



# Enter In

## at Plymouth Church

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9:30 • Celebration of Worship  
April 28 • 2024

*...to Courage*

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Matthew 25:14-30



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9:30 • Celebration of Worship  
April 28 • 2024

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

Greetings

Plymouth Chimes

Prelude

**Praeludium in G BWV568**  
*J.S. Bach*

**\*Call to Worship**

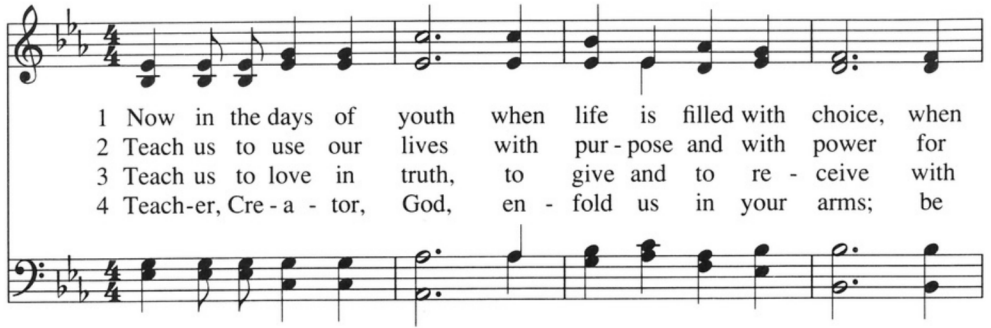
Sabina Scott

One     Come into God's house with glad and grateful hearts!  
Many   **Come sing praise to God, from whom all blessings flow.**

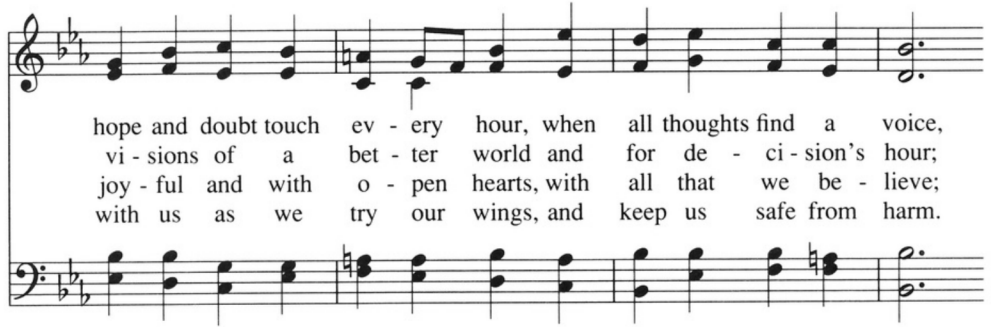
One     Lift up your hearts, for God has done mighty things!  
Many   **All who live and breathe and have their being, praise the Lord!**

