

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 12, 2023



Endurance produces character.
Character produces hope.
And hope does not disappoint us.

Romans 5:4-5

Sunday, March 12, 2023

Third Sunday of Lent

Tolling of the Bell

Prelude

Call to Worship

Genesis 12:1-3

Opening Hymn

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Prayer of Confession

ONE: In the desert the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink."

ALL: "Why do you quarrel with me?" Moses replied. "Why do you test your God?"

ONE: But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Did you bring us out of Egypt to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?"

ALL: "What shall I do with this people?" Moses cried out to God, "They are almost ready to stone me!"

ONE: God answered: The Lord said to Moses, "Strike the rock I show up, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, and there was water, enough for the whole congregation to drink. *Exodus 17:1-7*

Assurance of Forgiveness

Kyrie Eleison

Musical score for Kyrie Eleison, featuring a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The score is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son." and concludes with "le - i - son." followed by a "Hum" section. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and melodic lines.

Passing of the Peace

One: "The Peace of Christ be with you."

All: And also with you!

John 4:5-42

Blessing

Choir Anthem

Children's Time

Sermon

Hymn *Christ Is the Mountain of Horeb*

Kindness in Action *Roberta Kwiatkowski*

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.

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 *In the Midst of New Dimensions*

Benediction

Postlude

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



*Today's Chancel flowers are given by Nancy Spence and Sarah Wells' family,
in memory of Bill Spence, in honor of his birthday on March 16th.*

Cristo es la peña de Horeb

(Christ Is the Mountain of Horeb)

Exod. 17:6; Song of Sol. 2:1-2; John 4:7-14

Anonymous; alt.

Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

System 1:

1 Cris-to es la pe - ña de Ho - reb, que es-tá bro - tan - do,
 2 Cris-to es el li - rio del va - lle de las flo - res,
 1 Christ is the Moun - tain of Ho - reb which is flow - ing:
 2 Flow - er of flow - ers, the Lil - y of the Val - ley,

System 2:

a - gua de vi - da sa - lu - da - ble pa - ra ti.
 Cris - to es la ro - sa her - mo - sa y pu - ra de Sa - rón.
 wa - ter of life pour forth to heal, to make us whole.
 the Rose of Shar - on, bloom - ing pure and free for you.

System 3:

Cris - to es la pe - ña de Ho - reb, que es-tá bro - tan - do,
 Cris - to es la vi - da y a - mor de los a - mo - res,
 Christ is the Moun - tain of Ho - reb which is flow - ing:
 O Christ, the path - way of love a - bove all loves,

System 4:

a - gua de vi - da sa - lu - da - ble pa - ra ti.
 Cris - to es la e - ter - na fuen - te de la sal - va - ción.
 wa - ter of life pour forth to heal, to make us whole.
 E - ter - nal Foun - tain of sal - va - tion flow - ing free.

This anonymous hymn has been sung since the 1930s and is especially popular among the pentecostal churches of Puerto Rico. The arrangement, in the "pasodoble" rhythm, captures the style in which it is most often performed in its country of origin.

Tune: CRISTO ES LA PEÑA 12.12.12.D.
 Puerto Rican melody
 Arr. Luis Olivieri, 1993

C7 F

Ven, a to - mar - la que es más dul - ce que la miel,
 Ven, a bus - car - la cuan - do en tris - te - za es - tés,
 Sweet - er than hon - ey is the stream, come taste and see—
 Come seek the One who un - der - stands your grief and pain,

A7 Dm

Re - fres - ca el al - ma, re - fres - ca to - do tu ser.
 Re - fres - ca el al - ma, re - fres - ca to - do tu ser.
 Re - fresh your be - ing, re - fresh your heart and mind.
 Re - fresh your be - ing, re - fresh your heart and mind.

D7 Gm

Cris - to es la pe - ña de Ho - reb, que es - tá bro - tan - do,
 Cris - to es el li - rio del va - lle de las flo - res,
 Christ is the Moun - tain of Ho - reb which is flow - ing:
 Flow - er of flow - ers, the Lil - y of the Val - ley,

Dm A7 Dm

a - gua de vi - da sa - lu - da - ble pa - ra ti.
 Cris - to es la ro - sa her - mo - sa y pu - ra de Sa - rón.
 wa - ter of life pour forth to heal, to make us whole.
 the Rose of Shar - on, bloom - ing pure and free for you.

GOD

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Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

Exod. 13:21; 16:4; 17:6; Ps. 105:39-44; Rev. 22:1-2

William Williams, 1745

St. 1, transl. Peter Williams, 1771; alt.

St. 2-3, transl. William Williams, 1772; alt.

1 Guide me, O my great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, where the heal - ing
3 When I reach the Riv - er Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but you are might - y;
wa - ters flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion,

hold me with your power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
land me safe on heav - en's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
ev - er be my strength and shield, ev - er be my strength and shield.
I will ev - er sing to you, I will ev - er sing to you.

