

The Worship of God

July 20, 2008 Ten o'clock

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The beginning of the Prelude is a call to silent personal preparation for the worship of God.

Prayer requests will be collected following the sermon.

(*Standing)

PRELUDE *Sonata No. 1 - Andante* Rheinberger

Nightingale Ngo, organist

WORDS OF GREETING

CONCERNS OF PLYMOUTH (*Please sign and pass the Friendship Register.*)

CHORAL INTROIT *Alleluia* John Bell

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 50**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above Mit Freuden Zart

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We come to you God just as we are.

People: Trusting that in You we will find what we need for the journey.

Leader: God, You are the source from where we draw inspiration, strength, and hope.

People: In every season God is our perfect help.

All: Today we come together to give You praise. Alleluia.

***GLORIA PATRI (Hymn 805)**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

INVOCATION

All loving God, help us to remember that we are not alone in this journey and that together we are creating a better world. Bring the necessary inspiration into our lives, faithful people, and dreams that will lead us to the best of life. May your Holy Spirit renew our strength to be your church in the midst of your creation. Hear us now as we pray together...

LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who

trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON Psalm 46: 1-5, 10-11

¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

³though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.

¹⁰“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.”

¹¹The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

(During the singing of this hymn all children ages 4 years – 5th grade depart for Davis Hall Sunday School.)

***HYMN 532** *Be Thou My Vision* Slane

SECOND LESSON Genesis 28: 10-19

¹⁰Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹²And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And the Lord stood beside him and said, “I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” ¹⁶Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!” ¹⁷And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.” ¹⁸So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

ANTHEM *Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown* Robert H. Young

SERMON *“Perfection Is Not Always Perfect”*

(Please pass prayer request cards to aisle.)

***A CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Your Word is a Lamp* Robert Heath

Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.

Open my eyes that I might behold the wonders of your word.

Give me understanding that I may keep your law, and observe it with my whole heart.

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Leader: Let us pray: O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

People: And grant us thy salvation.

Leader: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

People: And may thy Holy Spirit live within us.

PASTORAL PRAYER

To Remember In Prayer

Elaine Calzolari, Vincent Doherty, George Fisher, Nigel Grant, Nelson Heisey,
Sue Janas, Janet Jarrett, Marjory Johnson, Ruth Kassewitz, Karen Kearns, Beryl Lee,
Norman Madan, Kent Maggard, Carolyn Oglesby, Patty, Estelle Overstreet, Soco Pardo,
Mary Joe Swan, Reneé Terry, and all men and women of our armed services

Congratulations to

Craig and Cathy Wheeling on the birth of their daughter, Emily Catherine,
born June 26. Proud sister is Tiffany Grace.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER RESPONSE

May the Words of My Mouth Robert Heath

May the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart
be acceptable unto you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

OFFERTORY *Souvenir Op. 65* M. Dupre

****Presentation of Tithes and Offerings (The congregation rises row by row as
ushers come forward until all the congregation and choir are standing.)***

DOXOLOGY (Hymn 809)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***HYMN 43** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Eiin' Feste Burg

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *May the Grace of Christ Our Savior*

POSTLUDE *Prelude in A Minor BWV 543* J.S. Bach

****Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshment in the Cloister Garden following the service.***

Preaching: The Reverend Abel Cotelo

Liturgist: The Reverend Moira McGuinn

Organist: Nightingale Ngo

CHURCH NOTES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 20, 2008

WELCOME!

Today we invite you to worship with us in word, song and sacrament and then join us, following the service, for a time of fellowship in the Garden. Plymouth Church welcomes you whatever your gender, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, national citizenship, physical or mental impairment, language or prior religious background. **We are happy to have you with us.**

Parents of infants – Nursery care is available in the crib room in the Kennedy Building. If you prefer to be with your baby throughout the service and occasionally need a place for comfort, then we want you to know that speakers carry the sound of the service to both the office in the room behind the organ and the Cloister Garden.

Hearing units...We have individual hearing enhancement units available. Please ask an usher for one.

Facilities for those with disabilities...Plymouth Church has a handicapped accessible restroom adjacent to the end of the ramp that runs from the sanctuary to the parking lot.

EVERY WEEK

The This 'N That Shop, at 3155 Commodore Plaza in Coconut Grove (305-448-2114), is the “in” place to shop! Come on down any day Tuesday - Saturday between 10:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and snap up a few bargains. Your volunteer hours at the Shop and donations of furniture and clothing in good condition, jewelry, household items, collectibles, antiques, etc. are what keep us in business. Donations are accepted the second Sunday of each month after the service of worship at Pilgrim House. To volunteer, call Jan Lowe at 305-666-3009.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

The flowers on the communion table today are given to the glory of God by Shaun, Meg, and Marian Conaty in loving memory of Mary Driscoll Conaty and Edward Philip Conaty.

Upper Room (high school youth) will be in church today. **Outer Room** (6-8th graders) meets upstairs in Pilgrim House each Sunday.

Davis Hall Summer Sunday School is in session. All children, ages 4 years old through 5th grade, begin in church with their families at 10:00 a.m. and then go to Davis Hall during the second hymn for a group Sunday School class.

SATURDAY, JULY 26

The Saturday Bible study group meets today in the Prayer Room from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m.

UPCOMING

The Board of Adult Education will be sponsor after-church discussions of Jim Wallis' book, *Great Awakening*, beginning at 11:30 a.m. on three Sundays, August 3, 10, and 17, in Pilgrim House. The discussions will be led by Board member Mike Morgan. Jim Wallis is a leading figure at the crossroads of religion and politics in America. He is the founder of Sojourners, a global faith and justice network. In this book Wallis helps us rediscover our moral center and find solutions to our greatest global challenges.

Pastoral Staff

Thomas R. Niblock, *Senior Pastor*

Moira McGuinn, *Associate Pastor*

Abel Cotelo, *Associate Pastor*

Program Staff

Judith W. Niblock, *Associate for Education and the Arts*

Cindy Smith, *Associate for Christian Education and Fellowship*

Music Staff

Robert D. Heath, *Organist and Director of Music*

Donald Oglesby, *Chancel Choir Director*

Church Office Telephone: 305-444-6521

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CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING JULY 20, 2008

Sun., July 20 8:45 a.m. Chancel Choir Summer Practice: Choir Room

10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Nursery Care/Church School/Youth

Sat., July 26 9:00 a.m. Saturday Bible Study: Plymouth Hall Prayer Room

AA/AL-ANON MEETINGS AA: 305-371-7784 / Al-Anon: 305-663-1432 / www.aainmiami.org

AA meetings are held in the Choir Room unless otherwise noted.

Al-Anon meeting is held in the Plymouth Hall Prayer Room.

Monday 7:00 p.m. AA Open

Tuesday 7:00 p.m. AA (Women Only)

Wednesday Noon AA 11th Step Meditation (upstairs, Plymouth Hall)

7:00 p.m. AA Open

8:00 p.m. Al-Anon

WEDDINGS AT PLYMOUTH

Fri., July 11 7:00 p.m. Ondar/Martinez (Cotelo)

Sat., July 5 4:00 p.m. Valdes/Diaz (Cotelo)

6:00 p.m. Pena/Alvarez (Cotelo)