

# Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

**Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost:  
Infinite Possibilities, Global Sunday**



**November 13, 2022**

**9:30 am**

We Practice Just Peace: doing justice, seeking peace  
We are Open and Affirming: welcoming LGBTQ+ people

☪ We Listen for the Still Speaking God

We are striving to be an Anti-racist church

Our faith is 2000 years old; our thinking isn't.

*Please inquire to people before assuming they are okay with physical contact.*

# GATHERING

**Prelude**

Prelude and Canon on *Homeland*

Arthur S. Sullivan

## **Welcome & Announcements**

*Please, if you are new to our community and want to be more involved, leave your email address in the attendance pad or email us at office@uccplymouth.org. We are delighted to get to know you! Sunday School runs from mid-September to mid-June. Feel free to gather toys, books, and children's bulletins, which can be found in the narthex, for your children to enjoy during their time in worship, or use the nursery downstairs.*

*You may contact office@uccplymouth.org to get more information about programming for any age.*

**Introit**

In Thy Temple

L. Zanineli

\*Those who are able may stand.

**\*Call to Worship**

Liturgist – Georgene Fabian

One: We gather to seek hope and to center our faith.

**All: Let us be refreshed this day by your word.**

One: We gather to reflect on your messages of peace so that we will find strength.

**All: Let us find comfort in song and prayer.**

One: We gather to hear of the justice and mercy from ancient times.

**All: Let us be challenged to bring the gospel to all the world.**

**\*Hymn**

We Plow The Fields & Scatter

PH (red) #460

**\*Passing of the Peace**

*If you are at home, we invite you to send someone a note of peace today.*

One: God be with you

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

## Unison Gathering Prayer

Fran Peavey

Great Spirit of Love, connect my heart to my head. Make me wise that I may understand the things you have taught all people [whether] in every heart close or far from my own. Make me courageous when the cold winds of life fall upon me. Give me strength and endurance for everything that is harsh, everything that hurts and everything that makes me squint and wince.[ . . . ] Unfold me the way your gentle breezes unfold the leaves on trees. Amen.

### *Moments for confession including silence for personal reflection*

#### God's Promise of New Life

One: Once again, Holy One, we are called towards your transformation and challenge. Let us see how we can bring your new creation to the world.

**All: May we be assured of your promise, O God. Give us hope on this very day so that we will carry it to those we encounter. There is neither power nor principality that can separate us from your Love; and so we sing together:**

#### Response

Spirit of Love

NCH (black) #58

Though we have frayed the fabric of your making, tearing away from all that you intend, yet to be whole, humanity is aching - come, work with us, and weave us into one.

#### Message for All Ages

*Children and youth are welcome to come forward during the message for all ages if they like. The message for all ages will truly be intergenerational this morning so if children want to stay in the pews that is okay too!*

#### ***NCH (black) #528:***

***You are the seed that will grow a new sprout,***

***You're the star that will shine through the day.***

***You are the yeast and a small grain of salt, a beacon to glow in the night.***

***Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all:***

***Messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.***

# HEARING THE WORD

## Scripture Readings

Luke 21:5-19

Isaiah 65:17-25

One: Creator God, move in our reflections; may the meditations of our hearts and minds be acceptable to you, for you are our rock and redeemer.

**All: Amen**

## Message

Unfolding Futures

Rev. Sara M. Holland

## \*Hymn

God Created Heaven and Earth

NCH (black) #33

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## Prayers of the People

Pastor: O God, in your grace and mercy . . .

**Response: Hear your people at prayer.**

You will also be invited to offer your personal prayers from the silence of your heart.

## Pastoral Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

**All: 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 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.**

\*\*We believe that God is revealed in persons of all genders and sorts; we also honor tradition.

## Offertory

I Will Praise You, O Lord, with All My Heart

Mark Bender

*We invite you to remember your support for the ministry of PCUCC.*

## **\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God, all creatures here below  
Praise God above, you heavenly host:  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## **\*Offertory Prayer**

Adapted from the Terma (Buddhist) Collective

**All:** May our eyes remain open even in the face of tragedy. May we not become disheartened. May we find in the dissolution of our apathy and denial, the cup of the broken heart. [ . . . ] May we offer the power of our sorrow to the service of something greater than ourselves.  
Receive our gifts and multiply them, O God, this is our prayer.  
Amen.

# SENDING

## **\*Hymn**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

NCH (black) #25

*Verses 1-2 & 5-6*

## **\*Pastoral Benediction**

## **Choral Benediction**

God of Love, Hear Our Prayer

John Helgen

## **Postlude**

Dominus Regit Me

John B. Dykes

The Postlude ends our gathered worship and sends us into the world where our true service begins.