John Hughes, a railroad official by trade, composed this tune for the 1907 anniversary of Capel Rhondda, Pontypridd, Wales. Cwm Rhondda refers to the "low valley" area surrounding the urban district of Rhondda in southern Wales.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

John Hughes, 1907

Alternate setting: ZION



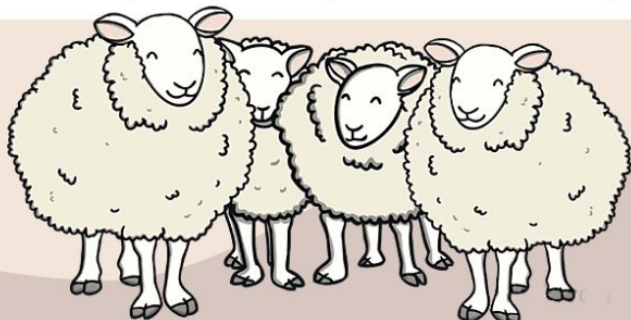
MEET THE IPCC

Greetings

from the Interim Pastoral Connection Committee!

As we all thoughtfully move into what our new one-minister church will look like, our Senior Pastor, Greg Morisse, has asked for an interim team to come together to help provide pastoral support over the next few months as he deepens his work in other areas of ministry in our church.

The IPCC will contact our entire church community – by phone calls, emails, text messages and cards. We hope this outreach will reinforce our existing bonds of love and serve as an opportunity for any pastoral concerns to be shared with one another, and as desired, to be forwarded to Greg for any additional pastoral follow-up.



MEMBERS OF THE IPCC

Robert Clark (Deacon)
Kathy Copson (Deacon)
Dawn Geiser (Deacon)
Shivaun Pryor (Deacon)
Beth Marascio (Care)
Leigh Remington (Care)
Sue Tonkiss (Deacon)
Jody Comley (Deacon)
Meg Doucette (Deacon)
Art Hague (Deacon)
Emily Lynch (Deacon)
Pat McFerrin (Care)
Deb Sawyer (Care)
Sydney Turner (Deacon)

We hope that our church members will embrace and support this interim “care” ministry. Of course, we are already often sharing with each other our cares, and our expressions of joy and comfort. This is work that many of us do all the time.

We know that all of us continue to keep Plymouth Church, our minister, Greg, and all our faith community in prayer as we step onto new paths of faith exploration.

A LETTER FROM GREG



This spring, I have asked our Care Committee and Deacons for help. I'm pleased and grateful to introduce to you the Interim Pastoral Connection Committee (IPCC)!

As I transition to being a solo pastor, my greatest fear is that I will miss important events in your life. In the way-before times, I often would get regular updates from you during a receiving line after worship. Lately, we don't often have much of a receiving line as folks head directly to Coffee Hour. In the coming months, I may not even make it to Coffee Hour, as I will be spending time with our youth after worship.

In order to make sure that every member of this congregation is loved and receives the pastoral care they deserve, I've asked this team of volunteers to come together. They are, each of them, people who care about you. They will be reaching out to members of the church to learn what is happening in your life.

Too many of you in our community have stories of when this church has failed to be there for you – of when I failed to offer you the support and love you deserve. Something big happens and you don't think to let me know. And after a few weeks of not seeing you in worship, we fail to reach out. A distance begins to grow. We can do better.

This new initiative isn't about getting you to come back to worship more regularly. This is an adaptation for how we, as a congregation, tend the flock.

And please believe me when I say this. I am never too busy to be there for you when you need me. When members of Caring Connection team learns of a significant life event, they will share that with me. But you can always reach out to me directly. I still have time for coffee, to visit you in the hospital or at home.

Yours in Christ,
Gregory Morisse

Bulletin Reminders for March 12, 2023

KINDNESS IN ACTION CAMPAIGN

Our Kindness in Action Campaign is in its fourth week, and our "kindness garden" is in full bloom! We have planted a whopping 161 hearts! **BRAVO!** And there's more good news...You may have noticed the Keep Framingham Beautiful signs and yellow hearts on the Chancel this past Sunday. Plymouth Church has partnered with KFB in order to widen our reach in the community! Members were invited to post their acts of kindness to the KFB Facebook page, and the response has been sensational! Check out the Keep Framingham Beautiful FB page, if you can. You won't be disappointed!

CWS HYGIENE KITS

We seek: **hand towels, washcloths, combs, nail clippers, bath-size soap, toothbrushes, band-aids.** Both the hygiene kits and school kits will be assembled by Faith Workshop kids at the end of March. Please leave donations in the baskets near the lower elevator.

MARCH COFFEE KLATCH OFF TO A ROUSING START

Pictured are: *John Tonkiss, Emily Lynch, Debbie Nichols, Barbara Harting, Shari Van Hook, Rebecca Reiner, Sue Gaffey, and Sandy Clarke*



TRANSFORMATION TEAM

"OUR BEDROCK BELIEFS"

Join us TODAY, during worship and in Coffee Hour as the Transformation Team leads a discussion on The Plymouth Church's Bedrock Beliefs. These are the principles or symbols of faith that we in the Plymouth Church congregation believe and proclaim. They guide our daily lives and support and sustain us every day and, especially, in times of struggle, stress, and confusion.

DO YOU VOLUNTEER? LET US KNOW!

Volunteering is Kindness in Action. Many Plymouth Church folks are volunteering in the community. We want to know who you are and what you do. On Sunday, **March 26**, Social Action will highlight your good work and add your activities to our KIA heart collection. Would you join us to share a few words about what you do and what it means for you? To let us know what you're up to, contact **Mattie** at 774.217.477, or **Al Rapoza** at 508.788.9519.

