

Plymouth
Congregational
Church
Sharing Faith's Journey



Celebration of Worship
January 19, 2025

Celebration of Worship

January 19, 2025

10:30 am

Second Sunday After the Epiphany

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

Though we have all encountered our share of grief and troubles, we can still hold the line of beauty, form, beat – no small accomplishment in a world as challenging as this one. Hard time require furious dancing. Each of us is the proof.

Alice Walker in *Hard Times Require Furious Dancing*

Opening Voluntary

Fairest, Lord Jesus
Christopher Shaw, organ

arr. Aaron David Miller

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn

Love Has Come

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*Responsive Reading

Clifford Depew

One: Praise be to the caregivers—the hair combers, the bath-givers,

All: the grocery-list makers, the clothing menders, the household organizers.

One: Praise be to the cleaning staff, the food harvesters,

All: the early childhood educators, the home health aides.

One: Praise be those artful in their hospitality,

All: compassionate in their caring,

One: warm in their welcome,

All: expansive in their invites.

One: Do you remember when Mary told her son and the serving staff to turn water into wine—

All: the story of God's generous love, from the back of the house.

Adapted from Enfleshed.com

*Response of Praise Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls



Come, let us join with faith-ful souls our song of faith to raise; One
fam - i - ly in heart are we, and one the God we praise.

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*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Holy One, through our mindful living, may we practice caregiving as a foundational art of our holy interdependence. Create with us communities centered around compassionate caregiving. Structure with us societies where no caregiver is exploited, overworked, and underpaid. May every elder, child, disabled person, neighbor, more-than-human, household, body of water, and swath of land receive the tender care of which they are inherently worthy. All this we ask as we pray the prayer that Jesus taught...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.

Scripture Readings

John 2: 1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Welcoming Song

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

STUTT GART

(Let the children come forward.)



Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to know whose child you are.



Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, trust and love God more than all.

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A Moment with Our Children

Lindsay Miller

Solo

Blessings
Jennifer King

Laura Story

We pray for blessings
We pray for peace
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep
We pray for healing, for prosperity
We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering
And all the while, You hear each spoken need
Yet love is way too much to give us lesser things

'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops?
What if Your healing comes through tears?
What if a thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know You're near?
And what if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise?

We pray for wisdom
Your voice to hear
And we cry in anger when we cannot feel You near
We doubt Your goodness, we doubt Your love
As if every promise from Your Word is not enough
And all the while, You hear each desperate plea
And long that we'd have faith to believe

'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops?
What if Your healing comes through tears?
And what if the thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know You're near?
And what if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise?

When friends betray us
And when darkness seems to win
We know that pain reminds this heart
That this is not, this is not our home
It's not our home

'Cause what if your blessings come through raindrops?
What if Your healing comes through tears?
And what if the thousand sleepless nights
Are what it takes to know You're near?

What if my greatest disappointments
Or the aching of this life
Is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy
And what if trials of this life
The rain, the storms, the hardest nights
Are Your mercies in disguise?

Prayer Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

“ Adapted from a Enfleshed

Prayer Response

Invitation to Offering

Anthem*Psalm of Comfort*

Benjamin Harlan

Because the Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in pastures green:
He leads me beside still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
And He leads me in righteousness
for His name's sake.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of
mine enemies:
Thou anointed my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death,
Yet I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;
thy rod and staff they comfort me.

(words adapted from Psalm 23)

Sermon

"A Reason to Celebrate"

Dr. Robu

Closing HymnAs the Wind Song*

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Benediction*Closing Voluntary***As with Gladness Men of Old*

arr. Craig Phillips

* Please stand in body, or in spirit.

*** Ushers will seat late comers

Selected liturgy adapted or taken from Enfleshed.com

NOTICE OF ANNUAL CORPORATE MEETING
TO BE HELD ON JANUARY 26, 2025

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF
PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF WICHITA, KANSAS:**

Please take notice that the Cabinet of Plymouth Congregational Church of Wichita, Kansas has called for the Annual Corporate Meeting of all church members. The purposes of this meeting are for the members: (1) to receive reports from staff, officers, boards, committees and organizations, and (2) to transact such other business as may properly be considered at the meeting. This meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary at Plymouth Congregational Church, 202 N. Clifton, Wichita, Kansas.

DATED this 9th day of January, 2025.

JANUARY

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

JAN 29: Wed. Dinner Guests - Sedgwick County Zoo Educators

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

Note: The Academy of Music Theater will begin Winter Rehearsals in Fellowship Hall Sunday, January 5th. Their rehearsal includes Sunday afternoons, and Monday, Tuesday, Thursday evenings through February 2nd.



