

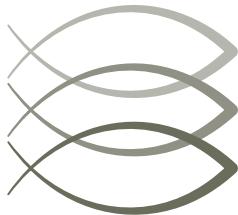
Gospel of John

The Way. The Truth. The Life.

John 9:1-41

9:30 Celebration of Worship
Sunday • February 15 • 2026

How can we reclaim the promise John offers for our own time and context? What kind of savior are we longing to receive? What in us and in our world cries out for redemption? How can we find our way? Where do we turn to find the truth about ourselves and the world around us? What brings us life?



Gospel of John

The Way. The Truth. The Life.

* please stand in body or spirit when you see an

Greetings

Plymouth Chimes

Prelude

Simple Gifts
Michael Hassell

*Call to Worship

Leader In the beginning was love, a breath moving over still waters.
People **Love lives and grows here.**

Leader A light shined in the darkness and it shines for all ages.
People **Light and hope shine through us now.**

Leader God calls us “Beloved” and provides a way in the night.
People **Beloved, let us find that way together.**

Leader God promises never to leave us, not now and not ever.
People **Love and light will guide us home.**
All **Come, let us worship God!**

*Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

Capo 3: (D)

F

(Bm)

Dm

(G)

B \flat



2 Ev - ery day we need your nur - ture; by your milk may
3 O how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - i - mag - ined,

(D)

F

(Bm)

Dm



we be fed. Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of
all your ways! To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our

(G)

B \flat

(D)

F

(A)

C



bless - ing, liv - ing bread. God, re - new us; guide our
lives we wor - ship, praise! We your peo - ple stand be -

(Bm)

Dm

(F \sharp m)

Am

(Bm)

Dm

(G)

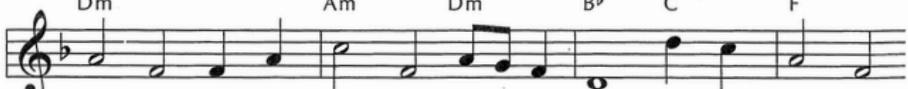
B \flat

(A)

C

(D)

F



foot - steps, free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in
fore you, wa - ter-washed and Spir - it - born. By your grace, our

(Bm)

Dm

(G)

B \flat

(D)

F



liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

*Prayer of Invocation *(Please, join in reading.)*

God of Love, we long to know the comfort of your companionship.
We would love you with our whole hearts, if we could.
We ask you to reveal more of yourself to us.
Move with us beyond the confines of familiar habits.
Set us free from the limitations of our language,
and expand our understanding of you.
Teach our hearts to speak your love.
Shine your light through us that we might reflect
your full image among all whose lives touch ours.
In Christ we pray. Amen.

*Gloria

Glory to the Creator,
and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Children's Hymn

These Treasured Children



O ten - der God, ____ each child em - brace; God give them
bless - ings, grant them grace. Sur -prise them, God, with won - ders
still, and gent - ly guide them to your will.

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Children's Celebration

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

*Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

Em Am7 Bm7 Esus Em

1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
 2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
 3 Long-ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long-ing for
 4 Long-ing for shel - ter, man - y are home-less. Long-ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

Am7 Bm7 Esus Em Am7

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

D G C Am Dsus D

your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has power to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your king - dom come.

Refrain

G C G Em Bm Em

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

Am7 D G Dsus D Em Em7

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

C Am7 D G Am7 G

church gath - ered to - day.

Scripture Reading

John 9:1-41

Pew Bible NT pg. 102

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

Sermon

Double Take

Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman

Call to Offering

Offertory

Lord of the Dance

John Ferguson

Chancel Choir

“Lord of the Dance” written by English composer Sydney Carter portrays the life of Jesus as a dance that invites all to join in. The lyrics are a narrative of the key events in Jesus’ life, exploring joy, death, resurrection, and the ongoing presence of Christ in our lives. Two verses describe events in this morning’s scripture reading, healing and the unbelief of the Pharisees. Carter’s intention was to create a hymn that resonates with the idea of Christ as a vibrant, living presence, inviting all to join in the dance of life. The music SIMPLE GIFTS, an American Shaker song adds to the rhythmic and uplifting nature.

