



**SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

January 15, 2023

87 Edgell Road, Framingham, MA 01701 | 508.875.1364 | plymouthchurchframingham.org

Sunday, January 15, 2023
The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Tolling of the Bell

Prelude

Call to Worship

Isaiah 42:1-9

Opening Hymn

Our God, to Whom We Turn

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Prayer of Invocation

One: We waited patiently for you.

And God came to our aid, drawing us up from the pit.

All: You have set us upon a rock,

O God and made our pathway secure.

You have multiplied your wondrous deeds

and your hurried your thoughts towards us.

One: Joyous are those who make the Holy One their trust,
who do not turn to the proud or chase after false gods.

All: We have not hidden your saving help.

We have testified to your faithfulness and your salvation.

We will not conceal your steadfast love

and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

One: May all who seek you rejoice and be glad;

may those who love your salvation declare your glory. Amen.

-Psalm 40

Passing of the Peace

Acts 10:34-43

Blessing

Children's Time

Sermon

"Bedrock Beliefs"

Prayers of the People

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.*

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, the power, and the glory, Amen.

Transformation Moment

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Doxology *Each week, we sing and sign an inclusive Doxology (ASL).*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that Love has done.

Creator, Christ, & Spirit one. Amen.

Closing Hymn

They Did Not Build in Vain

Benediction

Postlude

Following the Benediction, the congregation is encouraged to enjoy the entire Postlude.



*Today's Chancel Flowers are given
in celebration of Liz Milam's 91st birthday,
which was Tuesday, January 10, from her loving family.*

They Did Not Build in Vain

Acts 2:1-4, 43-47; 1 Cor. 3:11; Eph. 2:19-22; Heb. 12:1-2

Alan Luff, 1989; alt.

1 They did not build in vain who found - ed here a church
 2 Those who have loved this place, a cloud of wit - nes - ses,
 3 In ev - ery place our world is storm and tem - pest tossed,
 4 Make this the meet - ing place where doubt finds grounds of faith,

as wit - ness to God's love a - mid a world of pain;
 sur - round and urge us on as we now run our race;
 the flames of fear and hate are e - vil's flags un - furled;
 where hurt finds heal - ing love, our pen - i - tence your grace;

They built up - on the rock that is the ris - en Christ,
 Though the ho - ri - zon's bend con - ceals the way a - head,
 Yet still the Spir - it's power in wind and fire of love
 Where God in Trin - i - ty is bridge from death to life,

the one foun - da - tion laid, that stands each earth - ly shock.
 the foot - prints on the road show Christ waits at the end.
 pours gifts up - on the church for ser - vice in this hour.
 from sin to ho - li - ness, time to e - ter - ni - ty.

Alan Luff, a graduate of the Royal College of Music, has served the Anglican Church as parish priest, precentor of Westminster Abbey, and canon of Birmingham Cathedral. He is also known as the author of *Welsh Hymns and Their Tunes* (1990).

Tune: LEONI 6.6.8.4.D.
 Traditional Yigdal melody
 Adapt. Meyer Lyon, 1770

Our God, to Whom We Turn

Edward Grubb, 1925; alt.

1 Our God, to whom we turn when wea - ry with il - lu - sion,
 2 You are in - deed the truth; though we, who deign to find you,
 3 All beau - ty your de - cree: the moun - tains and the riv - ers,
 4 O hid - den fount of truth, of love, and peace, and beau - ty,

whose stars se - rene - ly burn a - bove this earth's con - fu - sion,
 have tried, with thought un - couth, in fee - ble words to bind you.
 the line of lift - ed sea, where spread - ing moon - light quiv - ers.
 in - spire us from our youth with joy and strength for du - ty.

Yours is the might - y plan, the stead - fast or - der sure,
 It is be - cause you are we're driv - en to the quest;
 The deep - toned or - gan blast that rolls through arch - es dim,
 May your fresh light a - rise with - in each heart ob - scure,

in which the world be - gan, en - dures, and shall en - dure.
 till truth from false - hood part, our souls can find no rest.
 hints of the mu - sic vast of heaven's e - ter - nal hymn.
 till, bar - ing all dis - guise, we know you true and sure!

The English Quaker Edward Grubb was owner and editor of a monthly periodical, The British Friend. He also wrote and lectured on biblical and religious history and related subjects.

Tune: STEADFAST 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6.
 (O GOTT, DU FROMMER GOTT, Hanover, 1646)
 Neu Ordentlich Gesangbuch, 1646
 Harm. from J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
 Alternate tune: DARMSTADT

Bulletin Reminders for January 15, 2023

CALLING ALL STAKEHOLDERS!

