



Celebration of Worship
December 22, 2024

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December 22, 2024

10:30 am

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Enter in Prayer, Worship with Gratitude, Go Forth to Serve

Opening Voluntary

Love Has Come
Christopher Shaw, organ

David Cherwien

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

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*Responsive Reading

Cindy Perkins

One: The family of God is a scandalous one.

All: A holy lineage of risk-takers and truth-tellers.

One: Choosing each other in the midst of danger.

All: Turning towards love and practicing courage.

One: God draws together the open-hearted,

All: the passionate and the brave,

One: the tender and the humble,

All: the ones who provoke justice and summon ideas that transform.

One: The birth of Christ is the divine embrace of the strange, the subversive, and the forsaken.

All: Love incarnate welcomes us home.

Adapted from Enfleshed.com

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Candle of Love

Olive Yager and Evie Oglesbee

*Light the Candle

Hope is a Candle

Love is a can - dle whose light makes a cir - cle, where ev - 'ry face is the face of a friend.

Wid - en the cir - cle by shar - ing and giv - ing God's ho - ly dare: love ev - 'ry - where.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first line of music is in 4/4 time, and the second line is in 6/8 time.

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Holy One, you are not confined by the rigid and narrow. Your love is expansive and flexible. Your compassion is deep. Your Wisdom is ancient and always being reborn. May we be open to you in all your manifestations, familiar and new, that we might not miss the miracle of your presence in the one who prayed...

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.

Invocation adapted from Enfleshed.com

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Welcoming Song *Holy Child within the manger*
(Let the children come forward.)

Joyous Light



Ho-ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us ev - er in your way, so we see in ev-'ry
stran - ger how you come to us to - day. In our lives and in our liv - ing give us
strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for - giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

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A Moment with Our Children

Lindsey Miller

Solo

My Lord has Come
Diane Fast

Will Todd

Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels;
no place for them but a stable.
My Lord has come.
Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven;
no place but a stable.
My Lord has come.
His love will hold me, his love will cherish me,
love will cradle me.
Lead me, lead me to see him,
sages and shepherds and angels;
no place for me but a stable.
My Lord has come

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

adapted from Enfleshed.com

Prayer Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem

When Christmas morn is Dawning

Kyle Pederson

When Christmas morn is dawning,
in faith help me to see
the child there in the manger,
a mirror, God, of thee.

A gift of grace and mercy,
of innocence and truth;
the child there in the manger
is making all things new.

So come this Christmas morning,
when I first awake,
draw my heart to you, Lord,
and with each breath I take,
fill my soul with wonder
at the manger where you lay.

Oh, make my heart the manger,
the manger where you lay.

Sermon

No Room at the Shelter, or, What the Dickens?

Dr. Robu

***Closing Hymn**

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

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***Benediction**

Closing

He is Born
Christopher Shaw, organ

Richard Hudson

Select liturgy adapted or taken from Enfleshed.com

* Let all who are able please stand.

*** Ushers will seat late comers



Poinsettias that adorn
our sanctuary are
given in honor and in
memory of
our loved ones.



Given in Memory of:

Sharon Safley and Bob Arthur

Charlie and Doris Watson
Richard and Patti Shields

Bill Miller and Elijah Rashad-Ruffin

Jamie, Tom and Beloved Family

John K Nelson, brother
Christi Maurer Hoehn, friend and
former Plymouth member
Mary A Nelson, sister

Bert McCormick, Paul J. Uhlig
Edgar Turner

Hunter Wishart and Cindy Sparks

Colleen Euson

Amy Neel and Richard Neel

Ted and John Robu

Their loved ones

Their parents

Given by:

Abby Arthur, Tom, Michael and Robert Safley

Sue and Kurt Watson

Chris and Lindsay Miller

Jeanne Thompson

Anna and Paul Uhlig

The children of Bert McCormick

Henry Waters

Rich Euson

Elaine and Garry Neel

Tim and Karen Robu

Steve and Cathie Yager

Bernie and Alberta Nichols

**HOLIDAY CHOIR &
ORCHESTRA
SUN / DEC 8
10:30 AM**

**BLUE CHRISTMAS
SERVICE
SAT / DEC 21
5:30 - 6:00 PM**

Celebrate the Season with us!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