Carter wrote “I see Christ as the incarnation of the piper who is calling us. He dances that shape and pattern which is at the heart of our reality.” Inspiration came from Jesus’ life, the English carol “Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day” and a statue of the Hindu god Shiva in a dancing pose.

*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.**

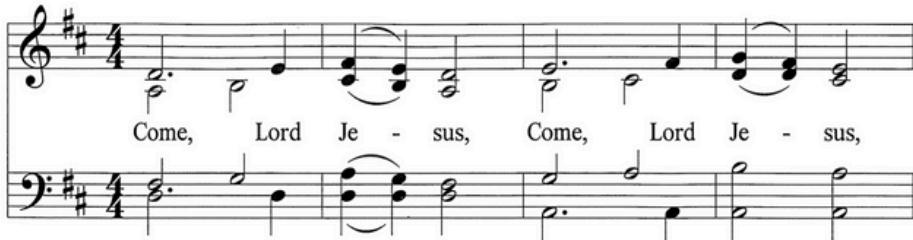
**We seek to know the will of God
and to walk in God's ways,
made known or to be made known to us;
to love one another;
to proclaim the Gospel to all the world;
to work and pray for the progress of knowledge,
the promotion of justice, the reign of peace,
and the realization of our shared humanity.
And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

Moment for Mission

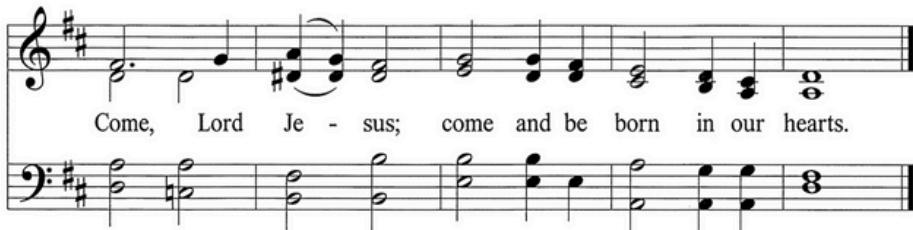
Justice Matters

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

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



Come, Lord Je - sus, Come, Lord Je - sus,



Come, Lord Je - sus; come and be born in our hearts.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

(Sing again, Come, Lord Jesus...)

*Be Thou My Vision

339

(Found in your pew hymnal.)

*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

Hornpipe in D
John Dixon

Ancient Irish poem

Trans. Mary E. Byrne, 1905
Vers. Eleanor Hull, 1912; alt.Irish ballad
Harm. David Evans, 1927

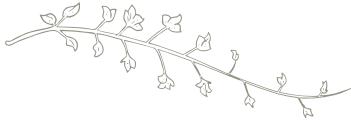
1. Be Thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2. Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 3. Be Thou my wis - dom, and Thou my true word;

Nought be all else to me, save that Thou art—
 Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 Thou and Thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
 Great God of heav - en, my trea - sure Thou art.
 Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

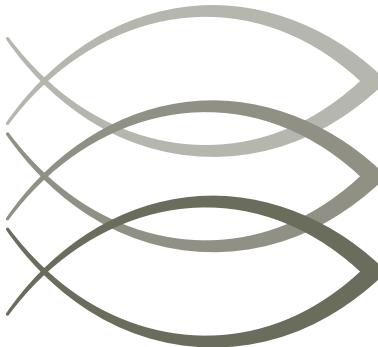
LIFE IN CHRIST



The flowers on the chancel are given by Jan Mahlios
in memory of Marc Mahlios.

