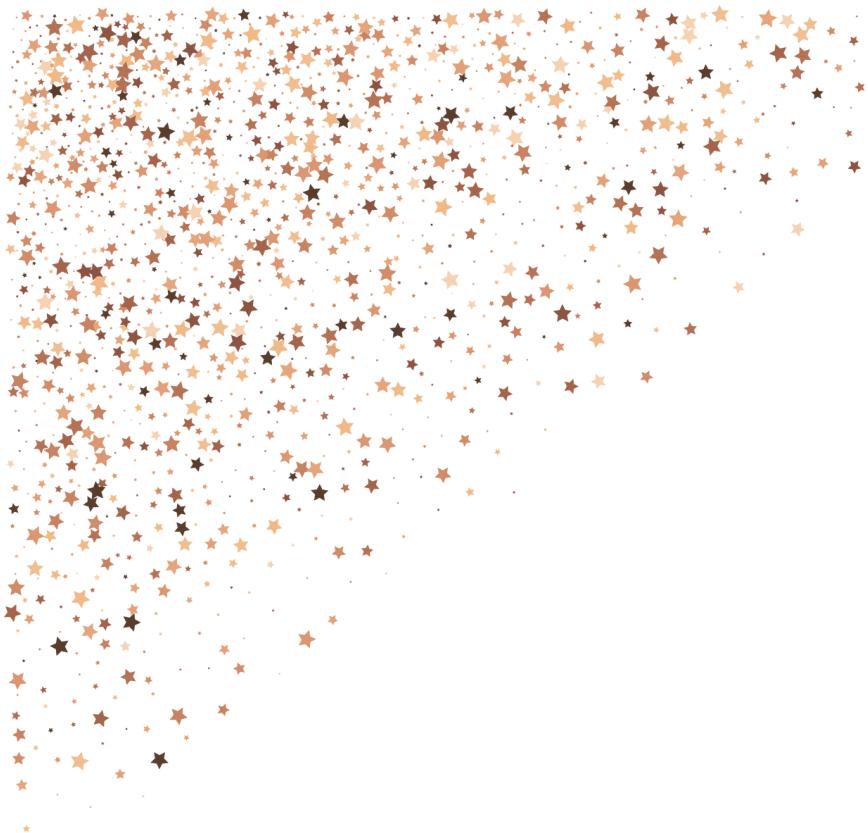


Epiphany

at Plymouth Church



9:30 • Celebration of Worship
Sunday • January 4 • 2026

Epiphany

at Plymouth Church

Celebration of Worship

Sunday • January 4 • 2026

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

Greetings

Plymouth Chimes

Prelude

Linda Mannering & Kim Manz, piano

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*Call to Worship

Leader Like wise ones following the star, we come seeking Christ.
People **Be with us, O Lord, in the shadows and in the light. Guide us to where love is born anew.**

Leader God's promise shines like a star in the night, leading us to where heaven meets earth.
People **Let us see what God sees, the holy child in every face, divine love in every heart.**

Leader Let us worship together in joy.
All **Let us sing praise to God!**

*As With Gladness, Men of Old

(Found in your pew hymnal.)

63

As with Gladness Men of Old

63

DIX 7.7.7.7.7

William Chatterton Dix, c. 1858

Conrad Kocher, 1838

Abr. William Henry Monk, 1861

Harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

1. As with glad-ness men of old Did the guid-ing star be - hold;
2. As with joy - ful steps they sped To that low - ly man-ger bed,
3. As they of - fered gifts most rare At that man-ger rude and bare;
4. Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - ery day Keep us in the nar - row way;

As with joy they hailed its light, Lead-ing on - ward, beam-ing bright;
There to bend the knee be - fore Him whom heaven and earth a - dore;
So may we with ho - ly joy, Pure, and free from sin's al - loy,
And, when earth-ly things are past, Bring our ran - somed souls at last

So, most gra-cious Lord, may we Ev - er-more be led to Thee.
So may we with will - ing feet Ev - er seek Thy mer - cy seat.
All our cost-liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heaven-ly King.
Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide.

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

Holy God, we gather as your people, following the light of your star.

Open our hearts to the mystery of incarnation, to your love made flesh among us. Like the magi who sought the infant king, may we bring our gifts of worship and wonder.

Help us see your light shining in each face around us, hear your voice in song and silence, and feel your Spirit moving among this gathered community.

Guide us by your wisdom, O God. Transform us by your presence and fill us with the light of your love. In the name of Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

*Song of Praise

On This Day Earth Shall Ring vs 1 & 3

46

(Found in your pew hymnal.)