TUES / DEC 24

6 PM FAMILY SERVICE

11 PM CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



DECEMBER

DEC 22: Winter Shelter Prep & Serve Dinner

DEC 24: Christmas Eve Services Tuesday @ 6 PM and 11 PM

DEC 25: Closed Christmas Day

JANUARY

JAN 1: Closed New Year's Day

JAN 8: Wed. Dinner

JAN 15: Wed. Dinner

JAN 22: Wed. Dinner @ Progressive Pilgrim's Book Club: *The Exvangelicals*

JAN 29: Wed. Dinner Guests @ Sedgwick County Zoo

JAN 31: Word & Note - JAN 31/Feb 1/Feb 2

Plymouth Staff

Rev. Dr. Karen Robu, Senior Minister
Dr. Henry Waters, Director of Music
Christopher Shaw, Organist
Julie Martin, Administrative Assistant
Lindsay Miller, Sunday School Teacher
Robert Safley, Youth Group Leader
Tim Robu, Maintenance Engineer
Erik Breckenridge, Video Tech



Don't forget about the Pando 'Giving Tree'. This holiday season, you can support this impactful program by selecting an item from the Incentive Drive Tree in Fellowship Hall. Your generosity will make a meaningful difference in a student's life!

Now through the end of December!

Featured Artists —Svitlana Tararuk and Pam Bjork

There are two weeks left to peruse the exceptional artwork of Svitlana Tararuk and Pam Bjork, featured in our hallway galleries. Both exhibits will be closing at the end of the month. Let us know of your interest, we'd be happy to have your sales!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

.....

7 - 8 PM Sarah McCammon

"My Exvangelical Journey: Loving, Living and Leaving the Church that was Home"



The Divine Arts of Knowledge and Exultation

Weekend Ticket ~ \$100

Includes all events + box lunch [\$135 value]

Single ticket pricing: \$30 Each event
\$15 box lunch

Buy online, via email, over the phone or at the door.
Cash, checks, credit cards accepted

Media Sponsor



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

.....

10 AM - Noon Sarah McCammon

"Faith, Politics, and the 2024 Election"

Noon - 1 PM Lunch at Plymouth or nearby restaurant

1 - 2 PM Mark A. Miller

"Worship & Music in a Time of Crisis"

7 PM Mark A. Miller

"Songs of Justice & Joy"

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

.....

10:30 AM Sarah McCammon

"New Life in the Wilderness"



[316] 684-0221
www.plymouth-church.net
202 N. Clifton, Wichita, KS 316.684..0221

2025 Word & Note - with Sarah McCammon and Mark A. Miller:

Sarah McCammon is an author, a National Political Correspondent for NPR and co-host of the NPR Politics Podcast. Her work focuses on political, social and cultural divides in America, and the intersections of politics and religion. She's also a frequent guest host for NPR news programs.

Mark Miller is a graduate of Yale and Juilliard,, and is currently a Professor of Church Music, Director of Chapel, and Composer-in-Residence at Drew University. Miller spends a portion of the year traveling the country, often with his band S2C (Subject to Change), leading worship and workshops, preaching and presenting concerts focused on creating community and advocating for social justice.



The Divine Arts of Knowledge and Exultation

Now in its 17th year!

We are very excited about our guests for 2025 Word & Note and hope you will consider supporting with your generous sponsorship.

We will be sending out an email to past years supporters, soon.

At levels about \$200, your support includes complimentary tickets. Above \$300, you'll also receive comp tickets to the Sunday brunch honoring our guests.

Media Sponsor



Sponsorship Levels

Up to \$199
Recognition in the event program

\$200 - \$399
Recognition in the event program
1 ticket to each of the ticketed events

\$400 - \$699
Recognition in the event program
2 tickets to each of the ticketed events
2 tickets to sponsorship brunch [TBD]

\$700 and above
Recognition in the event program
4 tickets to each of the ticketed events
4 tickets to sponsorship brunch [TBD]

**WED
JAN 22
5:30**



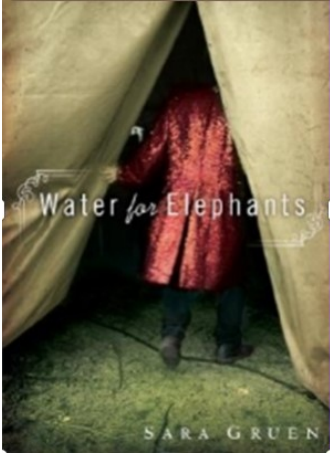
Progressive Pilgrims' Book Club

Our 2025 season kicks off on Wednesday, January 22nd, with 'The Exvangelicals', by author Sarah McCammon, an American journalist and a National Correspondent for [NPR] National Public Radio focusing on political, social and cultural divides in America Sarah is also our keynote speaker for this year's Word & Note, January 31 through February 2, 2025.