Sunday, January 26th

8:30 am - 1:30 pm

NFL (National Football League) is partnering with the American Red Cross during January in a national co-branding effort to support blood donations throughout National Blood Donor Month.

Those who come to give blood, platelets or AB Elite plasma give Jan. 1-26, 2025 will automatically be entered to win a trip for two to Super Bowl LIX in New Orleans!

To schedule your lifesaving appointment, please visit www.redcrossblood.org and search sponsor code: Plymouth Church or call Lindsay Miller at 316-641-3969.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

7 - 8 PM Sarah McCammon

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

[followed by wine & cheese reception]



Weekend Ticket ~ \$100

Includes all events + receptions + 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.

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"

[followed by wine & cheese reception]

Media Sponsor

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

10:30 AM Sarah McCammon

"New Life in the Wilderness"

Mark A. Miller
@ Plymouth Chancel Choir



The Divine Arts of Knowledge and Exultation

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

Word & Note 2025

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

At levels above \$200, your support includes complimentary tickets. Above \$400, you'll also receive comp tickets to the Sunday brunch honoring our guests.



The Divine Arts of Knowledge and Exultation

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, and 2 tickets to sponsorship brunch [TBD]

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

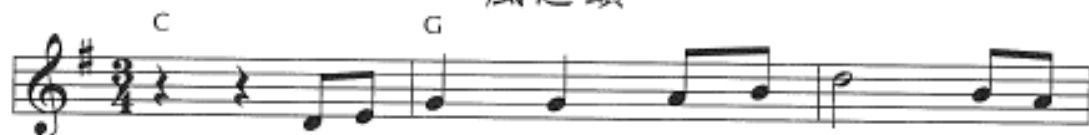
2025 Word & Note - with Sarah McCammon and Mark A. Miller:

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.

As the Wind Song

風之頌



1 As the wind song through the trees, as the
 2 As the rain - bow af - ter rain, as the
 1 風之頌, 林中吹送, 輕風
 2 彩之虹, 雨後高懸, 生之



stir - ring of the breeze, so it is with the Spir - it of
 hope that's born a - gain, so it is with the Spir - it of
 送, 心中振動, 上主的靈如風吹
 盼, 人間再現, 上主的靈如風吹



God, as the heart made strange-ly warm, as the
 God, as the green in the spring, as a
 送; 心溫暖, 奇異難明, 風浪
 送; 春天裡, 青山綠水, 線上



voice with - in the storm, so it is with the Spir - it of
 kite on a string, so it is with the Spir - it of
 中, 靜聽主聲, 上主的靈如風吹
 繫飛揚風箏, 上主的靈如風吹



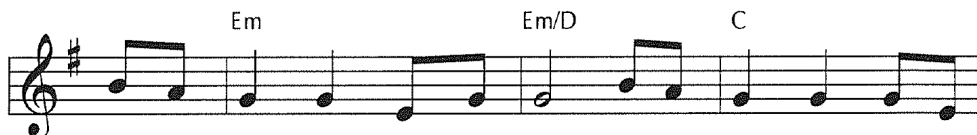
God. Nev - er seen, ev - er known where this wind has
 God, mak - ing worlds that are new, mak - ing peace come
 送; 眼不見, 心未明, 風來去何
 送; 大地萬象更新, 和平終實

As the Wind Sona—Continued

GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



blown bring-ing life, bring-ing power to the world,
 true, bring-ing gifts, bring-ing love to the world,
 蹤, 給 世 人 賜 生 命 加 力 量;
 現, 給 世 人 帶 來 愛 和 禮 物;



as the danc - ing tongues of fire, as the soul's most deep de -
 as the ris - ing of the yeast, as the wine at the
 火 之 舌, 跳 動 飛 舞, 心 深 處, 朝 思 暮
 麵 之 酵, 悄 然 膨 升, 盛 宴 上, 醇 香 美



sire, so it is with the Spir - it of God.
 feast, so it is with the Spir - it of God.
 想, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹 送。
 酒, 上 主 的 靈 如 風 吹 送。

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Love Has Come

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Capo 3: (D) (Bm7) (Em7) (A)
 F Dm7 Gm7 C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) (Bm7) (Em) (A7) (D)
 F Dm7 Gm C7 F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) (D) (Bm) (D) (A) (G) (D)
 C F Dm F C Bb F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) (F#7) (G) (A) (Bm) (A7)
 Gm7 A7 Bb C Dm C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

