

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Reign of Christ Sunday:
Together in Christ



November 20, 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

Supplication

Richard Ferber

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 – Wayne Martin

One: We bring our humble praise before you; may we be shaped by your love in this hour.

All: With hopes for unity and for peace along our journeys, we come.

One: We bring our struggles, our imperfections; we have heard you long to hold us, no matter our circumstance.

All: With faith that our spirits will be compelled to dare and change the world.

One: We bring our dreams, our longings, and our deepest desires to your altar.

All: With courage and vulnerability we believe in your divine comfort.

***Hymn**

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

NCH (black) #448

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

Wonderful and almighty God: we enter your sanctuary with praise and thanksgiving, understanding ourselves to be your creation. We recall that we are indeed loved deeply, that we are beloved. We have come to sing glory and praise for your mighty acts, in hopes that those imprisoned will find your peace and that justice will be brought throughout the world. We have come to offer our petitions and to celebrate your sacred word. Let us feel your presence as it guards us, as you are our shepherd. May your name be honored throughout our humble worship. We pray all this for Love's sake and in Jesus' name. Amen.

Moments for confession including silence for personal reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: Gracious God, we want to have control over as much as possible. We forget about your unfailing presence and your divine protection. Let us be restored!

All: Let us find your assurance and promise, once again. May we be found in your love; let us know in our hearts and minds: there is nothing – nothing here or anywhere else that will separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Seeking this promise, we sing:

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

Psalm 46

Colossians 1: 11-20, adapted

One: Holy One, we pray that the meditations of our hearts and minds will be acceptable to you, for you are our rock and redeemer. May your Spirit move between words and hearing.

All: Amen

Message

The Means And Meaning

Rev. Sara M. Holland

*Hymn

O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing

PH (red) #223

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

At the Name of Jesus

Healey Willan

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**

All: God who is Love, we humbly bring our gifts today and we dedicate these to your service and way. Let these gifts be blessed; may these be used to serve the needs of all who are lonely, hungry, and hurting. Let all who are in need know your presence through these, our simple offerings. With thanksgiving, we present these gifts to you and we bring songs of hope and praise on our lips. We pray all this seeking to find and become redeeming love, Amen.

SENDING

***Hymn** God of the Sparrow God of the Whale NCH (black) #32
Verses 1-5

***Pastoral Benediction**

Choral Benediction God of Love, Hear Our Prayer John Helgen

Postlude

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

This Week and More at PCUCC

Nov 21	10:00 Book Group
Nov 22	7:00 Interfaith Gratitude Service
Nov 22	7:00 AA Meeting
Nov 23	9:30 Lectio Divina
Nov 25	8:00 AA Meeting
Nov 27	4:00 Organ Dedication
Dec 7	6:15 Coffee House: Don We Now Our Gay Apparel!

Would you like to light a candle on the Advent wreath this season? Please contact Pastor Sara or the church office if you are interested in lighting a candle on Sunday, December 11 or Sunday, December 18.

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. You can give your check to Larry Spencer or mail it to United Campus Ministry, PO Box 713, Plymouth, NH 03264.

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

Work Cell: 336-485-5618

Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor	plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org
Alison Thatcher, Office Administrator	office@uccplymouth.org
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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 24th

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