



**Worship Service for March 6, 2022  
First Sunday in Lent**

|                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Prelude</b>             | Marshall Davies |
| <b>Chiming of the Hour</b> | Mary Davis      |
| <b>Welcome</b>             | Pastor Mak      |
| <b>Centering Moment</b>    | Pastor Mak      |
| <b>Call to Worship</b>     | Mary Davis      |

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**

Marshall Davies

TNCH #106 "My Heart Sings Out With Joyful Praise"

**Pastoral Prayer**

Pastor Mak

**Unison Prayer**

Pastor Mak

**Prayer for Conscience and Courage**

*by Sister Joan Chittister*

**Loving God, lead us beyond ourselves to care and protect, to nourish and shape, to challenge and energize both the life and the world You have given us. God of light and God of darkness, God of conscience and God of courage lead us through this time of spiritual confusion and public uncertainty. Lead us beyond fear, apathy and defensiveness to new hope in You and to hearts full of faith. Give us the conscience it takes to comprehend what we're facing, to see what we're looking at and to say what we see so that others, hearing us, may also brave the pressure that comes with being out of public step. Give us the courage we need to confront those things that compromise our consciences or threaten our integrity. Give us, most of all, the courage to follow those before us who challenged wrong and changed it, whatever the cost to themselves.**

**Invitation to Offering**

Mary Davis

Plymouth's General Fund &  
"Lesbian Health Initiative" - Loose Offering

**Offertory Music**

Marshall Davies

**Doxology**

Marshall Davies

**Offertory Prayer**

Mary Davis

*written by Rev. Joanna Harader*

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.**

**Biblical Witness**

Pastor Mak

## The Gospel Of Mark 3:19b - 30

Jesus went home and the crowd came together again, so that he and his disciples could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” The scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” Jesus called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

**Contemporary Witness**

Mary Davis

Frida Kahlo quote

“I wish I could do whatever I liked behind the curtain of “madness”. Then: I’d arrange flowers, all day long, I’d paint; pain, love and tenderness, I would laugh as much as I feel like at the stupidity of others, and they would all say: “Poor thing, she’s crazy!” (Above all I would laugh at my own stupidity.) I would build my world which while I lived, would be in agreement with all the worlds. The day, or the hour, or the minute that I lived would be mine and everyone else’s - my madness would not be an escape from “reality”.”

**Reflection**      “Sometimes It’s Personal”      Pastor Mak

**Special Music**      “Remember”      Plymouth Ensemble

**Communion**      Pastor Mak

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**      Pastor Mak

**Lenten Ritual of Grief and Lament**      Pastor Mak

**Benediction**      Pastor Mak

**Postlude**      Marshall Davies