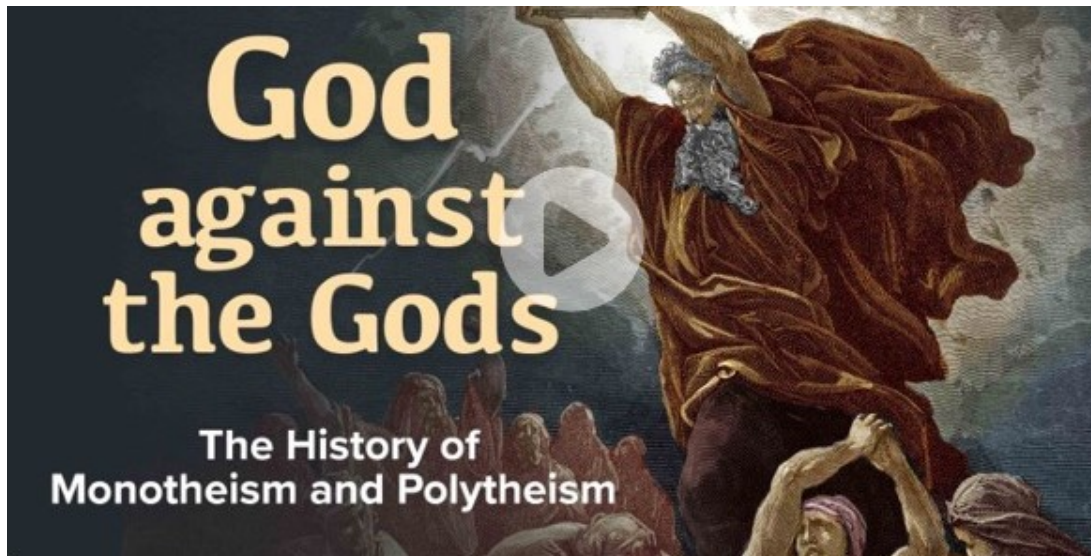
(D) (A) (G) (A) (D) (A) (A7) (Dsus) (D)
 F C Bb C F C C7 Fsus F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text:
 Ken
 Bible
 1996

Join Us!

Great Courses Series begins Sunday, January 19th for 12 weeks.



Gathering each Sunday at 9 AM in the Turner Room.

moderated by Anna Uhlig

Course Overview

Robert Garland, Ph.D. Professor, Colgate University

Religion is foundational to what it means to be human. Our quest for meaning is as ancient as our very existence, stretching back to a time when Neanderthal burials and Paleolithic figurines suggest our ancestors recognized a power that transcended visible reality. From ancient civilizations to the 21st century, belief in a higher power seems to be a universal human instinct. It tells us much about where we came from—and who we are today.

What's fascinating is that this universal instinct has led some cultures to believe in one God while others worship a pantheon of higher beings. This divide between God and the gods raises unique questions in humanity's search for existential meaning, such as:

- What is the role of a higher power in human affairs?
- How do we reach out to a deity (or deities), and which deity do we contact?
- Do good and evil exist in human morality, or are they products of religious doctrine?
- What happens when we die? Is there an afterlife?

January—February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 9 AM Great Courses Series 10:30 AM Worship Service 9:00 am Fine Arts Board—Chapel YMTW	20 8 AM Aerobics 2pm Prairie Wind Folk Dancers YMTW	21 6:30 PM Spinning Boots 5:30 pm Investment Club YMTW	22 8 AM Aerobics 5:30 PM Wed Night Dinner @ Book Club 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	23 11:30 am Lunch & Walk! 12:30 pm Plymouth Projects 1:30 pm Women's Coffee YMTW	24 8 AM Aerobics	25
26 9 AM Great Courses Series 9:15 PM Christian Education—Chapel 10:30 AM Worship Service 11:30 PM Deacons	27 8 AM Aerobics 2pm Prairie Wind Folk YMTW	28 6:30 PM Spinning Boots 5:30 PM Trustees YMTW	29 8 AM Aerobics 5:30 PM Wed Night Dinner @ Sedg Co Zoo at FSH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	30 11:30 am Lunch & Walk! 12:30 pm Plymouth Projects 1:30 pm Women's Coffee YMTW	31 8 AM Aerobics 7 PM Word and Note	1 10 AM Word and Note All day Through 7 PM concert and reception
2 9 AM Great Courses Series 10:30 AM Worship Service with Word & Note guests YMTW	3 8 AM Aerobics 2pm Prairie Wind Folk	4 6:30 PM Spinning Boots	5 8 AM Aerobics 5:30 PM Wed Night Dinner @ Sedg Co Zoo at FSH 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	6 11:30 am Lunch & Walk! 12:30 pm Plymouth Projects 1:30 pm Women's Coffee	7 Aerobics	8

Join us for Worship next Sunday, January 26

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.