

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Transfiguration: Dazzling Reign
Jazz Sunday
Welcoming of New Members



February 19, 2023

9:30 am, 5:30 pm

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

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

GATHERING

Many thanks this morning to the Jazz Sanctuary House Band featuring Emilia Halstead from First Congregational Church of Concord.

Prelude

Second Line Blues

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@ucplymouth.org. We are delighted to get to know you! We have Sunday School between mid-September & mid-June. There are bags in the narthex which the kids may find to enjoy! You may contact office@ucplymouth.org to get more information about programming for any age. And today is new member Sunday as it is the 3rd Sunday of the month; please come forward during the 2nd hymn if you feel called to join our beloved faith community!

Introit

Amen

NCH (black) #161

*Those who are able may stand.

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist – Bev Newton

One: The grace *and* syncopation of Jesus and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

All: And also with you. We pour out thanks for moments to look for God's resonating love.

One: God is all powerful and is the great improviser.

All: We uphold the truth of God's justices and praise the Holy One's name.

One: We may not always understand the pitch and timbre of the Great Spirit. . .

All: And yet we offer praise and pour out thanks – *with* deliberate distortions God moves.

***Hymn**

I Woke Up This Morning

NCH (black) #85

***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

God of many names, you surprise us with new experiences of holy love. Your Spirit lives and breathes with ours; we come with adoration and praise. Let your most holy and sweetest Spirit fall upon us even with the dissonance of the world. May we be attentive to your word and ready to listen for your will in our lives, even if it is hard. We ask all this in Jesus' holy name, the one in whom we find a path and great belonging. Amen.

Moments for confession including silence for personal reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: As it was hard for the disciples to live without the bodily presence of Christ, so too it is a challenge for us. . .

All: Let us find comfort in the dissonance God has brought – as we examine the transfiguration of the first century, let us imagine those of this moments. No matter who we are or what we have done, we are being called towards Love; with this knowledge, we sing together:

Response

Amen

NCH (black) #161

HEARING THE WORD

Offertory Anthem Wade in The Water

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: Gracious God, your truth gives us a path of meaning; in the confusion and chaos of the world you are like a warm fire on a cold night, keeping us safe and hopeful. Let this offering and the dedication of our hearts, minds and souls be used to warm our world; let our offerings and our actions bring you everlasting praise and glory. Amen.

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.

Scripture Readings

2nd Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

One: Heavenly parent, 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

“Perspective on God’s Redemption”

Rev. Holland

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn

This Little Light of Mine

NCH (black) #524

Those who wish to join the life and ministry of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ as members may come forward during hymn #524. If you come forward, you may sit on the front pew until the hymn concludes. Please know that all questions you will be asked will include prompted answers and that by joining you do commit to 1-2 simple ‘classes’ with Pastor Holland.

Reception of New Members – see insert

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.

SENDING

*Hymn Glory, Glory Hallelujah NCH (black) #2

*Pastoral Benediction

Sung Benediction Closer Walk with Thee

Postlude When the Saints Go Marching In

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

Keeping in Prayer:

Prayers of joy for Janet Taylor, who turned 97 on February 2nd! You can send a card to Janet at Golden View Health Care #111, 19 NH Rte. 104, Meredith, NH 03353

Prayers for Susan Wei, who is recovering from heart failure

Prayers for those affected by the disaster in Turkey & Syria

Continued prayers for Jaime Armstrong, niece of Marlin Collingwood, who has made it through surgery and will soon undergo radiation

Prayers for Ruth Martz as she continues to recover

Prayers for Bill Broadrick and his spouse, Jane

Prayers for Sage Pirnie and her family, granddaughter of Diane Arsenault and Pete Pirnie

Continued prayers for Eileen Torrey

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

Prayers of healing for Sue Switaj

Prayers for Alice Avery

Prayers for Polly Bartlett, who struggles with cancer

Prayers for Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's mother-in-law

Condolences and prayers for the extended Coley-Holland family
as 'Papa' (Kenneth Coley) has passed

If you have a prayer request, you would like Rev. Holland to include in Sunday Worship, please write on the yellow card in the pews and place it in the offering tray, or send an email to plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org

