

The Worship of God

May 4, 2008

Ten o'clock

Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

Regal Celebration
Plymouth Handbell Choir

Dobrinski

WORDS OF GREETING

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

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PRESENTATION

McKenzie Moore

CHORAL INTROIT

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 99**

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Laudes Domini

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Behold, I am sending my promise upon you; believe, and be clothed with power from on high!

People: Your spirit is rushing upon us with power; your wind is filling this house with heaven!

Leader: My promise is sent to you and your children – to all who stand far away from me!

All: Your tongues of fire rest upon all flesh! Make us see visions, and let us dream dreams; help us take heart, and prophesy!

***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

O God, your promise of faithfulness is well tried; we have tested it time and again. Though sometimes we have delighted in it, we have often distrusted it, defied it, deserted it. But our lack of faith could never destroy it. O Lord, we are foolish; grant us understanding, according to your promise, and we will live your life. We are timid; grant us courage, and we will do your work. We are broken; grant us healing, and we will love your word.

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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 68: 1-10 and 32-35

¹Let God rise up, let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him.

²As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God.

³But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy.

⁴Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds—his name is the LORD— be exultant before him.

⁵Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

⁶God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious live in a parched land.

⁷O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness, Selah

⁸the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

⁹Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished;

¹⁰your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

³²Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord, Selah

³³O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.

³⁴Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel; and whose power is in the skies.

³⁵Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel; he gives power and strength to his people.

Blessed be God!

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

(After the Children's Moment all children ages 3 through 5th grade may go to their respective Sunday School rooms. Childcare is available in the Kennedy Building for infants to 2 years old and in Preschool Room 10 for 2 year olds.)

***HYMN 574**

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

Canonbury

ANTHEM

The Pilgrim's Hymn

Stephen Paulus

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 1: 6-11

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

SERMON

"OK – so now what?"

(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

Andrea Ferrer, Ruth Kassewitz, Calvin Lee, Mary Elizabeth,
Helen Merrifield, Carolyn Oglesby, Estelle Overstreet, Soco Pardo,
and all men and women of our armed services

Sympathy to

John Wheeler on the death of his wife, LaVern, who died April 26.
A memorial was held for her on May 2.

Susannah and John Shubin and family on the death of
Susannah's father, William C. "Mac" McLean III, who died April 27.

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

****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 103

Ye Servants of God, Your Master

Hanover

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Minuet Gothique

Leon Boëllmann

Preaching: The Reverend Dr. Thomas Niblock

Liturgist: The Reverend Moira McGuinn

CHURCH NOTES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 4, 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

Join Plymouth's pastors for breakfast each Thursday at Green Street Café in Coconut Grove ...Meet us at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast and conversation, including a review of the next Sunday's lectionary texts and upcoming sermon ideas. No reservations are needed; we order and pay individually for our breakfasts. All are welcome to join the discussion.

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, MAY 4

The flowers on the communion table today are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Joseph L. Greene by Janet and David McCrea.

Today we have regular Church School classes. All children, ages 4 years old through 5th grade, begin in church with their parents. Nursery and Toddlers (up to 47 months) may go to their rooms prior to the service. After the Children's Moment, the children will be led by their teachers to the Church School rooms. Classes meet as follows: Infants to 23 months-Kennedy Building Nursery; 24 months to 47 months— Preschool Room 10; 4 years old and Kindergarten-Kennedy Building; 1st, 2nd, 3rd grades-Kennedy Building; and 4th and 5th grades-Davis Hall.

Upper Room (high school youth) meets in upper Plymouth Hall and **Outer Room** (6-8th graders) meets in Pilgrim House each Sunday. Join us!

The Adult Education Committee is offering after-church discussions on the book "The Language of God" by Dr. Francis Collins beginning today at 11:30 a.m. in Davis Hall. They continue on May 18 and 25. The author is the head of the Human Genome Project. He believes that faith in God and faith in science can coexist and in his book tells of his journey from atheism to faith. Dr. Bonnie Blomberg and the Rev. Dan Harden will introduce the book, as well as the Human Genome Project. Join us for this fascinating discussion - no reservations are necessary.

The Bookmobile will be open and filled with interesting selections in the Cloister Garden following today's service of worship and again next Sunday, May 11.

The Outer Room (6-8 graders) will be going to Gameworks after church today. Meet in the Kennedy Building after worship to determine pick up time. Pick up will be at Gameworks. Any questions, please see Cindy Smith.