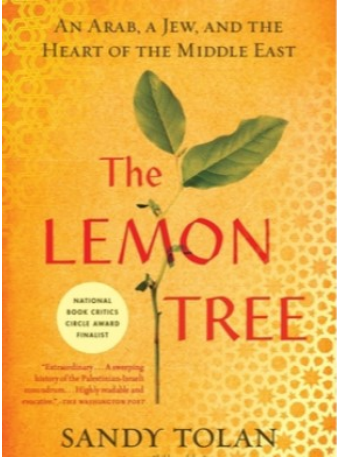
FEB 26:
Demon Copperhead



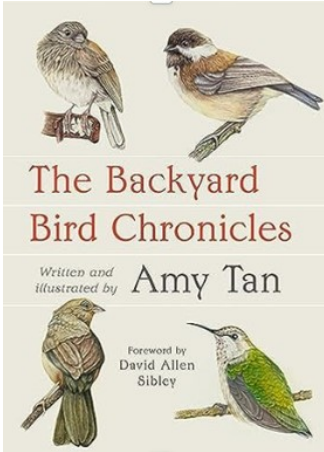
MAR 26: Water for Elephants



APR 30:
The Lemon Tree



MAY 21:
The Backyard Bird Chronicles



My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
 2 Though I am small, my God, my all, you
 3 From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
 4 Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
 work great things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
 stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
 mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
 depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
 jus - tice tears ev - ery ty - rant from his throne.
 liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread; ev - ery
 prom - ise which holds us bound. fill the snear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



