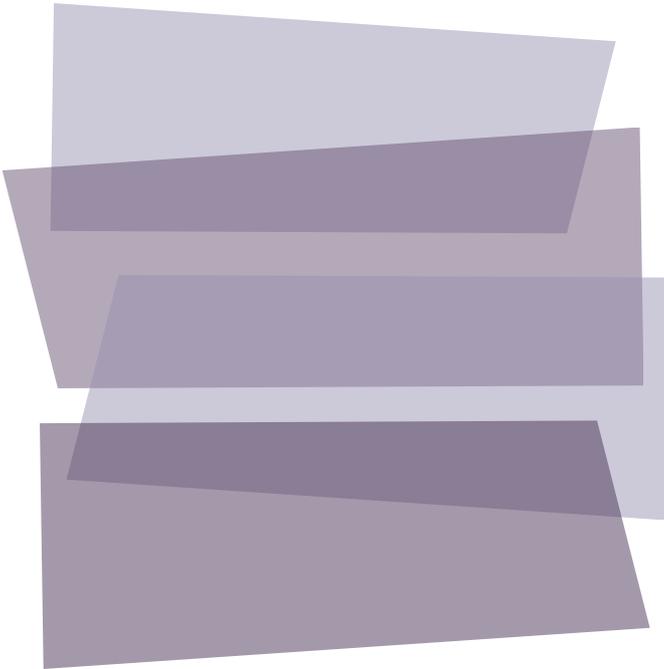
## \*Prayer of Dedication

**\*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.**



# Call to Prayer *(When prompted, join in bold text and singing.)*

Leader     The Lord be with you,  
People     **and also with you.**

Musical score for 'Call to Prayer' in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The lyrics are: Stay with me; re - main here with me; watch and pray. Watch and pray.

Text and Music: Jacques Berthier, ©1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net#A715821.

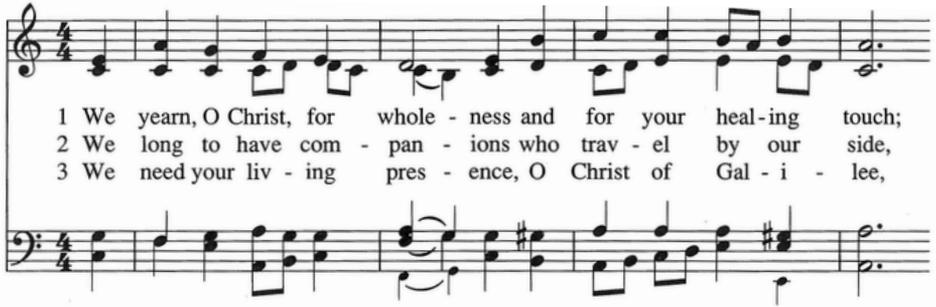
# Pastoral Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

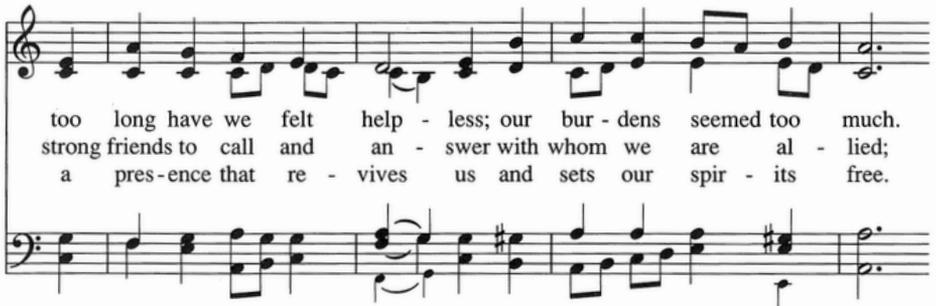
**Our Father/Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory forever. Amen.**

*(Sing again, Stay with me...)*

## \*We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness



1 We yearn, O Christ, for whole - ness and for your heal - ing touch;  
2 We long to have com - pan - ions who trav - el by our side,  
3 We need your liv - ing pres - ence, O Christ of Gal - i - lee,



too long have we felt help - less; our bur - dens seemed too much.  
strong friends to call and an - swer with whom we are al - lied;  
a pres - ence that re - vives us and sets our spir - its free.