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

Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Pew Bible NT page 2

Reader The Word of God for the people of God.

All **Thanks be to God!**

*We Three Kings

66

(Found in your pew hymnal.)

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman

What King is This?

Call to Offering

Piae Cantiones, 1582

Trans. Jane Marion Joseph (1894-1929)

Piae Cantiones, 1582

Arr. Gustav Theodore Holst, 1924

1. On this day earth shall ring With the song
 2. His the doom, ours the mirth; When He came
 3. God's bright star, o'er His head, Wise men three
 4. On this day an - gels sing; With their song

chil - dren sing To the Lord, Christ our King, Born on earth to
 down to earth Beth - le - hem saw His birth; Ox and ass be -
 to Him led, Kneel-ing low by His bed, Lay their gifts be -
 earth shall ring, Prais - ing Christ, heav - en's King, Born on earth to

Refrain

save us; Him the Fa - ther gave us.
 side Him From the cold would hide Him. *Id - e - o - o - o,
 fore Him, Praise Him and a - dore Him.
 save us; Peace and love He gave us.

R.H.
 L.H.
 R.H.

Id - e - o - o - o, Id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o -

We Three Kings of Orient Are

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT 8.8.44.6 with refrain

John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857; i
Intro. Robert Stigall, 19

John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857; alt.

All: 1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are,
Opt. solo: 2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain,
Opt. solo: 3. Frank-in - cense to of - fer have I:
Opt. solo: 4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume
All: 5. Glo - ri - ous now be - hold Him a - rise,

Optional Introduction

Bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far, Field and foun - tain,
Gold I bring to crown Him a - gain, King for ev - er,
In - cense owns a De - i - ty nigh; Prayer and prais - ing
Breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom; Sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
King and God and Sac - ri - fice; Al - le - lu - ia,

moor and moun - tain, Fol - low - ing yon - der star.
ceas - ing nev - er O - ver us all to reign.
we are rais - ing, Wor - ship - ing God Most High.
bleed - ing, dy - ing, Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
Al - le - lu - ia Sounds through the earth and skies.

Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night,

Star with roy - al beau - ty bright; West - ward lead - ing,

still pro - ceed - ing. Guide us to thy per - fect light!

Offertory

There Shall a Star

F. Mendelssohn

Chancel Choir

*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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Leader God is with you.

People **And also with you.**

Leader Lift up your hearts.

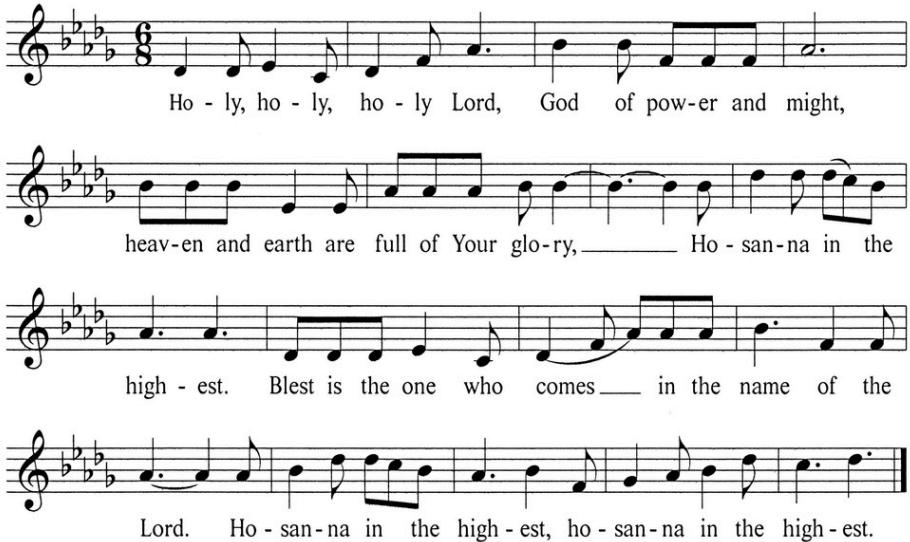
People **We lift them up to God.**

Leader Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Leader Let us pray...

