

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 17, 2024

SAINT PATRICK'S DAY



Sunday, March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday in Lent | St. Patrick's Day

Tolling of the Bells

Prelude *Shall We Gather at the River*

Call to Worship *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

*Opening Hymn *Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers*

Welcome & Announcements

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of desert times and holy contemplation, confront us again with your word. Jesus, we wish to answer your summons. We want to follow you. Forgive us when we hide, when we retreat from the world because we do not want to be rejected. Draw out of our shells, away from our devices, beyond the curated streams, into your joy and delight. Encourage us to be foolish in the way of the cross.

Passing of the Peace

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Message for All Ages

Junior Choir Anthem *Mozart's Adagio* *arr. Aamot*

Kyrie eleison. Lord have mercy.

Christe eleison. Christ have mercy.

Dona nobis pacem. Grant us peace.

Special Guest

Jim Booker is President of Sober Shuttle, a Boston-area nonprofit supported by our church. The Sober Shuttle mission is to provide cost-free transportation to people who wish to recover from the affliction of substance abuse and mental illness, and to support them, their family, business, and our communities in sustained positive productivity. To learn more, visit their website: sobershuttle535.com

John 9:1-12

Blessing

Sermon

"Like Someone I Used to Know"

Senior Choir Anthem

Ave Verum

Elgar

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.*

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Ashlyn Comley-Myers, violin

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, and Spirit, One.

*Closing Hymn

O for a World

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

There in God's Garden

Farlee



Following the Closing Hymn, we encourage the congregation to remain risen, in body or spirit, to receive the Benediction, which is both blessing and commission. You may sit for the Choral Response and Postlude in quiet contemplation.


All are invited to the Parish Hall for coffee, tea, and snacks. We understand it can be difficult to step into a room of strangers. We hope, with every cup and cookie, we can deepen our connections and learn a little more about each other each week.

* As the Spirit guides you, we encourage you to rise in body or spirit.

Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers

Roger Powell, 1948; alt.

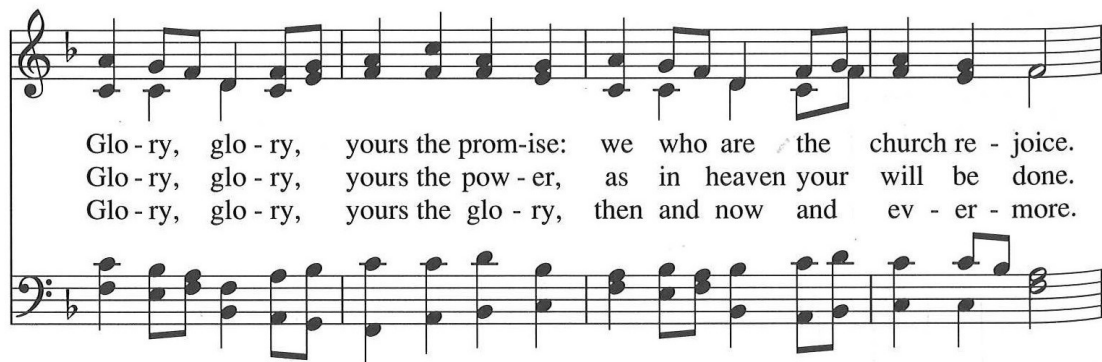

1 Thank our God for sis - ters, broth - ers, one by grace, in har - mo - ny,
 2 Praise to God for con - gre - ga - tions, keep - ing faith with Christ as guide;
 3 Ho - ly is your name for - ev - er! Heal di - vi - sions that re - main;



Join - ing heart to heart with oth - ers, mak - ing strong com - mu - ni - ty.
 Man - y tongues of man - y na - tions, song and ser - vice u - ni - fied.
 Bless the church's new en - deav - ors; make our wit - ness one a - gain.



With the cross of Christ our stan - dard, let us sing as with one voice,
 Sweet the psalm and sweet the car - ol, when our song is raised as one.
 One in Christ and in Christ's gos - pel, make us one we now im - plore.



Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the prom - ise: we who are the church re - joice.
 Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the pow - er, as in heaven your will be done.
 Glo - ry, glo - ry, yours the glo - ry, then and now and ev - er - more.

This hymn was written for a Union Thanksgiving service in 1948 by the Rev. Roger Powell of Camillus, New York. It served as a rallying song for the first meeting of the National Council of Churches in 1952.