TUESDAY, MAY 6

Trapp Circle will be attending the Pops Concert at Gusman, University of Miami tonight. They will gather before the concert at the home of Donna and Sol Whitten. Spouses are welcome! Co-hostesses are Donna Whitten and Bobbie Labuzan.

SATURDAY, MAY 10

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

UPCOMING

Child care...Whenever there is an event/seminar at Plymouth that you would like to attend and you need child care, call the church office prior to the event (please give us at least two days notice) and we will arrange child care on campus.

Next Sunday is Mothers' Day and we will have a Family Worship Service. All children (ages 4 through 5th grade) will remain in the service with their families. Childcare will be provided for infants to 2 year olds in the Kennedy Building Nursery Room and for age 2 and 3 in Preschool Room 10. **Next Sunday is also Plymouth's Teacher Appreciation Sunday** when we acknowledge the generosity and dedication of our volunteer teachers during worship. Please be sure and say a word of thanks and give lots of hugs for all the hard work and preparation your child's teachers do all year!

You are invited to "A Tea for Marjory," a Mother's Day tea honoring Marjory Stoneman Douglas, "The Mother of the Everglades." The tea will be next Sunday from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in Pilgrim House. This event is free. Please R.S.V.P. to Glenn Terry, 305-448-3775.

The success of This 'N That Shop depends on donations of good recyclable items (furniture, household items, clothing, etc.). For your convenience, the Women's Fellowship will be at the storage room behind Pilgrim House to receive your articles after church next Sunday, May 11. Arrangements can be made for pickup of large items by calling the Shop at 305-448-2114.

The Ross Apgar Men's Club will meet Wednesday, May 14, at noon in Pilgrim House. Tony Scornovacca, President of Tiger Tail Realty in Coconut Grove, will share some of the current reality of Miami's real estate market: the condo bust, mortgage fraud and residential real estate trends. We hope to see everyone (men, women and guests are welcome!). Lunch is provided for a nominal fee; no R.S.V.P. needed. If you have questions, call J.B. deRosset at the office, 305-279-7955, cell, 305-613-5848, or email at hotabay@bellsouth.net.

The Book Discussion Group will meet in Pilgrim House at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 17. This is the meeting where we'll be choosing our future books to read and review, so be thinking of the books that you have enjoyed, those that inspired you, those that made you laugh and those that made you dream. Come join us. Everyone is welcome.

Vacation Bible School is June 9-13 from 9:00 a.m. till noon. Come join our Bible Buddies - Fizz, Sparki, Dewd, Max, and Electra – as they show us an electrifying week in our "Power Lab" where we discover Jesus' miraculous power! Fee is \$35 per child and must accompany the completed form in order to ensure a spot for your child. Forms can be picked up in the church office or in your

child's Sunday School classroom. Volunteers are needed; call, 305-669-1197, or email, funmomcs@aol.com, Cindy Smith if you are interested in volunteering!

AIDS Walk 2008 Update...On Saturday, April 19, about 34 Plymouth and St. Stephen's Church members joined to form the "Churches in the Grove" team and walked together through the Grove from St. Stephen's to Plymouth where a short dedication service was held. Then on Sunday, April 20, four Plymouth and six St. Stephen's folks took part in the AIDS Walk on Miami Beach. As of April 30, after late pledges were received, our combined team raised over \$16,000 (Plymouth - \$11,300 and St. Stephen's - \$4,775), putting the "Churches in the Grove" team as the 3rd highest fundraiser. Thank you to all who contributed and special thanks to the following persons for walked and/or collected pledges: Pedro Armada, Maria and Jorge Costa, Abel Cotel, Carol Gillespie, Elena Gonzalez, Shirley and Bill Good, George Fisher, Jose Juver, Julie Kauffman, Dorothea LaFrieda, Moira McGuinn, Caroline Morrison, Ros Morgan, John Morrow, Kathleen Muldoon, Judy and Tom Niblock, Janet & Lou Nostro, Reinaldo Palacios, Dan Reiste, Kathy Sarmiento, Carolyn Sotham, Cookie and Tony Thelen, Glenn and Francesca Terry, and the Warner family: Pam, Wes, and Matthew. Thank you to all the Plymouth members who supported our walkers as well as a generous support from Plymouth's BOOM. For more information about CareResource or Plymouth's AIDS outreach ministries, contact George Fisher at 305 447-8726.

Pastoral Staff

Thomas R. Niblock, *Senior Pastor*

Moira McGuinn, *Associate Pastor*

Abel Cotel, *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*

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