

Plymouth Congregational Church

August 16, 2026 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

**An asterisk invites you to stand as you are able in body or spirit, for this part of the service.*

Prelude

Chiming the Trinity

Moment of Reflection

Welcome

Pastor Charles

Invitation to Worship *adapted from Psalm 67:1-7*

Carol Carlson

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

All: And, also with you!

One: God is gracious to us, blesses us, and smiles upon us! Selah!

All: Selah!

One: Holy One, may your way may be known upon the earth, and your saving power among the nations.

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

One: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. Selah!

All: Selah! Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

One: The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

All: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere God's Holy Name!

***Gathering Hymn** *Shall We Gather at the River*
Down to the River to Pray

Embodied Prayer Pastor Charles

Congregational Response *You have Come Down to the Lakeshore*

Prayer of Illumination Carol Carlson

Reading from the Psalms Psalm 96

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Sing to God, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare her glory among the nations, her marvelous works among
all the peoples.

For great is our God, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered
above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the
heavens.

Honor and majesty are before her; strength and beauty are in his
sanctuary.

Ascribe to God, O families of the peoples, ascribe to Them glory
and strength.

Ascribe to Them the glory due their name; bring an offering, and
come into their courts.

Worship the Lord in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the
earth.

Say among the nations, "God is king! The world is firmly
established; it shall never be moved. She will judge the peoples with
equity."

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar,
and all that fills it;

let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the
forest sing for joy

before our God; for she is coming, for they are coming to judge the
earth. They will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with
their truth.

Musical Interlude

The Gift of Love

Reading from the Prophets

Pastor Charles

Jeremiah 23:23-29

God asks, “Am I a God nearby, and not a God far off? Who can
hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? Do I not fill heaven
and earth? I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy
lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ How
long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who
prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They
plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell
one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the
prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my
word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with
wheat? Is not my word like fire, and like a hammer that breaks a rock
in pieces?

Reflections

Patsy Tompkins

Jan Clinard

Dick & Florence Mayer
Heidi Haslip

Musical Reflection

Prayers of the People

Pastor Charles

The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation,
But, deliver us from evil,
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

***Departing Hymn** *I've Got Peace Like A River*

***Charge & Benediction**

Pastor Charles

***Congregational Blessing** *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

Postlude

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God."

~ Corrie ten Boom