Today's Service Participants

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman
Liturgist: Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean
Lay Readers: Charlotte MacFarland, Dwight Hilpman, and Aaron Polson
Minister of Music & Fine Arts: Kim Manz
Children's Celebration: Colton Pasquale
Acolytes: Meyer and McCarty Lamb
Welcome Team Leader: Mary Lake
Sound, Lights, and Radio: Gretchen Meyer
Cameras and Video: Jeremy Winfrey



Welcome
New to Plymouth?
Please, let us know!



Justice Matters



Network Meeting

Plymouth's Justice Matters team invites all Plymouth members and friends to stand up for justice by attending our Annual Network Meeting **TODAY at 10:30am in room 202 North.**



If you are newer to the Justice Matters community, we will have a breakout session to answer questions and connect with you.



We will be preparing to mobilize our congregation for the Nehemiah Action Assembly on April 26th at 2:00pm at the Double Tree Hotel.



Justice Matters is a local multi-faith organization consisting of faith communities and neighborhood networks coming together to surface, understand and address issues of justice, playing a key role in our community around issues of affordable housing, chronic homelessness, elder care, youth trauma, and restorative practices.

OWL

Mandatory Parent Orientation

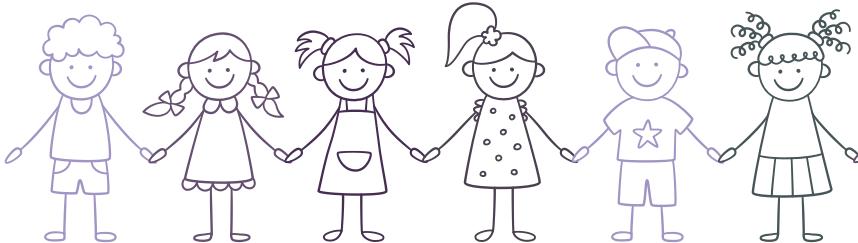


10:40 TODAY

These meetings are for the parents of children who have signed up for upcoming OWL classes (see page 17 of this bulletin), and those still considering participation.

Two simultaneous meetings between services this morning:

- Kindergarten and 1st Grade OWL parents meeting in 210 S
- 4th and 5th grade OWL parents meeting in 207 S





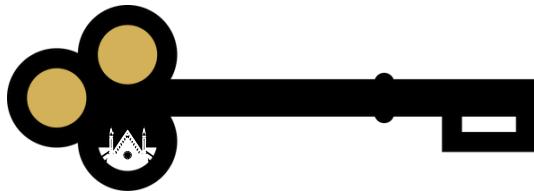
BLOOD DRIVE
MARCH 3
10AM-3PM
AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH





LINK

**Sign up for LINK
THIS SUNDAY at
the Featured
Ministry Table!**



Enter In



The History of Change at Plymouth Church

TODAY! • 10:45 – 11:30am

The Mayflower Room

The History of Change at Plymouth Church presented by Plymouth Historian Susan McCarthy. Susan will review the significant changes made with the Plymouth Church structure, giving special attention to sanctuary changes. Time will be allotted for questions and comments.

Called Congregational Meeting

February 22, 2026

A called congregational meeting of Plymouth Congregational Church will be held **February 22, 2026 in the sanctuary at the conclusion of the Combined Worship Service at 9:30.**

The purpose of the meeting will be 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.

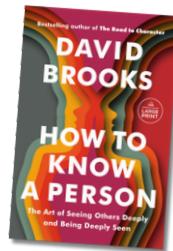
Lenten Wednesdays at Plymouth Church



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. 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.

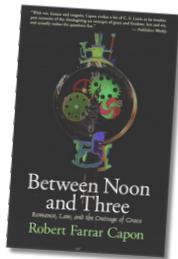
Expect contemplative silence, some video and in-person teaching, and companionship as we learn to pray together. No previous experience or study necessary.



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, Law, 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.

Wednesday Nights*

February 25-April 1 6-7pm

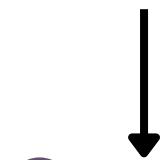
Childcare available.

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



**Sign Up
Online Here**

Kids at Plymouth Wednesdays



Kidz Camp!