This Week and More at PCUCC

Feb 19	Shrove potluck lunch following Morning Worship
Feb 19	5:30 pm Sunday Evening Service
Feb 20	10:00 Book Group
Feb 21	7:00 pm AA Meeting
Feb 22	9:30 am Lectio Divina
Feb 22	11:30 am Staff Meeting
Feb 22	7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service
Feb 23	5:00 pm Meals for Many
Feb 23	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
Feb 24	8:00 pm AA Meeting
March 2	1:00 pm Knitting Group
March 2	5:00 pm Peace Rally

CHURCH LIFE

A Note from Eileen Torrey! Deep appreciation to all of you for your love, concern, prayers, well wishes, cards, emails, calls, visits, and meals. You have all encouraged me and sustained me in my journey toward wellness. Many thanks with love and hugs, Eileen

Shrove Potluck Today: Stay for a potluck after church today for fellowship before entering the weeks of Lent! The potluck will be organized and hosted by the Sunday School crew.

Capital Campaign Update: The dedicatory plaques have been installed on the choir chairs in the sanctuary, parlor, and choir room. Thank you for all who contributed to this exciting initiative. We offer special thanks to Lisa Lovett and Bev Newton for their tireless leadership throughout the capital campaign.

3rd Sundays – New Members! To live more fully into God's call to be inclusive, every 3rd Sunday will be New Member Sunday. Whether people join or not, we will be ready to welcome folks every month. As people join, we will ask them faith-related questions including confirmation of their willingness to attend a simple class. We hope these efforts are fruitful – all are welcome to follow the gospel call!

Sunday Evening Services: Pastor Holland has launched a Sunday evening service. This service will take place on the lower level at 5:30 pm each week until mid-June (reconvening in September). It will be casual and use some components of the Sunday morning service

but be a different setting and atmosphere and will include a substantial snack/light meal. Come one and all – let’s worship together!

Book Group will meet on February 20th to further discuss To Speak for the Trees by Diana Beresford-Kroeger. We will meet on March 6th and 20th to discuss The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles. If you have questions, contact Peggy Martin: pmartin03223@yahoo.com

FROM MISSION & OUTREACH

Our HOPE Fund and Little Food Pantry are in desperate need of your support!

The HOPE Fund supports families at risk who need assistance paying for rent, heating, electricity, and medications. Right now, with rising fuel, electricity, and rent prices, the need is greater than ever. 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 Rev. Holland. Our Little Food Pantry in front of the church is always in great need of being filled. You can put items right in the pantry or bring them to the church office. Our Little Food Pantry serves many people in need in our community.

FROM FINANCE

Service Exchange Fundraiser to begin March 1. This fun fundraiser is to help our church budget continue to support the many wonderful ministries and missions we provide. What’s a Service Fundraiser you ask? It’s where members volunteer to provide a service like running errands, providing fabulous baked goods, a handmade article, or a home-cooked meal for 2. The minimum cost is \$50, and when and where details are to be worked out by the two parties involved. Although we ask that the church receive the money by May 1st, the service can be provided anytime in the year. Bottom line is you get a great service, and the church receives the money. Truly a win/win for all around. Right now we’re asking for volunteers to provide a service and/or for you to request a service like stacking wood, handy work done, or anything else you’d like to see made available. Request forms will be on the table outside the office and in a link in Constant Contact. Please contact Peggy Martin, Eleanor Spencer, Kathy Henning or Linda LaPrad if you'd like to volunteer, request a service or have any questions.

Support PCUCC with 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.

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.

Rev. Holland keeps sabbath on Friday.

Email: plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org

Work Cell: 336-485-5618

Rev. Holland, Pastor	plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org
Alison Thatcher, Office Administrator	office@uccplymouth.org
David A. Williams, Director of Music	musicdirector@uccplymouth.org
Ashley Rose, Organist, Pianist	organist@uccplymouth.org
Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation	faithformation@uccplymouth.org
Ann Thurston, Treasurer	treasurer@uccplymouth.org
<p>Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ 4 Post Office Square, P.O. Box 86 Plymouth, NH 03264 (603) 536-2626 - office@uccplymouth.org - www.uccplymouth.org</p>	

Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries in February in our Community

Janet Taylor	February 2	Maris Thatcher-Forgues	February 11
Ken Howe	February 11	Beverly Tedeschi	February 26
Chris Pollock	February 11	Robert Pollock Jr.	February 28

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

