

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

**Ordinary Time:
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**



July 9, 2023

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 an Anti-Racism church

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

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

GATHERING

Prelude

Traumerei

Schumann

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! 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@uccplymouth.org to get more information about programming for any age.

*Those who are able may stand.

*Call to Worship

Liturgist – Ruth Martz

One: We arise this morning, tender like the fresh buds of springtime.

All: We gather together to draw hardiness through our shared faith.

One: Indeed, wherever two or more are gathered, God is present.

All: We come seeking God's love so that joy may blossom within us.

One: God readies us for whatever may come and is with us along our way.

All: We will listen for the Word and let it guide us on the journey within our hearts this hour.

*Hymn

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

NCH (black) #147

*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 new beginnings, we have grown tired of carrying our burdens of sadness. We have become jaded with continual disappointment. Refresh us this hour. Reassure us that we may lay down these burdens and rest in your love and mercy. Remind us to look at the world through the eyes of a child and see that you are forever making all things new. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

Moments for confession including silence for personal reflection

God's Promise of New Life

Adapted from John Donne

One: God never says you should have come yesterday. God never says you must come again tomorrow. But today, if you will hear God's voice, today God will hear you.

All: Holy One, you bring light out of darkness, not out of lesser light. You bring our summer out of winter, even if we have no spring. We pray for a merciful fresh start as we sing:

Response Spirit of the Living God NCH (black) #283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.

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) #325:

***Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are, from God you came.
Back to God we humbly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.***

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Reading

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

One: God of challenge and comfort, may we find encouragement and solace in your scripture. Bless our reading, hearing, and practicing of your word.

All: Amen

Message

Rev. Holland

*Hymn

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

NCH (black) #489

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

Ave Verum Corpus

Mozart

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

Dear God, we prayerfully give this morning in the hopes that our gifts will help make a positive change in our world. Your mercy reassures us and your love energizes us, so we know that you will guide us to use this offering faithfully and wisely. Bless all our individual gifts, both monetary and otherwise, which we offer in a spirit of joy and generosity. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn

My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff

NCH (black) #418

*Pastoral Benediction

Postlude

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

Charles Gabriel

The Postlude ends our gathered worship and sends us into the world where our true service begins.
Feel free to let the music lead you out, or stay to listen, however the Spirit moves you.

Keeping in Prayer:

Prayers for Paul Santonelli

Prayers and condolences for the family of former PCUCC member, Elva Piehn,
who recently passed away at age 106

Prayers and condolences for Peter and Evangeline Jack of Zimbabwe. Peter lost his sister in-
law and Evangeline lost 2 brothers recently

Prayers for Tony Amodeo, friend of Jim and Linda LaPrad,
on his upcoming surgery and cancer treatments

Prayers for the family of Timothy Ward and for Timothy's spirit

Prayers for Lucy, cousin of Georgene

Prayers for Alice Carey, friend of Alice O'Connor, who will be undergoing surgery

Prayers of gratitude that Megan Magrauth is recovering well

Prayers for the family and friends of Cheryl Bernier

Prayers for Sherry Weymouth Morison, who is recuperating from cancer surgery

Prayers for Martha Richards, friend of Alice O'Connor

Prayers of comfort and strength for Ruth & Dale Mosher

Prayers for Matt, family member of Ruth Martz & Steve Majeski

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

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 Masvingo Church, our partner church in Zimbabwe

*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

Tuesday, July 11

7:00 pm AA Meeting

Friday, July 14

8:00 pm AA Meeting

Thursday, July 20

1:00 pm Knitting group

CHURCH LIFE

A Final Moment for Shared Ministry, August 20: Please join us for a potluck gathering for fellowship and to reflect on shared ministry with Rev. Sammy. We will say goodbye and celebrate! Tell the church office what dish you will be bringing by emailing office@uccplymouth.org.

FROM MISSION & OUTREACH

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

The HOPE Fund supports families at risk who need assistance paying for rent, electricity, and medications. Send your check to PCUCC and write HOPE Fund in the memo.

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.

FROM FINANCE

Stewardship Update: As of July 4th, we have received pledges totaling \$141,100 towards our goal of \$180,000. If you have already submitted your 2023-24 pledge, we thank you. If you have not yet pledged, we ask that you prayerfully consider your financial support and send your pledge to PCUCC Finance by US mail at PO Box 86, Plymouth, NH 03264, or by email to treasurer@uccplymouth.org. Extra pledge cards can be found in the pews, on the table by the office or on the Constant Contact link. With your support we will continue to maintain our important ministry and mission. Because of you, our church changes lives.

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. Sammy Holland, Pastor & Teacher

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

Guest Musician: Will Gunn

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4 Post Office Square, P.O. Box 86 Plymouth, NH 03264

(603) 536-2626 - office@uccplymouth.org - www.uccplymouth.org

Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries in June and July in our Community

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

Justice Merrithew-Stone	July 6	Alfie Kerr	July 18
Marilyn Wixson	July 6	John Anderson	July 21
Tammy Lawler	July 7	Rose Shimberg	July 24
Sally Jean Jensen	July 8	Bev Newton	July 26
Lorelei Paine	July 8	Bill Torrey	July 31
Johanna Bentwood	July 17		

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