



## Worship Service for September 18, 2022

**Prelude** Marshall Davies

**Chiming of the Hour** Pam Laham

**Praise & Worship Celebration** Congregation

Sing! # 78 "Gloria a Dios" / "Glory to God"

LEADER: ¡Gloria a Dios, gloria a Dios,  
Gloria en los cielos!

**ALL: ¡Gloria a Dios, gloria a Dios,  
Gloria en los cielos!**

LEADER: ¡A Dios la gloria por siempre!

**ALL: ¡A Dios la gloria por siempre!**

¡Alleluya, amén! **Alleluya, amén!**

¡Alleluya, amén! **Alleluya, amén!**

¡Alleluya, amén! **Alleluya, amén!**

¡Alleluya, amén! **Alleluya, amén!**

Glory to God, glory to God

Glory in the highest!

**Glory to God, glory to God**

**Glory in the highest!**

To God be glory for ever!  
**To God be glory for ever!**

Alleluia, amen! **Alleluia, amen!**  
Alleluia, amen! **Alleluia, amen!**

Alleluia, amen! **Alleluia, amen!**  
Alleluia, amen! **Alleluia, amen!**

**Welcome** Pastor Mak

**Centering Moment** Pastor Mak

**Call to Worship** Pam

LEADER: From ancient times to this present day, people have gathered in sacred spaces like this one.

**ALL: Moments of time fold together when we  
immerse ourselves in love and connection.**

LEADER: We ask for Divine Love to be revealed to us in this gathering.

**ALL: We open our spirits to the depth and breadth of  
Divine Presence.**

LEADER: We listen for sacred whisperings and await holy joy to be written on our hearts.

**ALL: Being truly ourselves, we come together in this eternal moment.**

**\*Hymn**

Congregation

TNCH # 11 "Bring Many Names"

Bring many names, beautiful and good,  
Celebrate, in parable and story,  
holiness in glory, living, loving God.  
Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!

Strong mother God, working night and day,  
Planning all the wonders of creation,  
setting each equation genius at play:  
Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!

Warm father God, hugging every child,  
Feeling all the strains of human living  
caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:  
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!

Great, living God, never fully known,  
joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,  
Closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:  
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

**Biblical Witness**

Pam

Ecclesiastes 1:4 - 7

A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever. The sun rises and the sun goes down, and hurries to the place where it rises. The wind blows to the

south, and goes around to the north; round and round goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they continue to flow.

## **Contemporary Witness**

Pastor Mak

Article excerpt from apomm.net

Álvaro Enciso

Well, when I first moved here, I saw this map of all the casualties of the immigration policy. And it's full of red dots of locations where bodies were found. They tried to reach someplace here in the U.S. and died in the desert from lack of water, too much heat and too much sun. But also in the winter from hypothermia, you know, you freeze to death.

So a lot of people die from heart attacks, busted ulcers, all kinds of things. And a lot of people get hit by cars and some people get killed by who knows who.

I'm a migrant. I came here from South America in, in the sixties. I came here with all the papers in order, by plane. And, I came looking for the American dream, like everybody else. An opportunity to be somebody. To improve your quality of life. To find a future that looks a little bit brighter than what you had back home. So for years, I always wanted to connect in some way with my roots, with who I am.

Because despite all the time that I've been here, I'm still a Hispanic man and a Latino man. And people always remind me of that. You know, they don't want to let me forget that I'm a pseudo gringo. And somehow you get this idea that you are an outsider and that you don't belong here. Even though I've spent most of my life here.

So I wanted to find a way to connect with my migration, sort of be one of them. So I started hiking to the sites where a body had been found or human remains of some sort. I went to stand there and see if there was anything there, a vestige of what happened there, the suffering and the disappointment and the failure and everything.

Immigration is a two-part thing you know. The person who leaves to come here and the people who stay behind, and I was trying to connect all of that. But, you know, I'm not really an activist. And I wanted to treat this thing with some sort of a separation because I didn't want it to get too sentimental. So I was trying to find a way to document those deaths, you know, over 3000 of them.

One of the ideas about contemporary art, or at least my way of thinking about it, is making the invisible visible. So I needed to give these people presence. I needed to mark the locations somehow.

So I started going to these sites. I will go there sometimes by myself and I will just go flat on the ground and hoping to find some epiphany or some sort of revelation, some cosmic message. This was going to be the project that had a lot of meaning and purpose. I was even thinking that this was going to be my legacy. You know, that it's a beat up old guy putting crosses out in the desert.