We would like to gather everyone who has ever had a hand in Family or Youth Ministry for a single meeting on Tuesday, **January 17**, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., here at church, as part of our transition to being a one-pastor church.

Our time will be one part update on the transition and plans for the spring, one part capturing the wisdom we share about the past, and one part chatting about whatever's on your mind. We will supply a pizza dinner for everyone and cartoons and childcare for any kiddos who need to tag along. Come for pizza at 5:30, meeting to begin at 6:00 p.m. *RSVP via the link in your Wednesday Email.*

ALL-CHURCH POTLUCK TO HONOR WILL SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

Save the date, dream up your favorite dish, and please join us for a Potluck to celebrate and to honor our beloved Will Tanner. Goodbyes are hard, but what better way to show Will how much he means to all of us than a Plymouth Church potluck! We will gather on Sunday, **January 29**, immediately after worship. Bring your best kept secret, your all-time favorite, or your go-to comfort dish. We need a few folks to help with setup, at 9:00 a.m., and cleanup after the potluck. If you can help, or if you have questions, please contact Sydney Turner, at sydneysturner@aol.com.

"CORNUCOPIA" RETURNS


Cornucopia will resume its weekly meetings on Thursday, **January 26**, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., in the Youth Room. Cornucopia welcomes all women of the church. Our agenda is varied and usually set up from week to week. We hold interesting discussions on many topics, read books, or occasionally invite a guest speaker. We are a low key group and we enjoy our time together.

RESILIENCY FOR LIFE

Next Sunday, **January 22**, Todd Witherow, a longtime member of Plymouth Church, will speak to us about a non-profit called Resiliency for Life during worship and will make himself available for a Q&A at Coffee Hour. Todd has recently joined the board of Resiliency for Life, a non-profit organization supporting students in various ways at Framingham High School. A few weeks ago, Todd informed the Social Action Team that many FHS students were in need of both indoor and outdoor winter clothes, and, as usual, our amazing congregation stepped up and offered a generous number of items to meet this need. **Between now and January 22...**we will re-invite everyone to offer new or gently-used indoor and outdoor clothing for FHS students. Items can be left at the usual spot in the foyer. All sizes, M and F. Please, no young elementary age items. For questions, call Mattie Schadt, at 774.217.3477.

HOMEMADE SOUP SALE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Donate your favorite soups so others can enjoy. Containers can be picked up in the Parish Hall after worship. Bring your soup donations before worship on **February 5**. Leona Dalton can answer any questions you may have when you pick up your containers. All proceeds will benefit the church.


“In some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty.”

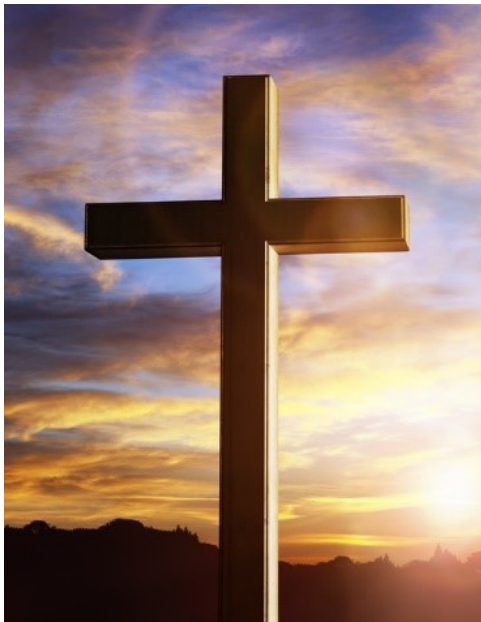
-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Symbols as Beliefs

Greetings from the Transformation Team! As you recall, we are working through a process of discernment to better understand what God has in store for us in this season in the life of Plymouth Church. So far, we have established a list of Core Values that articulate our expectations of each other and guide our actions.

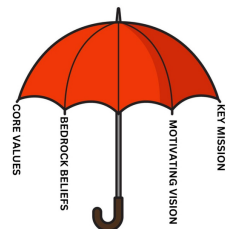
Currently, we are sharing and clarifying our Bedrock Beliefs: the principles and symbols of our faith we affirm, proclaim, and spontaneously return to during times of confusion and stress. Considered together, these values and beliefs will guide us to a clearer vision of our future and ultimately help to define our mission - our purpose in bringing God's healing into the world.

Over the next few weeks, we will be exploring the symbols which express our beliefs. One of our symbols is the **EMPTY CROSS**. What does this symbol mean to you?



Thank you for your thoughts!
Your thoughtful participation in our process matters very much.

**Please drop your response in the collection plate
or hand to one of our Deacons.**



The Plymouth Church in Framingham

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