For - get - ting all pre - tens - es we make our plead - ings heard,  
As we lift up each oth - er when strug - gles lay us low,  
No long - er are we fear - ful, your love per - vades each place.



in hope and ex - pec - ta - tion a - wait your gra - cious Word.  
com - mu - ni - ty de - vel - ops; our faith and car - ing grow.  
Em - pow - er us with cour - age to claim your heal - ing grace.

## \*Benediction

### Congregational Response *(People seated and singing.)*

God be with you till we meet again.  
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
With a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Amen.

## Plymouth Chimes

## Postlude

**Deep River**  
Trey Clegg

## Today's Service Participants

**Preaching:** Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean  
**Liturgist:** Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman  
**Lay Readers:** Owen Gerrish,  
Alex Kaufman, Elliot Polson  
**Minister of Music & Fine Arts:** Kim Manz  
**Gathering of Grace Band:** Pam Gibbs,  
Arthur Dodge, Tom Holland, Patrick McCarty  
**Acolytes:** Eleanor and Harrison Wood  
**Welcome Team Leaders:** Chris and Ken Johnson  
**Sound, Lights, and Radio:** Bob Newton  
**Cameras and Video:** Jeremy Winfrey



# Welcome

## New to Plymouth?

Please, let us know!

# Called Congregational Meeting

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## Today, following the Combined Worship Service

A called congregational meeting of Plymouth Congregational Church will be held **TODAY in the sanctuary at the conclusion of the Combined Worship Service at 9:30.**

The purpose of the meeting is to "discuss and vote upon the proposed modifications to the chancel" as requested in a petition received by the Moderator and signed by 5% of the members of the congregation.

*Childcare is available in room 207S **until 12:15pm.***



# One Great HOUR OF SHARING



**GIVE  
ONLINE  
HERE!**



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## PARKING REMINDER



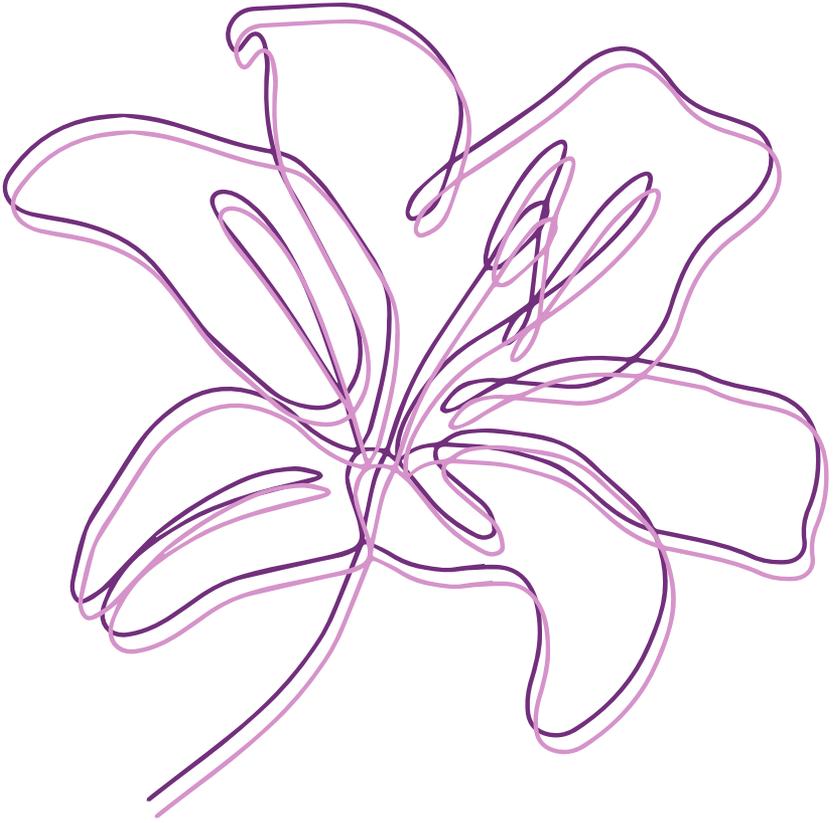
**FOR THOSE PARKING NEAR THE BANK,  
PLEASE MAKE SURE WE ARE NOT  
BLOCKING THE ATM OR THE FLOW OF  
TRAFFIC IN AND OUT. WE WANT TO  
MAKE SURE THEIR CUSTOMERS HAVE  
EASY ACCESS WHILE WE'RE IN SERVICE.**