The cross connects, a lot of things. It's a symbol of death. It's a symbol of finality. You know, the Catholics didn't invent the cross. They appropriated the cross from the Roman empire. The Romans used to make the crosses, big ones, to kill people. They used to hang them there. You know, common criminals, enemies of the empire, false prophets. And they hang them there for three or four days without any water under the sun until they died. Which is exactly what it was happening here.

So the cross was beginning to make sense, but I was a little reluctant because I didn't want to be seen as some kind of Christian fanatic putting crosses out there. So I decided that this cross was going to be not a religious cross, that it didn't have any Christianity in it. It was a universal symbol. It was nothing more than a geometric equation. You know, a vertical line on a horizontal line. The vertical line means that you're still alive, that you walking. And the horizontal line means that you're dead. That you are flat on the ground, that

this is it. And where those two lines meet, that's the point where the tragedy took place. Where the story of David and Goliath in this case, Goliath always wins, you know, because the poor person from Mexico or from Guatemala cannot compete with all the technology and all of the hate and all of the things so that he, he or she always loses at that encounter.

<b>Reflection</b>	"People Matter"	Pastor Mak
<b>Special Music</b>	"Oye"	Plymouth Choir
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>		Pastor Mak
<b>Unison Prayer</b>	Pastor Mak & Congregation	

### **Dominican Sisters Retreat**

**Our Father, Our Mother who are in all the earth, holy is your truth. May your wisdom come, your circle be one uniting heaven and earth. Give us today a nurturing spirit; heal through us as we ourselves are healed. Lead us into fullness of life and liberate all that is good. For the wisdom, the power and the glory presence and the goodness are yours. Now and Forever. Amen.**

<b>Invitation to Offering</b>	Pam
Plymouth's General Fund & "Operation Smile" - Loose Offering	

<b>Offertory Music</b>	Marshall Davies
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## **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**

Pam

LEADER: It is a gift to be able to give something away.

**ALL: We are called to be a part of something bigger than ourselves.**

LEADER: Spirit of Love, look upon us now.

**ALL: Bless these gifts; those we can see and those we cannot.**

LEADER: May our hopes come true for the better world we dream of

**ALL: As we work together in love.**

## **New Member Celebration**

Congregation

(Below are the congregational responses. They are toward the end of the ceremony)

**ALL: We will, with the grace of God.**



**ALL: We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We offer you our friendship and prayers as we share in our communal hopes and labors. By the power of the Holy Spirit we will continue to grow together in God's knowledge and be witnesses together of God's unconditional love.**

**\*Hymn**

Congregation

TNCH # 388 "Help Us Accept Each Other"

Help us accept each other  
As Christ accepted us;  
Teach us as sister, brother,  
Each person to embrace.  
Be present, God, among us,  
And bring us to believe  
We are ourselves accepted  
And meant to love and live.

Teach us, O God, your lessons,  
As in our daily life  
We struggle to be human  
And search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for people,  
For all, not just for some,  
To love them as we find them,  
Or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us,  
So that we may be moved  
In living situations  
To do the truth in love;  
To practice your acceptance,  
Until we know by heart  
The table of forgiveness  
And laughter's healing art.

God, for today's encounters  
With all who are in need,  
Who hunger for acceptance,  
For righteousness and bread,  
Bring us new eyes for seeing,  
New hands for holding on;  
Renew us with your Spirit;  
God! Free us, make us one!

**Benediction**

Pastor Mak

by the Archbishop of San Salvador, Óscar Romero

Peace is not the product of terror or fear.  
Peace is not the silence of cemeteries.  
Peace is not the silent result of violent repression.  
Peace is the generous,  
tranquil contribution of all  
to the good of all.

Peace is dynamism.  
Peace is generosity.  
It is right and it is duty.

## **Song Of Parting**

Marshall Davies

Sing! 197 “La Paz Sea Contigo” (Peace Be With You)

La paz sea contigo  
La paz sea contigo  
May God’s peace be with you,  
Now and forever  
La paz sea contigo

El amor sea contigo  
El amor sea contigo  
May God’s love be with you,  
Now and forever  
El amor sea contigo

El espíritu sea contigo  
El espíritu sea contigo  
May God’s Spirit be with you  
Now and forever  
El espíritu sea contigo

## **Postlude**

Marshall Davies