All     **All glory, laud and honor be unto God most high!**

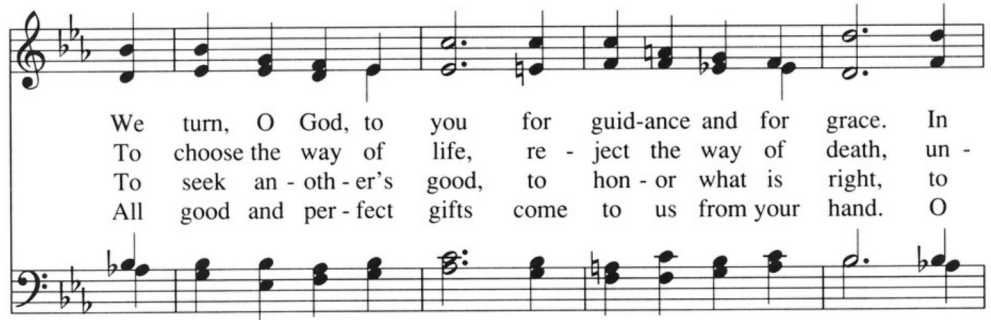
## \*Now in the Days of Youth



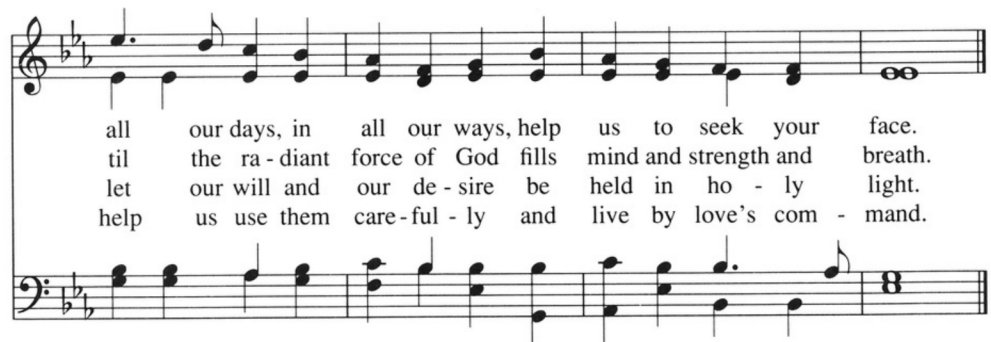
1 Now in the days of youth when life is filled with choice, when  
2 Teach us to use our lives with pur - pose and with power for  
3 Teach us to love in truth, to give and to re - ceive with  
4 Teach - er, Cre - a - tor, God, en - fold us in your arms; be



hope and doubt touch ev - ery hour, when all thoughts find a voice,  
vi - sions of a bet - ter world and for de - ci - sion's hour;  
joy - ful and with o - pen hearts, with all that we be - lieve;  
with us as we try our wings, and keep us safe from harm.



We turn, O God, to you for guid - ance and for grace. In  
To choose the way of life, re - ject the way of death, un -  
To seek an - oth - er's good, to hon - or what is right, to  
All good and per - fect gifts come to us from your hand. O



all our days, in all our ways, help us to seek your face.  
til the ra - diant force of God fills mind and strength and breath.  
let our will and our de - sire be held in ho - ly light.  
help us use them care - ful - ly and live by love's com - mand.

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

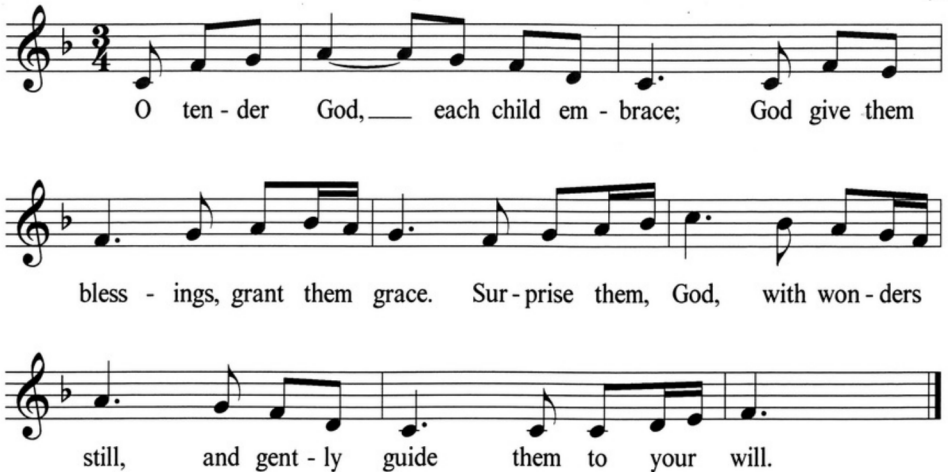
O Lord, our God, how precious  
is your name in all the earth.  
Our hearts rise up, filled with gratitude  
for all we receive so freely from you.

Move among us in this hour of worship  
that our lives might shine forth your light  
in all we say and do and strive to become.  
Make a blessing of us, O God.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord, 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.

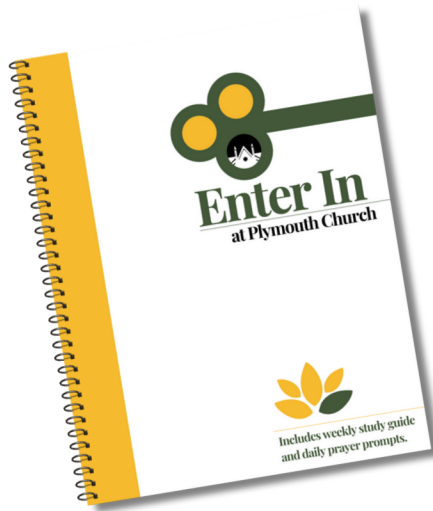
# Children's Celebration

*Children are invited to attend Sunday School and Nursery at this time.*

## Scripture Reading

**Matthew 25:14-30**  
*The Message translation*

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



## Sermon

**Enter in... to Courage**

Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean

## The Rite of Confirmation

Invitation  
Baptism  
Sharing of Statements of Faith  
Questions of the Confirmands Laying on of Hands  
Affirmation of Local Membership

## \*Congregational Response

We welcome you as members of the church universal  
and as partners in the ministry of Plymouth Church.  
We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share  
in the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together  
in God's wisdom and love, and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

## Call to Offering

## Offertory

**The Gift of Each Day**

*Chancel Choir*

John Rutter

## \*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.**

## Mission Moment



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

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

Calm to the waves. **Calm to the wind.** Je - sus whis-pers, "Peace, be still."