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## BLOOD DRIVE



**MARCH 3 • 10AM-3PM**



# Easter Lilies

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Pastors' Emergency Fund 2026  
at Plymouth Congregational Church



Online  
Order  
Form



# DADS TALK GOD

THE LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH  
JOHNNY'S WEST • 7:30PM

## NEXT MEETING: THIS THURSDAY, FEB. 26

Join fellow Plymouth Dads to take time out of your busy schedule to reflect and talk about your own faith and spiritual growth. Whether you are deeply rooted in faith, full of doubt, new to Christianity, or a lifelong practitioner, you are welcome and encouraged to bring your experience to the group. A conversation prompt will be given each month – no study or prep work necessary.

This group is for any Plymouth dad with high school aged kids or younger. We hope you can join the conversation!

We know schedules get crazy, so don't worry if you can't arrive right at 7:30.

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For questions, contact:  
Ben Miller-Coleman  
[benjamin.t.coleman@gmail.com](mailto:benjamin.t.coleman@gmail.com)  
or Brantley Dean  
[brantleyqdean@gmail.com](mailto:brantleyqdean@gmail.com)

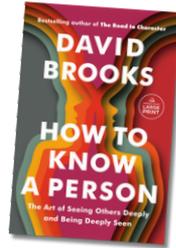
# Lenten Wednesdays at Plymouth Church



## Spiritual Book Club

Facilitated by **Judith Galas**

This Lent the Spiritual Book Club will read David Brooks' *How to Know a Person: the Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen*.



The book, which is \$20 in paperback, is widely available. The Raven Bookstore can have it within five days of your order. Judith Galas will facilitate the book discussion. Judith asks that you sign up only if you know that you can make the first meeting and most of the others. Contact her at [judithcgalas@gmail.com](mailto:judithcgalas@gmail.com). It's possible this new beginning will help establish an ongoing spiritual book club at Plymouth.



## Centering Prayer

Facilitated by  
**Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman**

Prayer seems like a simple practice, but that doesn't mean it's always easy. Practicing together with a good teacher helps. Wednesday evenings during Lent we'll gather to practice and study Centering Prayer as taught by Father Thomas Keating, a Trappist monk who brought monastic prayer to the local congregation.



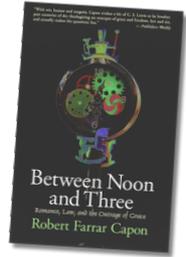
Expect contemplative silence, some video and in-person teaching, and companionship as we learn to pray together. No previous experience or study necessary.



## The Radical Grace of God

Facilitated by **Rev. Michael Brecke**

A Lenten discussion about the radical grace of God, based on Robert Farrar Capon's book "From Noon to Three: Romance, Lae, and the Outrage of Grace." Robert Farrar Capon is an Episcopal priest and author. In this book he explores God's radical grace, how we relate to that grace and its relationship to and between "the law and the Gospel." This will be a no holds barred, freewheeling discussion of God's grace and our comfort zones.



## Baptism Class

Facilitated by **Rev. Caroline Dean**

This will be a small group for parents, adults, and older youth seeking baptism. We will have interactive teaching sessions, share resources and explore baptism together. Most of all it will be a great way to connect with other families and members at Plymouth. Childcare is available.

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# Wednesday Nights\*

February 25-April 1  
6-7pm



**Sign Up  
Online Here**

**Childcare available.**

\*We will not meet on March 18, Spring Break week!

# Kids at Plymouth Wednesdays



**Kidz Camp!** is a place for kids about to go into kindergarten through elementary school to gather for learning and play, singing songs and playing games from **Tall Oaks Church Camp**.



## K-1st Grade and 4th-5th Grade "Our Whole Lives" Courses

**Our Whole Lives** equips children & adults with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture.

Grounded in a holistic view of sexuality, Our Whole Lives not only provides facts about anatomy and human development, but also helps participants clarify their values, build interpersonal skills, and understand the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of sexuality.