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 8th 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 8th 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



Sign Up Online Here

TATTOOS ON THE HEART

RETURNING TO OURSELVES

PLYMOUTH WOMEN'S RETREAT

FEBRUARY 27 & 28, 2026

SOPHIA SPIRITUALITY CENTER

ATCHISON, KANSAS

FULL DETAILS AND
REGISTRATION
ONLINE HERE



TOGETHER WE WILL EXPLORE PARABLES OF KINSHIP ILLUMINATING GOD'S UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AND EACH PERSON'S INHERENT GOODNESS THROUGH SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES, INDIVIDUAL JOURNALING, PRAYER PRACTICES AND THE ARTS.

FATHER GREGORY BOYLE WRITES BEAUTIFULLY ON THESE THEMES IN HIS BOOKS "TATTOOS ON THE HEART" AND "CHERISHED BELONGING."

THERE IS NO REQUIRED READING FOR THE RETREAT; HOWEVER, READING EITHER/OR (OR EVEN A PART OF ONE!) WOULD BE AN INSPIRING WAY TO DEEPEN YOUR RETREAT EXPERIENCE.



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.



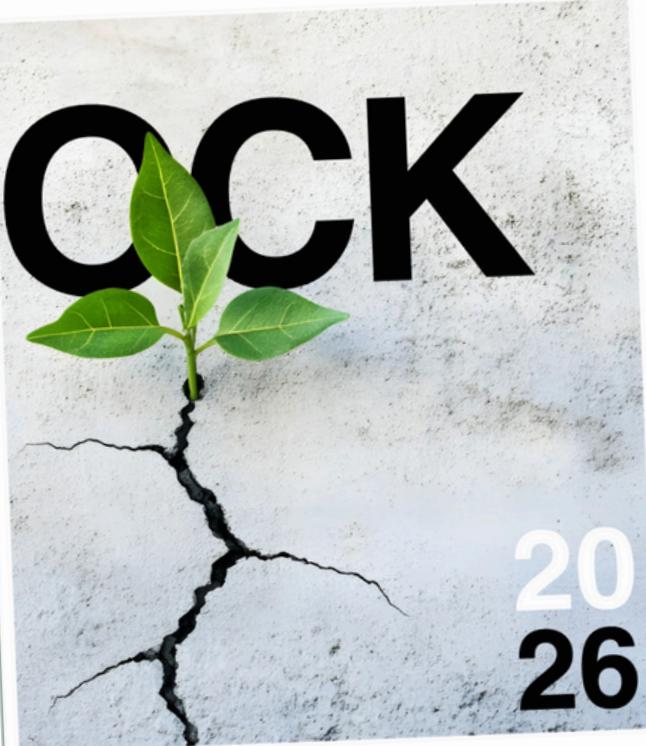
**MORE DETAILS
& REGISTRATION**

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2026
LENTEN EDITION

INSIDE
COMMUNITY + EDUCATION + LENT
& HOLY WEEK + MUSIC + HISTORY

ROCK

PLYMOUTH CHURCH
LAWRENCE, KANSAS



SAFE SPACE

Plymouth is a congregation that speaks its mind. In the service of and belief in a loving and accepting God, we gladly own our role as disciples of Jesus Christ in our respective time and place in the world.

TO FIND US ONLINE, PLEASE VISIT:
PLYMOUTHLAWRENCE.COM



Pick up a copy of the
February/March **ROCK** today.



View online
here.



ASH WED NES DAY AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH

Our **Lenten** journey
begins on Ash
Wednesday.

Join us at **6pm on**
February 18 for this
service of worship with
the imposition of ashes.

Wednesday • February 18 • 2026

Sunday School and Children's Choir

Rooms for Sunday School

- Preschool Room 106 S
- K-1st Grade Room 205 S
- 2nd-3rd Grade Room 210 S
- 4th-5th Grade 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) Room 205 S
- Carol Choir (2nd-5th Grade) Chapel
- Chapel Choir (6th-12th Grade) 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**

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