## **Keeping in Prayer:**

Prayers for Eileen Torrey

Prayers for Paulette Brace for a speedy recovery from surgery

Prayers for Jaime Armstrong, niece of Marlin Collingwood,  
who will be undergoing surgery for breast cancer

Prayers for Ellen who struggles with cancer,  
family member of Ruth & Dale Mosher

Prayers of healing for Sue Switaj

Prayers for Alice Avery, who would love to receive cards at:  
Genesis Rehabilitation, 175 Blueberry Ln, Laconia NH 03246  
Prayers for Sage Pirnie and her family,  
granddaughter of Diane Arsenault and Pete Pirnie  
Prayers for Polly Bartlett, who struggles with cancer  
Prayers for Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's mother-in-law  
Prayers for an end to gun violence, in the spirit of Isaiah 2:4  
Prayers for communities affected by war and for all immigrants  
Prayers for the Masvingo UCCZ, our partner church in Zimbabwe

*If you have a prayer request, you would like Rev. Sara to include in Sunday Worship, please write on the yellow card in the pews and place it in the offering tray, or email her at [plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org)*

### **This Week and More at PCUCC**

Nov 15	7:00 AA Meeting
Nov 16	9:30 Lectio Divina
Nov 16	6:15 LGBTQIAA+ Alphabet Soup Workshop
Nov 17	5:00 Meals for Many
Nov 17	7:00 Choir Rehearsal
Nov 18	8:00 AA Meeting
Nov 22	7:00 Interfaith Gratitude Service
Nov 27	4:00 Organ Dedication

**LGBTQIAA+ Alphabet Soup Workshop:** We invite all interested church folks and family and friends to this educational Open & Affirming gathering. Whether you have lots of experience with LGBTQ folks or none, please come with a spirit of inquiry, questions, or confusion. We will have a comment/question box and will talk through the “gender-bread person”. Rev. Holland will lead this workshop along with LGBTQ leaders from this conference and from Southern New England.

**Please donate to Plymouth Area Community Closet** this month so that our community members can “keep the heat on” this winter. PACC has already been overwhelmed with applications for fuel assistance and it is only the beginning of November! Mission & Outreach has given \$500, and you can join the effort too.

You can find a basket of donation envelopes in the Sanctuary near the narthex. Thank you for your generous support; your donation has a profound impact on our community.

**Help our PSU neighbors give to local seniors and families this**

**Thanksgiving.** Each year, the Plymouth State University community strives to give back to the surrounding community by contributing to Thanksgiving dinner for struggling elders and families. The need has always been great, and the donations that have been collected so far are not near enough to cover the unexpected number of requests we have had this year. As it is, with soaring food costs, the \$35 grocery cards that we give to seniors and smaller households and \$50 grocery cards for larger households will only cover a portion of a Thanksgiving dinner. As this is a United Campus Ministry initiative, we are reaching out to our area faith neighbors for assistance. Please consider contributing to this profoundly impactful community effort. All donations go to the purchase of grocery gift cards. Please make checks payable to “UCM at PSU” with “Thanksgiving Grocery Cards” on the memo line.

**Support PCUCC with no cost to you!** By choosing our church as your favorite charity through **AmazonSMILE**, Amazon will donate to the charity you designate at no cost to you. Purchase a **Hannaford Gift Card** in the amount of \$100, \$250, or \$500 by contacting Linda LaPrad or Ann Thurston. For every card purchased from the Finance Committee, the church receives 5% with no additional cost to you.

**HOPE Fund:** The HOPE Fund supports families at risk who need assistance paying for rent, heating, electricity, and medications. To give to the HOPE Fund, send your check to PCUCC and write HOPE Fund in the memo. If you know of someone who is in need, please put them in touch with the church office or Pastor Sara. \*There is a need for affordable housing. If you know of anything, please let Pastor Sara know\*

**We will offer the option of meeting digitally indefinitely.** You may also catch our services (one week delayed) on Sunday nights on PBTv at 7:00 pm. (Local channel 1302.) Please check Constant Contact and the Facebook page for ongoing updates.

## Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday 9:00-2:00

## Pastor's Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday 10:30 AM – 3:30 PM or by appointment.

Pastor Sara keeps sabbath on Friday.

Email: [plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org)

Work Cell: 336-485-5618

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## Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries in November in our Community

Ivan Bass	November 1	Cameron Brand	November 21
Leif Magrauth	November 2	Marian Sawicki	November 28
Nick Zwald	November 5	Ruth Martz	November 29
Michael Conklin	November 11	Ann Thurston	November 29
John Shaw	November 13	Jane Merrithew	November 30
Georgene Fabian	November 18		

Margot W. and Robert F. Swift celebrate 60 years of marriage on November 24<sup>th</sup>

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month or next, please email to:  
[office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org)