



Gospel of John

The Way. The Truth. The Life.

John 4:46-54

11:30 Gathering of Grace

Sunday • February 8 • 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 *

Welcome and Announcements

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee

I am weak but thou are strong
Jesus, keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee

**Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, Lord, let it be**

Through this world of toil and snares
If I falter, Lord, who cares
Who with me my burden shares
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee

**Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, Lord, let it be**

*Passing of the Peace

*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

John 4:46-54

Pew Bible NT pg. 96

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

Word Through Music

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman

On Our Way Home

Call to Offering

Come Healing

Leonard Cohen

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.**

It Takes Everything to Serve the Lord

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.**



***Keep Walking On**

Well in this world of sorrow - trouble and temptation
Jesus always promised - trial and tribulation
He said, "You don't have to fret or fear
Children be of good cheer and keep walkin' on"
keep walkin' on, keep walkin' on, Keep walkin' on

In Jesus Christ the truth is found
He'll keep our feet on solid ground
Sometimes we have to just believe
What He put in the Book for us to read
Satan you can't fool this girl
My Lord overcame this world
And I'm walkin' on, yeah I'm walkin' on
I'm walkin' on, yeah I'm walkin' on

Well Jesus walked on the water - Peter walked on it too
God gave you the power - to do what you cannot do
Every road we travel - He's traveled down before
There ain't no need to worry where it leads to anymore
I'm walkin' on, I'm walkin' on, I'm walkin' on
I'm walkin' on, I'm walkin' on, I'm walkin' on

Well the road is narrow and it's straight
But it leads right up to the Golden Gate
It may be rough it may be long
But I don't have to walk alone
Step by step, day by day
He takes my hand and I hear Him say
Keep walkin' on, keep walkin' on
keep walkin' on, oh keep walkin' on

***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.



The flowers on the chancel are given by Geraldo Sousa in celebration of David Bergeron and Harold Riehm who are celebrating birthdays today.

Today's Service Participants

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Valerie Miller-Coleman

Liturgist: Rev. Caroline Lawson Dean

Lay Reader: Alex Bertuccio

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

Sound, Lights, and Radio: Mark Maziar

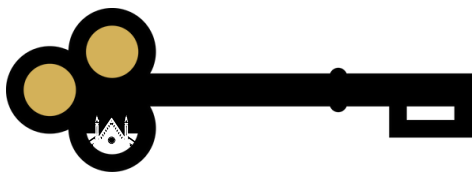
Cameras and Video: Gretchen Meyer



Welcome

New to Plymouth?

Please, let us know!



Enter In

Soup, Learn, Share

THIS Wednesday, February 11 • 5:30-7:30pm
The Mayflower Room

The Project Management Committee will host a soup supper beginning at 5:30pm with several information roundtables available to share current news from the Project Management Committee and to answer your questions and hear your concerns. Some of the roundtables will include: **Designing a Worship Experience with an Enlarged Chancel, Touring the Sanctuary to See/Hear About Proposed Changes, Financing “Enter In,” How it Works with Risks/Rewards, Worshiping in a Renovated Sanctuary – What and How, and Sharing Facts About Enter In.**

All are encouraged to attend this learning opportunity, but if you know for sure you're coming, your RSVP will be helpful for our planning. **You can RSVP through the Plymouth Office at administration@plymouthlawrence.com or online here.**



The History of Change at Plymouth Church

Sunday, February 15 • 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.



If you missed the January 22 **Interactive Learning Session with Eric Keebler**, you can watch the video here!



In this meeting, Eric discussed his preparations to design the renovated west end of the sanctuary through a study of changes made with the Plymouth pipe organ, the choir loft, and organ casework. Eric has completed the new casework design for Enter In with acoustic improvements for Plymouth's new organ.

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 9:30 worship service.**

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.

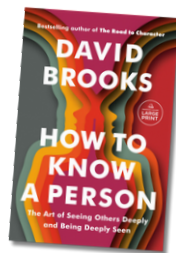
Lenten Wednesdays at Plymouth Church



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.

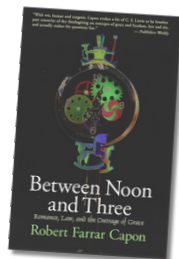




The Radical Grace of God

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**



**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 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



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 on Sunday, February 15 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.



RSVP for the February 15 meeting 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."

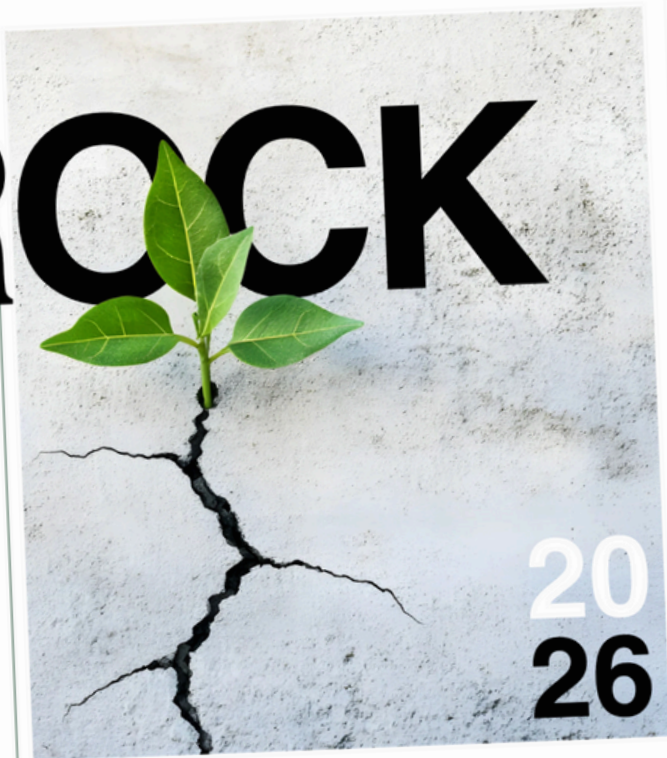
THERE IS NO REQUIRED READING FOR THE RETREAT; HOWEVER, READING EITHER/OR (OR EVEN A PART OF ONE!) WOULD BE AN INSPIRING WAY TO DEEPEN YOUR RETREAT EXPERIENCE.

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:
PLYMOUTH.LAWRENCE.COM



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



View online
here.



ASH WED NES DAY

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

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

AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH

Wednesday • February 18 • 2026



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**





NEW LOCATION FOR PLYMOUTH WOMEN'S COFFEE

**Beginning February 10 meetings will be at:
Z's Divine Espresso
2350 W. 31st Street**

Please join us as we continue meeting at 9:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays. Contact Stacy England by phone or text at 620-262-7986 with questions!



SAVE THE DATE!
BLOOD DRIVE

MARCH 3 • 10AM-3PM

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!

christianed@plymouthlawrence.com

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



SAFE SPACE