*For K-1st Grade OWL, a parent or caregiver is encouraged to attend with their K-1 student.*



**More  
Details &  
Sign Up  
Online Here**

# Sunday Evenings



The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Stepping Stone small group will gather at Plymouth on Sunday evenings from 4:30-6pm on the following dates:

**Sunday, February 22** (Students and Parents),  
**Sunday, March 1** (Parents Only) and  
**Sunday, March 8** (Students and Parents)

Save the date for our 8 Grade Stepping Stone Blessing on **Sunday, March 29** in worship.



## 8th Grade Stepping Stone Small Group

Plymouth's Stepping Stone program is a cradle-to-graduation family ministry that transforms faith formation for children, youth and parents. Stepping Stone gatherings encourage and equip parents to be confident and effective faith mentors for their youth. In these groups you will find spiritual practices and transformative conversations with other parents about things that really matter to parents and students at key junctures in your child's development.

These groups are for parents and youth in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. *There is one meeting with parents only.*

*You will also receive extra resources & take-home rituals. Susie Roman will be facilitating the 8th grade Stepping Stone group.*

Email Rev. Caroline Dean with any questions:  
[associatepastor@plymouthlawrence.com](mailto:associatepastor@plymouthlawrence.com)



**Sign Up Online Here**



# FIRST ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT

# NAVIGATING NEW DIRECTIONS

TALL OAKS CONFERENCE CENTER  
LINWOOD, KANSAS

MARCH 6-8 2026

The **First Annual Men's Retreat** will be led by **Pastor Keith Herron** as we explore **Navigating New Directions**, learning to travel in our stories, even as they change.

Life can be seen as a cycle of from dependence to independence to interdependence and circling back again.

We'll explore stories we hold in the library of our own lives, and we'll explore how we change the trajectory of our lives by navigating new directions as we consider the threshold moments of formation, integration, and intimacy as part of a meaningful whole.



**MORE DETAILS  
& REGISTRATION**

# HOLY WEEK

## AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH

### **Palm Sunday Services**

Sunday, March 29 • 9:30 & 11:30am

Our Holy Week pilgrimage begins.

### **Maundy Thursday Service**

Thursday, April 2 • 7:30pm

The journey to the cross intensifies.

### **Good Friday Service**

Friday, April 3 • 7:30pm

Dramatic presentation of the Passion  
Narrative using still life characters  
and music.

# Sunday School and Children's Choir

## Rooms for Sunday School

- Preschool
- K-1st Grade
- 2nd-3rd Grade
- 4th-5th Grade

Room 106 S  
Room 205 S  
Room 210 S  
Room 206 S

Nursery is in Room 105 S • A nursing/quiet room is in 104 S

## Rooms for Choir

- Cherub Choir (Pre K-1st Grade)
- Carol Choir (2nd-5th Grade)
- Chapel Choir (6th-12th Grade)

Room 205 S  
Chapel  
Chapel

*Chapel Choir meets at 10:30am*

*Worship Bags and Coloring Pages can be found in the Narthex. Children are dismissed to Sunday School after the Children's Celebration (approximately at 9:45am) and go to Children's Choir afterwards from 10:30-11am.*

**Additional Sunday School and Children's Choir information can be found on the bulletin board at the South Entrance.**

---

### Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman, Senior Pastor

seniorpastor@plymouthlawrence.com

### Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean, Associate Pastor

associatepastor@plymouthlawrence.com

### Kim Manz, Minister of Music and Fine Arts

music@plymouthlawrence.com

### Colton Pasquale, Director of Faith Formation

christianed@plymouthlawrence.com

### Rev. Michael Brecke, Interim Pastor of Care & Welcome

welcome@plymouthlawrence.com

### Jenny O'Brien, Moderator (lay leader)

tjbrobrien@gmail.com



**Plymouth  
Congregational  
Church**

925 Vermont Street Lawrence, Kansas 66044  
www.plymouthlawrence.com • 785-843-3220

**An Open & Affirming Congregation  
of the United Church of Christ**



SAFE SPACE