Sanctus (Please, join in singing.)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry, _____ Ho - san-na in the
high - est. Blest is the one who comes _____ in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Music: Joseph Roff, ©1980, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.
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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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Communion Music

Saw You Never in the Twilight • Tom Porter
Rise Up, Shepherd and Follow • arr. Stan Pethel

Emily Bennett, Jailene Faves, Mary Marathe
Melissa Hurst, flute

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader Let us offer a prayer of thanksgiving together.
People **Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have**
refreshed us at your table. Now strengthen our faith,
increase our love for one another, and send us forth
into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the
power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain

29

(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

Linda Mannering & Kim Manz, piano

We Three Kings
arr. Joel Raney

Today's Service Participants

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman

Liturgist: Rev. Michael Brecke

Minister of Music & Fine Arts: Kim Manz

Lay Reader: Erika Dvorske

Acolytes: McCarty Lamb and Meyer Lamb

Welcome Team Leaders: Ron and Su Johnson

Sound, Lights, and Radio: Mark Gleeson

Cameras and Video: Jeremy Winfrey

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT 7.6.7.6 with refrain

Stanzas, John W. Work II (1872-1925)

African-American spiritual
Arr. John W. Work III, 1940

Harm. and adapt. Melva Wilson Costen, 1987

Refrain

Refrain

Go, tell it on the moun - tain O-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

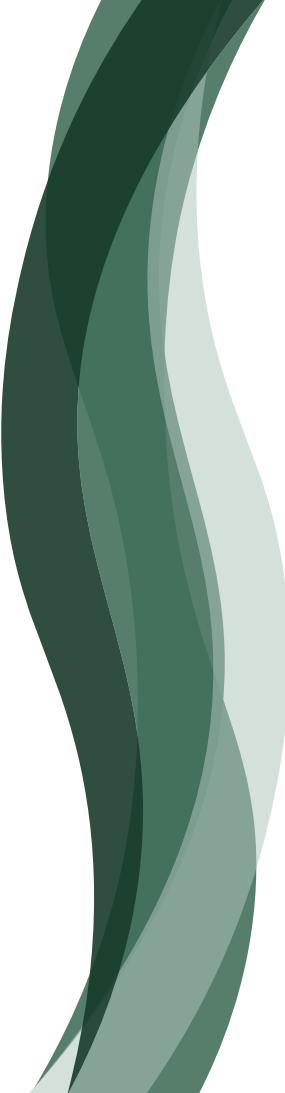
Fine

Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo! a - bove the earth,
 3. Down in a low - ly man-ger The hum-ble Christ was born,

D.C.

Be - hold through-out the heav-en-s There shone a ho - ly light.
 Rang out the an-gel cho-rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.



Budget Meeting

Immediately following the
9:30 Service next Sunday,
January 11

10:40-11:30
in the Mayflower Room

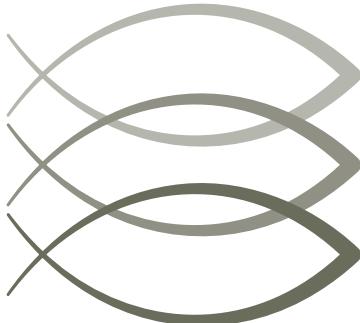
Childcare provided in Room 209 S. Please pick up your child after the completion of the budget meeting at 11:30am.



Welcome

New to Plymouth?
Please, let us know!





New Sunday Series starting in January...

Gospel of John

The Way. The Truth. The Life.

January 11 • John 1:35-51
Jesus Says Come and See

January 18 • John 2:13-25
Jesus Cleanses the Temple

January 25 • John 3:1-21
Nicodemus

February 1 • John 4:1-42
The Woman at the Well

February 8 • John 4:46-54
Healing Stories

February 15 • John 9:1-41
The Man Born Blind

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?

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.



My Life As Gift: Telling Your Life Story

If you have ever thought about writing the story of your life, come to an informational meeting **in Room 202N between services either on January 11 or 25.**

Too often the stories of our lives are lost, and the wisdom we have gained is not passed along to younger generations.

The **Memoir Writers Forum** addresses this issue. God gifts us with life and calls us to make a gift of our lives to others!

Many of us doubt that our lives are interesting or significant, but *we all have a story to tell* – a story layered with complexity, contradictions, and memories both gratifying and regretful.

The **Writers Forum** will jump start your writing, helping to instill confidence that you can create a lasting legacy, capturing meaningful memories to pass on to others.

“Writers are the custodians of memory,” wrote noted scholar and author William Zinsser.

“Writing... allows you to come to terms with your life narrative. It also allows you to work through some of life’s hardest knocks – loss, grief, illness, addiction, disappointment, failure – and to find understanding and solace.”

Join us in this journey together!



High School
YOUTH



BOWLING NIGHT

at Royal Crest Lanes
NO COST FOR BOWLING OR SHOES!
BRING \$15 FOR FOOD

SATURDAY • JANUARY 25 • 4:30PM

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) Room 204 S
- 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

Rich Bireta, Moderator (lay leader)

rbireta@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**