The first system of musical notation is in G major and 6/8 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with some notes in bold to indicate when the congregation should join in.

Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end. In still-ness, hear his voice.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody from the first system. It also consists of a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The melody concludes with a final cadence.

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## Pastoral Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

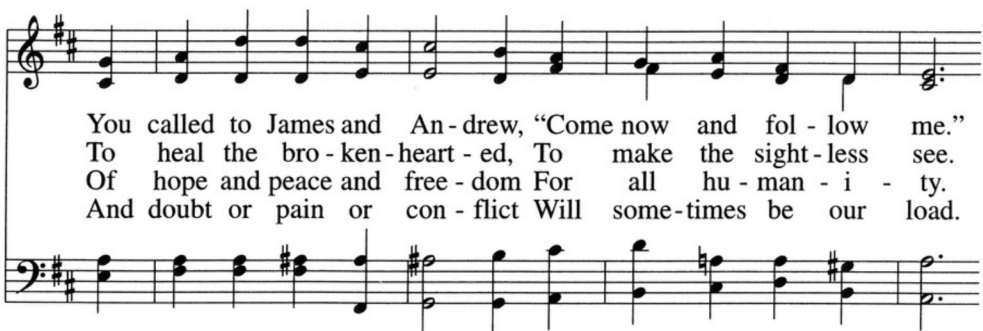
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom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

*(Sing again, Calm the Waves...)*

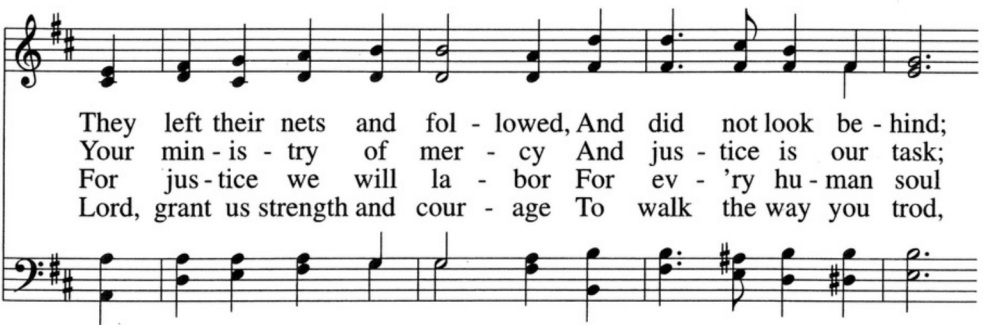
## \* You Call to Us, Lord Jesus



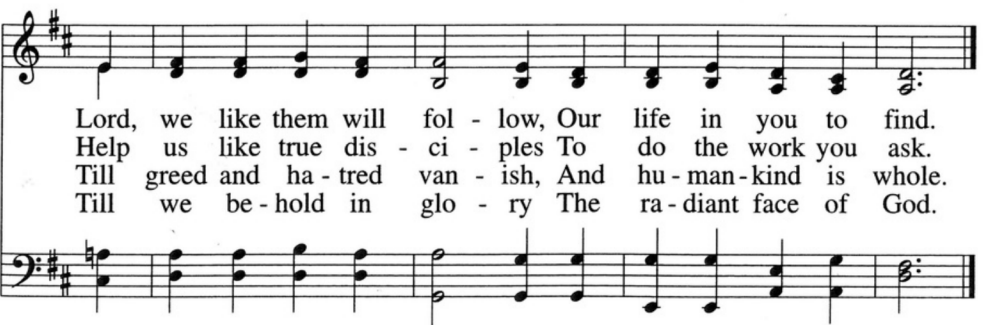
1. You call to us, Lord Je - sus, As once in Gal - i - lee  
2. You came to preach de - liv - 'rance, To set the cap - tives free,  
3. You sum - mon us to vi - sions Of what this world can be,  
4. The path you bid us fol - low Is not an eas - y road,



You called to James and An - drew, "Come now and fol - low me."  
To heal the bro - ken - heart - ed, To make the sight - less see.  
Of hope and peace and free - dom For all hu - man - i - ty.  
And doubt or pain or con - flict Will some - times be our load.