Refrain
 My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the

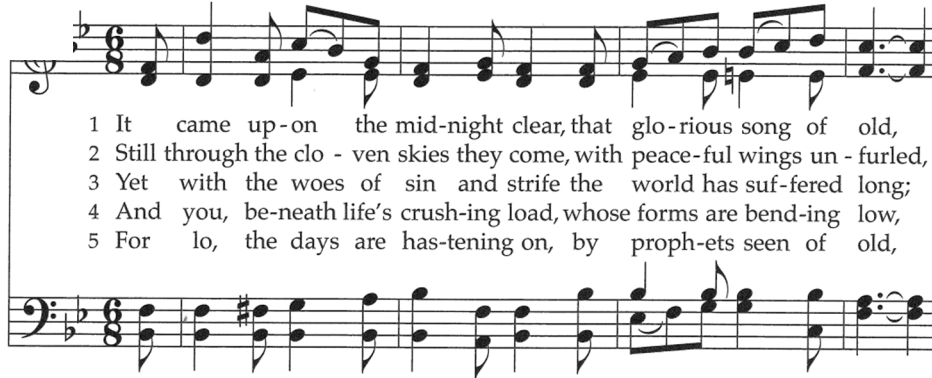


fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the

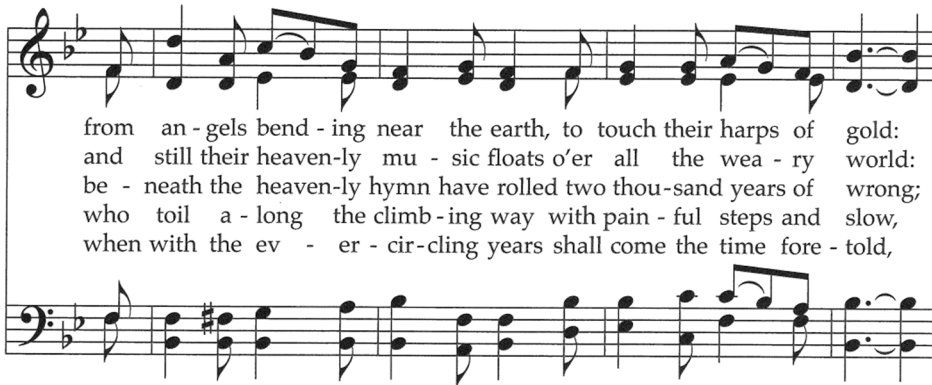


dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

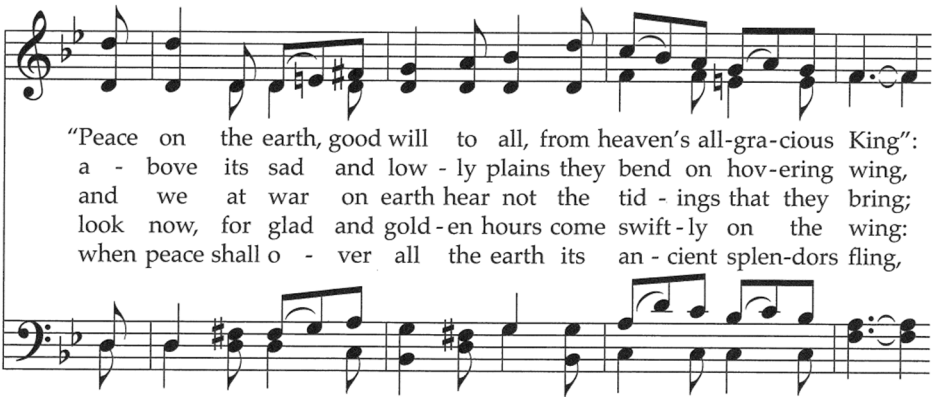
123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear



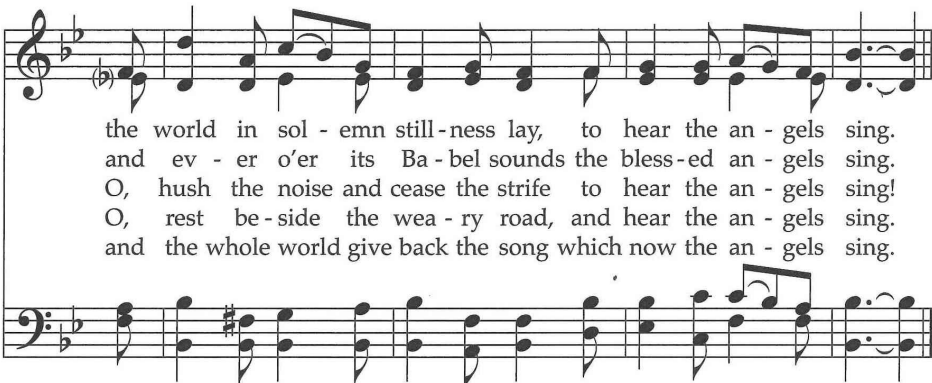
1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come, with peace-ful wings un - furled,
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suf-fered long;
 4 And you, be-neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
 5 For lo, the days are has-tening on, by proph-ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heaven-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world:
 be - neath the heaven-ly hymn have rolled two thou-sand years of wrong;
 who toil a - long the climb-ing way with pain - ful steps and slow,
 when with the ev - er - cir-ling years shall come the time fore - told,




“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven’s all-gra-cious King”:
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov-ering wing,
 and we at war on earth hear not the tid - ings that they bring;
 look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift-ly on the wing:
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,



the world in sol - emn still-ness lay, to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds the bless-ed an - gels sing.
 O, hush the noise and cease the strife to hear the an - gels sing!
 O, rest be - side the wea - ry road, and hear the an - gels sing.
 and the whole world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

December / January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
22 10:30 AM Worship Service 2 pm—6:30 pm Prepare and Serve Dinner: Humankind Winter Shelter	23 8 AM Aerobics 2pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers Preschool CLOSED	24 6 pm Family Christmas Service 11 pm Candlelight Christmas Service Preschool CLOSED	25 CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED	26 11:30 am Lunch & Walk! 12:30 pm Plymouth Projects 1:30 pm Women's AA Coffee Group	27 8 AM Aerobics	28
29 10:30 AM Worship Service with Lay Speaker, Abby Arthur	30 8 AM Aerobics 2pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	31 New Year's Eve	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! CLOSED 	2 11:30 am Lunch & Walk! 12:30 pm Plymouth Projects 1:30 pm Women's AA Coffee Group	3 8 AM Aerobics	4
5 10:30 AM Worship Service 2 pm—6:30 pm Prepare and Serve Dinner: Humankind Winter Shelter	6 8 AM Aerobics 2pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers	7 6:30 PM Spinning Boots	8 8 AM Aerobics 5:30 PM Wed Night Dinner 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	9 11:30 am Lunch & Walk! 12:30 pm Plymouth Projects 1:30 pm Women's AA Coffee Group	10 8 AM Aerobics	11

Join us for Worship next Sunday, December 29th.

The Plymouth Covenant

Believing in Jesus Christ, the Interpreter of God to humankind, we accept His teachings as the guiding principles of our lives and consecrate ourselves and our church to their fulfillment. We therefore join in covenant, one with another, to worship, work, and serve together that we may express through our Church and our individual lives the love and faith taught by Jesus Christ.