



Worship Service for March 12, 2023

Prelude

Marshall Davies

Chiming of the Hour

Aimee Broadhurst

Praise & Worship Celebration

Congregation

Sing! #84 "All My Days"

You know my words, before they're said

You know my need and I am fed.

You give me life. You know my ways,

My strength, my path for all my days,

My strength, my path for all my days.

If I should fly beyond the dawn,

The shadows will not overcome.

If I lie down in deepest night,

Still you are there, my truth, my light,

Still you are there, my truth, my light.

Our every thought, each word we say,

The whole of time, the present day,

Are held within your mighty hand

Too wonderful to comprehend,

Too wonderful to comprehend.

O mend my heart and free my voice.
From sin released, I will rejoice.
O search me now, my spirit cries,
And let my song of praise arise,
And let my song of praise arise.

Welcome

Aimee Boradhurst

Centering Moment

Kyle Riley

Call to Worship

Aimee Broadhurst

LEADER: We rejoice in the Divine as we make our way
through this Lenten Journey.

**ALL: In the wilderness our hunger is filled by Holy
Hope.**

LEADER: In the desert our thirst is quenched from the
stream of God's Presence.

**ALL: On the road to Jerusalem our weariness is
transformed into strength by Grace.**

LEADER: We each walk our own journey as led by the Spirit.

**ALL: We all walk together as the Body of Christ in
the world.**

***Hymn**

Congregation

TNCH #433 "In the Bulb There is a Flower"

In the bulb there is a flower;

In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
Seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn for every darkness,
Bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

Romans 5:1-11 from the NRSV

“Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves their love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by Christ's blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of the Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than

that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.”

Contemporary Witness

Kyle Riley

“A blessing for when it’s too much to handle” by Kate Bowler
(In “Bless the Lent We Actually Have,” adapted for a communal setting from *The Lives We Actually Have*, page 108)

God, our bodies remember the sleepless
nights and cold sweats and unrelenting stress.

Show us how to process all that we suffer.

“How frail is humanity!

How short is life, How full of trouble!”

—Job 14:1

Blessed are we, when we decide

to make room for all of it,

the fear and the gratitude,

the complexity and the suffering.

Blessed are we who pour out to you

the whole of it—

unedited, all the terrible truths

and fears and what-ifs.

The gratitude for those beautiful hearts

in action who came willingly,

into the strange and awkward space

that is my need.

Blessed are we, learning as humans together

that pain is inevitable,

nurses are wonderful, hospitals are loud,

people are brave,

and we grow and we hurt and we heal,

and then we will do it all over again.

Because this beautiful paradox

is what it means to be human.

Amen.

Sermon

“Too Hot to Handle”

Kyle Riley

Special Music

Plymouth Choir

“The Potter’s Hand”

Wonderful God, awesome creator, I know for sure, all of my days are held in your hand, crafted into your perfect plan.

You gently call me into your presence, guiding me by Your Holy Spirit. Teach me, dear God, to live all of my life through your eyes.

I'm captured by your holy calling. Set me apart, I know you're drawing me to yourself, Lead me, God, I pray.

Take me, mold me, use me, fill me. I give my life to the Potter's Hand.

Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me, I give my life to the Potter's Hand, the Potter's Hand.

You gently call me into your presence, guiding me by Your Holy Spirit. Teach me, dear God, to live all of my life through your eyes.

I'm captured by your holy calling. Set me apart, I know you're drawing me to yourself, Lead me, God, I pray.

Take me, mold me, use me, fill me. I give my life to the Potter's Hand.

Call me, guide me, lead me, walk beside me, I give my life to the Potter's Hand, the Potter's Hand.

Pastoral Prayer

Kyle Riley

Invitation to Offering

Aimee Broadhurst

Plymouth's General Fund &

"Montgomery Co Women's Center" - Loose Offering

Offertory Music

Marshall Davies

Doxology

Congregation

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 Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Aimee Broadhurst

LEADER: God of the journey, we give these offerings in
gratitude,

ALL: rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us.

LEADER: We give these offerings in faith,

ALL: trusting that you will provide for our needs.

LEADER: We give these offerings in hope,

**ALL: knowing you can use them to spread your love
in this world.**

LEADER: And with these offerings, we give ourselves;

**ALL: may we live with generous hearts, with open
hands. Amen.**

***Hymn**

Congregation

TNCH #293 "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;

And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise.
 Without a doubt we'll know that we have been
 Revived when we shall leave this place.

There are blessings you cannot receive
 Till you know that Spirit's fullness and believe;
 You're the one to profit when you say,
 "I am going to stay with Jesus all the way."

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
 Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
 And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise.
 Without a doubt we'll know that we have been
 Revived when we shall leave this place.

Benediction

Kyle Riley

Song Of Parting

Marshall Davies

Sing! #201 "Deep Peace" VS 1

Peace, peace, deep peace,
 My peace I give to you.
 Peace, peace, deep peace,
 My peace I give to you.

Not as the world gives,
 I give to you,
 Not as the world gives,
 I give to you.
 Peace, peace, deep peace,

My peace I give to you.

Postlude

Marshall Davies

Today's Worship Participants

Worship Leader: Aimee Broadhurst

Sound: Tony Trosclair

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Projector: Lynette Lange

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