They left their nets and fol - lowed, And did not look be - hind;  
Your min - is - try of mer - cy And jus - tice is our task;  
For jus - tice we will la - bor For ev - 'ry hu - man soul  
Lord, grant us strength and cour - age To walk the way you trod,



Lord, we like them will fol - low, Our life in you to find.  
Help us like true dis - ci - ples To do the work you ask.  
Till greed and ha - tred van - ish, And hu - man - kind is whole.  
Till we be - hold in glo - ry The ra - diant face of God.



## \*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

*Capital campaigns are hard work! For the next few weeks, our postludes will relate to the focus of each Sundays' topic—but they might surprise, entertain, or even bring a little levity to the task before us!*



*The flowers on the chancel are given by Margaret Kramar  
in memory of Spenser Thomas Good.*

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## Today's Service Participants

**Preaching:** Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean  
**Liturgist:** Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman  
**Minister of Music & Fine Arts:** Kim Manz  
**Children's Celebration:** Kara Horrix  
**Lay Readers:** Lily & Cooper Salmans  
**Sound, Light, and Radio:** Gretchen Meyer  
**Cameras and Video:** Jeremy Winfrey

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PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



# WELCOME

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## NEW TO PLYMOUTH?



PLEASE, LET US KNOW!

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# April 2024 Confirmands at Plymouth Church



## Maddox Lyons

“I have grown in faith here by learning so many new things and starting from the ground up. I know a lot more about the Bible, my faith, Jesus, and God. I want to join Plymouth so that I can continue this quest for knowledge about my faith. I also want to be a part of a supportive and loving community.”



## Lucy Miller-Coleman

“Plymouth is community and support, casseroles and cookies, church ladies at their finest and “you did so good!” from so many people I can’t even begin to count. An integral part of my Plymouth journey so far has been the confirmation program. There isn’t a formula or calculation that I can do to figure out how we grow in our faith. But I can say that I have grown immensely in my faith during this program.”



## Cooper Salmans

“The prodigal son is one of my favorite Bible Stories because of the lesson it teaches us all about forgiveness and how we should forgive no matter what decisions we make. I want to join Plymouth because I want to get closer to God and closer to this wonderful community. I think that if I had one chance to ask God a question, I would ask, Why did you create all of this, including people who create suffering, wars, diseases, and pain?”



## Lily Salmans

“God is the Creator of life and the earth. I believe that God is also the creator of love and faith. Jesus is the person who did all of these amazing things for us. He died for us and served for us, he healed so many people and he did so much more. My wish to join Plymouth church centers around how loved, included and supported I feel in this community.”



## Moses Reuman

“I believe that God has no shape, no form, no boundaries and certainly no gender. There is nothing that you, anyone or anything can do to prevent God from creating and loving. If I were to describe God, I would talk about love. Love for everything and everyone, everywhere and in every time.”



## Harrison Schmidt

“Jesus was an unselfish and very humble person. He prayed for the people heckling him while he was being crucified. Jesus is love and he was a friend to everyone met. He is my savior. God is my creator. God is the one who made me. God is the father of life. Plymouth is a home where I can go to hang out with friends and a place to find help with troubles in my life. Plymouth is a place where I can grow closer to God.”



## Milo Scotten

“This journey helped me grow. I want to join the church to support this community. It will help me to understand my purpose more as I grow and build relationships with the Plymouth community. I don’t want to drift. I hope it will ensure that others feel comfortable encouraging me and sharing their experiences with me.”



## Colin Watt

“I believe that Jesus is the one true Son of God. He is all the good that can come from people. He sacrificed himself for all of us. Plymouth is like a second home where I can feel good, spread good, and have a good time worshipping God.”



# coffee hour

MAYFLOWER ROOM

fellowship • coffee • tea • cookies  
sundays between services

## contemplative practices & meditation

MEETING BETWEEN SUNDAY SERVICES  
ROOM 205N THIS SUNDAY



## Men's Coffee & Conversation

**Fridays • 8am  
at HyVee**

**3504 Clinton Parkway  
Lawrence, KS 66047**



# Enter In

## Fellowship Forum Series

Sundays April 14, 21, 28, and May 5  
10:40–11:20 in the Heritage Room

For the third week in the Fellowship Series, **Enter In** for the 2024 Capital Campaign, the conversation will center on the courage it takes to fulfill our potential. Focus will be on pages 25 to 28 of the **Enter In** spiral notebook. Matthew 25:14–15 is the key scripture for the session. Reflection questions will include:

- What does life look like when we not only exercise our ability, but have the courage to live up to our potential?
- How does living into our potential help us move forward and grow in our generosity?
- What is the difference between doing good, doing better, and doing the best? How do these three levels reflect our potential?

