



## **Worship Service for October 9, 2022 Access Sunday**

**Prelude**

Marshall Davies

**Chiming of the Hour**

Paula McKnight

**Praise & Worship Celebration**

Congregation

**Sing! # 82 "You Are Holy"**

You are holy, you are whole.

You are always ever more  
than we ever understand.

You are always at hand.

Blessed are you coming near.  
Blessed are you coming here  
to the church in wine and bread,  
Raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy. You are wholeness.  
You are present,  
let the cosmos praise you, God!  
Halleluia, halleluia, halleluia  
Halleluia our God.

You are holy, you are whole.  
You are always ever more

than we ever understand.  
You are always at hand.

Blessed are you coming near.  
Blessed are you coming here  
to the church in wine and bread,  
Raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy. You are wholeness.  
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let the cosmos praise you, God!  
Halleluia, halleluia, halleluia  
Halleluia our God.

**Welcome**

Pastor Mak

**Centering Moment**

Pastor Mak

**Call to Worship**

Paula McKnight

LEADER: God of grace, we come before you with our whole  
selves.

**ALL: We gather ourselves as a community of faith,  
hope, and love.**

LEADER: Show us your kin-dom of kindness.

**ALL: Teach us to love our enemies as well as our friends.**

LEADER: Come to us as we come to you.

**ALL: In your embrace we pray, praise, and rest.**

**\*Hymn**

Congregation

TNCH # 292 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" vs 1-3

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Fill me with life anew  
That I may love the way you love  
And do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Until my heart is pure,  
Until with you, I will one will,  
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,  
Stir in me one desire:  
That every earthly part of me  
May glow with holy fire.

**Biblical Witness**

Pastor Mak

The Gospel Of Matthew 4:23 - 5:7

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them. And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan. When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

## **Contemporary Witness**

Paula McKnight

“How To Have An Enemy,” pg 201, by Melissa Florer-Bixler

The Bible is a powerful weapon in the hands of oppressors. It always has been. But Matthew writes these words for the poor, for the ones who have been told, “There’s no place for you here.” Jesus sits beside them and says, “You are in the good life, in the perfect place, the good life for you and the good life for others.” And when these people find one another, when they are united in love, Jesus’ love begins to unfold all around us. You are in the good life. Blessed are you.

**Reflection**

**“Accessible To All”**

Pastor Mak

**Special Music**

Aimee, Jennifer, & Mark

**“I See the You in You”**

**Pastoral Prayer**

Pastor Mak

**Unison Prayer**

Pastor Mak & Congregation

**“Prayer for Bodies” By Bekah Anderson**

**God, I will live in this body.**

**This body built by your hands,**

**by acts of the world, planned and unplanned,**

**by my own choices.**

**This body was born with abilities and disabilities.**

**It grew and changed,**

**through accident,**

**Illness,**

**medical procedure,**

**the passage of time,**

**and more actions and events than we can name.**

**I have made my body my own,**

**through prosthetics,**

**assistive tech,**

**tattoos and piercings,**

**Medications,**

**intentional movement,  
Meditation,  
and all the choices one can make about a body.  
This body is mine,  
co-created with you, O God.  
I bless it, as it is blessed by you.  
I bless it in comfort and in pain,  
in clarity and in brainfog,  
in ease of movement and in struggle,  
in the good days and the bad.  
I bless this body, even when I do not love what it does.  
I bless this body because  
it is the only body I have.  
And I will live in it,  
for we are one.  
Amen.**

**Invitation to Offering**

Paula McKnight

Plymouth's General Fund &  
"UCC Disabilities Ministries" - 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**

Paula McKnight

written by Rev. Dr. Derek Browning

LEADER: Generous God, here are our gifts of time;

**ALL: here are our gifts of talents;**

LEADER: here are our gifts of money;

**ALL: building stones for Your Kingdom,**

LEADER: awaiting shaping and placing

**ALL: within Your loving purpose. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

Congregation

TFWS #2130 "The Summons"

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,

Will you let my name be known,

Will you let my life be grown in you and in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare

Should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you’ve found  
To reshape the world around,  
Through my sight and touch  
And sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true  
When you but call my name!  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus, I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

## **Benediction**

Pastor Mak and Paula McKnight

“Litany of Continuing Access” By Bekah Anderson

Pastor Mak: As we leave this place, let us celebrate the work we have done: the ramps that connect us, the elevators that uplift us, the conversations that help us know more deeply how God is present with us, reflected in a diversity of bodyminds.



**ALL: God, draw us closer to Access and Love.**

Paula: And we realize that there is always more to be done. Our physical access has not accounted for every body. Our communication access has not accounted for every mind. Our attitudes and theologies remain shaped by a culture that does not love disabled bodyminds, and untangling those beliefs is the work of a lifetime.

**ALL: God, draw us closer to Access and Love.**

Pastor Mak: We are not perfect. But we are not called to be perfect. We are called to love our neighbor, and to recognize when our attempts at love have gone astray. We are called to live deeply, fully, grounded in our own bodymind, and reaching out to the unique bodyminds of those who share this life with us.

**ALL: God, draw us closer to Access and Love.**

Paula: Let us rejoice in the continued work of access! Let us rejoice that there are more ways than we know to love one another! Let us be bold, creative, thoughtful, empathetic, and faithful. Let us rejoice, knowing there is yet more wisdom to learn on this journey of access.

**ALL: God, draw us closer to Access and Love.**

Pastor Mak: Amen, and go in peace.

## **Song Of Parting**

Marshall Davies

Sing! # 213 "Wherever You Go"

Wherever you go, God is with you;  
Wherever you go, God is there.  
Wherever you go,  
Whatever you do,  
You are in God's care.

Wherever we go, God is with us;  
Wherever we go, God is there.  
Wherever we go,  
Whatever we do,  
We are in God's care.

## **Postlude**

Marshall Davies