Tune: PLEADING SAVIOR 8.7.8.7.D.
 Melody from The Christian Lyre, 1831

O for a World

575

Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

Acts 4:32-35; 1 Cor. 1:26-31; 1 Pet. 3:8-12

The musical score is written in 3/2 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef and a bass line in bass clef. The vocal line contains five lines of lyrics. The second system also has a vocal line in treble clef and a bass line in bass clef, with lyrics continuing from the first system.

1 O for a world where ev - ery - one re - spects each oth - er's ways,
2 O for a world where goods are shared and mis - er - y re - lieved,
3 We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and strug - gle with each choice
4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the fool - ish ones are wise.
5 O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace,

Where love is lived and all is done with jus - tice and with praise.
Where truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
That o - pens us to u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.
Tell all who mourn: out - casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Inspired by Charles Wesley's phrase "O for a thousand tongues" and the familiar tune Azmon, Miriam Therese Winter wrote this hymn envisioning a new world order for the Presbyterian Women's Triennial Conference in 1982. It was later recrafted and recorded by the Medical Mission Sisters.

Tune: AZMON C.M.
Carl G. Gläser, 1828
Adapt. Lowell Mason in Modern Psalmody, 1839

Bulletin Reminders

Each week, after worship, Rev. Morisse is available for conversation in the Parish Hall.

Chancel Flowers



This morning's Chancel Flowers are given in loving memory of **Bill Spence**, who was born on March 16.

SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION NOW WEEKLY

A scripture discussion will now occur every Sunday, in the Parlor, beginning 30 minutes after the service. Weeks 1 and 3 will be led by Shari Van Hook, and weeks 2 and 4 by Meg Doucette. All are welcome.

YOUTH GROUP PROVIDES FROZEN MEALS-TO-GO

The Youth Group has lovingly prepared two types of dinners: vegetarian chili and chicken and rice casserole. These meals are available for the taking in the freezer in the Parish Hall kitchen. There's no need to contact anyone. Just stop by and bring a meal to someone in need.

CWS HYGIENE KITS

We will be collecting items for CWS hygiene kits through Lent. This year, we need **hand towels, washcloths, nail clippers, soap, combs, and toothbrushes**. Please leave donations in the baskets near the lower elevator.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH MARATHONERS

"I'm **Maggie Musoke** and I'm running the Boston Marathon for the first time. I'm excited to check that box off as it's been one of my dreams, but most importantly it's in combination with a cause. I'm running for the different outreach and support programs that Ashland supports."

"I'm **Vernon Turner** and I'm running the Boston Marathon for the first time. I'm currently fundraising for the Trevor Project, the leading suicide prevention and crisis intervention nonprofit organization for LGBTQ young people."

See your Wednesday Email for links to contribute.

**FALL FAIR
2024**

**FALL FAIR DATE:
SEPTEMBER 28, 2024**

**FAIR SET-UP WEEK WILL REQUIRE
JUST ABOUT ALL HANDS!**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 THRU FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

Thank You
FAIR COMMITTEE



BREAKING THE FAST OF RAMADAN: Celebrating Multi-Faith Friendship



**A Celebration and Dinner
For People from All Faiths and Backgrounds
Sunday, March 17
6:00-8:00 pm
Open Spirit: A Place of Hope, Health & Harmony
39 Edwards Street, Framingham**



- ◆ We will gather with friends and neighbors from many backgrounds.
- ◆ We will hear reflections on the joy of fasting and fast-breaking.
- ◆ We will break the fast at sunset, pray together, and share a meal.

*If you are fasting,
please come as our
guest!*

*If you are not fasting,
please bring a
vegetarian dish to
share!*



For more information, or to RSVP,
please go to www.openspiritcenter.org,
email debbie@openspiritcenter.org, or register at <https://forms.gle/zCocFMrJKKndVFRq8>

*If you are not fasting, we encourage you to make a donations to support Open Spirit
(\$20 suggested, more if you can, less if that's more helpful.)*

The Plymouth Church in Framingham

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Our Core Values

- Community
- Intergenerational Life
- Service and Social Action
- Worship and Spiritual Life
- Welcome and Hospitality

Our Bedrock Beliefs

- We believe we are called to be kind, love justice, and walk humbly with God.
- We believe that God is present with us always in times of trial and rejoicing.
- We embrace Jesus' call to love and serve one another.
- We believe that God hears and answers our prayers.
- We believe in the fullness of God's grace (unmerited favor).