Rev. Fred Kandeler, the Spiritual Life Director for the 2024 Capital Campaign, will guide this Fellowship Forum conversation.



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**Plymouth Celebrates  
with Lawrence Pride**

**Saturday, June 1st**  
**Parade at 11am**  
**Party in South Park at 12pm**

Learn more and  
volunteer online here!



# Does the date January 22, 2015 ring a bell?

You may not have been a member here yet or maybe you were too young... but **that was the day President Barack Obama visited Plymouth Church.** The reason he came to our church was to visit the Head Start classrooms as part of his agenda to promote high quality early education for children. The History Committee of Plymouth wanted to commemorate this historic occasion by having a plaque created and installed outside the Head Start area where he spent some time. This plaque also serves to remind members how important this mission to young children has been to Plymouth.

**Between services, please come to South Church to view this new memorial.** Members of the History Committee will be there. We'd be happy to answer questions and to show off the plaque!





# Justice Matters Action Assembly

Sunday, April 28th • 3-4:30pm  
at the Lied Center

Join us to learn about Ending Chronic Homelessness and Supporting the Elder Care Workforce in Douglas County



Visit the **Enter In** website for information on the capital campaign, how you can join the effort, daily prayer, and even **Enter In** background screens for your phone!







*Chancel Choir Spring  
Major Choral Work*

# *The Gift of Life*

*Six Canticles of Creation*

*John Rutter*

*Sunday, May 5*

The six movements of this beautiful choral work reflect different facets of the miracles of creation and life. It is a celebration of the living earth and its creation. According to John Rutter, the composer, “it offers a kaleidoscope of moods from contemplative and prayerful to majestic and inspirational.”

*The Gift of Life* is accompanied by piano, organ, harp, timpani, and percussion.

Please support the choir and the gift of music that they share each Sunday. What a great Sunday to invite guests to experience worship at Plymouth!

# Children's Musical

Sunday, May 12

# Once Upon a Parable



The Carol and Chapel Children's Choirs are busy rehearsing for their musical "Once Upon a Parable."

Jesus was the consummate storyteller. The parables he told taught, puzzled, amused, and even irritated.

As the children learn the lessons of these stories they understand how relevant they are even today. You'll meet Mary, Martha, some Pharisees, a Prodigal Child, Zaccheus and more.

VBS 2024

# KINDOM CRAFTERS

Plymouth Congregational, Trinity Lutheran, and First Baptist are partnering together for Vacation Bible School.

This year's curriculum and theme is Kindom Crafters from Chalice Press. We'll have all the VBS classics: music, bible stories, games, crafts, and snacks.

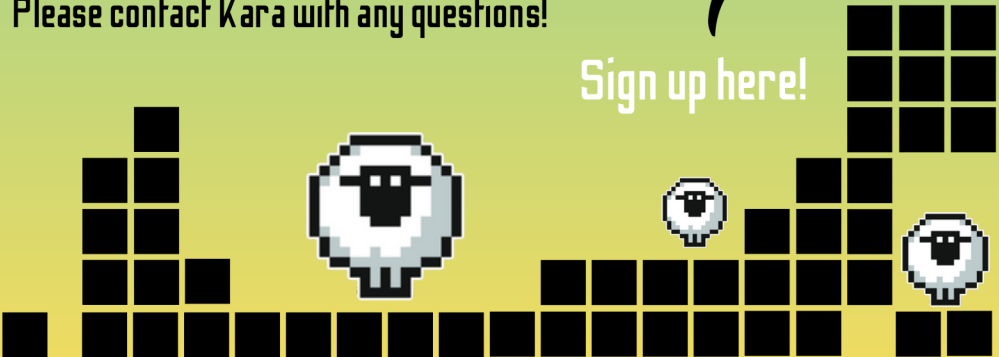
June 10th-13th, 6-7:30pm  
First Baptist Church 1330 Kasold Drive Lawrence, KS

Kids ages 4 through finishing 5th grade.

Please contact Kara with any questions!



Sign up here!



# Sunday School & Choir

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## Rooms for Sunday School

- Pre K-Kindergarten Room 106 S
- 1st-3rd Grade Room 210 S
- 4th-5th Grade Room 207 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-8th 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.*

**A parent or someone from your approved list of people  
must check your child out.**

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**Plymouth**  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH



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**Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean**, Associate Pastor  
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**Rev. Heather Coates**, Pastor of Care & Welcome  
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**An Open & Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ**