

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Ordinary Time
The Right Amount



August 6, 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

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; children may find adult leaders on the first floor. There are cute bags in the narthex which the kids may find to enjoy if they decide to stay in the service, which is also okay! You may contact office@uccplymouth.org to get more information about programming for any age. Between September and June, 3rd Sundays are new member Sundays. All are welcome to explore faith in our church home.

Prelude

Chapel Bell

I.V. Flagler

*Those who are able may stand.

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist – Carol Stewart

One: God calls those of us who thirst.

All: We seek the waters of salvation, of joy, of peace.

One: It does not matter how much money we have, how much we will have, or how much our family has.

All: These waters are ours; praise be to God.

One: We have mistakenly looked to material wealth for comfort; we know in our hearts, that God brings us abundance through miracles and signs of wonder.

All: We come for God's everlasting covenant. May we find meaning in God's ancient words this hour. In our silence, song, and prayer, may God be praised.

***Hymn**

We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

NCH (black) #563

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

Holy Maker, we come with a sense of belonging to your Spirit. We sing praises and offer prayers with hope for better days and your presence among us. Let us understand deeply how little we need to come before you. Let us hear the prophet this morning with depth and clarity. Enliven our actions and words so that we may be ready to carry your love, peace, and justice to all the world. We pray all this for Love's sake and in Jesus' name. Amen.

Moments for Confession and Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: God of new beginnings, heal us at your table once again. Let us know that all are welcome to the restoration of your sacred meal. Let us be assured of the new life that has been promised us, this day, and every day.

All: God has been with us even when we have felt most abandoned. We offer songs of joy even during our personal and communal struggles. We sing for God's great Spirit:

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.

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Matthew 14:13-21 Isaiah 55:1-5

One: Here end the readings from our tradition. Let us feel God's extraordinary love in this ordinary time of our church year. O Holy Spirit, we pray You move between words and hearing.

All: Amen

Message "Without Money, Without Price" Rev. Holland

***Hymn** As We Gather at Your Table NCH (black) #332

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution

Sharing Communion

The Usher/s will guide participants forward to share in Communion. Each person will be offered a simple piece of bread tiny juice cup as the officiant & assistant offer simple words of blessing such as: "This is the bread of heaven and the cup of the new covenant."

After each participant receives the elements, the group will be invited to take and eat. You will then be invited to return to your seats and the next group of twelve will take your place.

****The bread is gluten & nut free and the juice is non-alcoholic.****

Communion Music

Prayer of Thanks in Unison

Gracious and loving God, you have made us one in the body of Christ and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Now send us forth to be your people in the world and to proclaim peace and hope in your word. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil, and to proclaim in all we say and do your Good News in Christ Jesus our Savior.

Offertory Anthem *A Contemporary Improvisation on O Stor Gud* arr. Margare Goldson

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: Blessed are you, O God, for your gracious gifts to us. You sent Jesus among us to teach and heal and show us what it means to give of self for love of others. You send Christ among us now to teach and heal and show us what is possible in your holy Love. So, with all of creation, and with the church around the world, we give you thanks. Amen.

Prayers of the People

You are 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** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling NCH (black) #43

***Pastoral Benediction**

Postlude He Is Exalted Twila Paris

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 Jeff Foster, cousin of Diane Arsenault, who is in hospice
Prayers and condolences for the family and friends of Polly Bartlett,
who recently passed away
Prayers for Alice Carey, friend of Alice O'Connor, who will be undergoing chemotherapy
Prayers of strength and healing for Donna Coulter, friend of Paulette Brace
Prayers for Paulette Brace's son, Shawn Cassington, who has been hospitalized
Prayers for Claire Campbell, daughter of Diane Arsenault & Peter Pirnie,
as she makes her way through the tumult of divorce
Prayers for Marissa and Seth who, family members of Diane Arsenault & Peter Pirnie,
have been chosen to adopt a baby
Prayers and condolences for Diane Verhoest & Judy Johnson and family
upon the death of Diane's father
Prayers for Paul Santonelli
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 of gratitude that Megan Magrauth is recovering well
Prayers for Sherry Weymouth Morison, who is recuperating from cancer surgery
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 our partner church in Zimbabwe, Mosvingo UCCZ

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, August 7	7:00 pm AA Meeting
Friday, August 11	8:00 pm AA Meeting
Thursday, August 17	1:00 pm Knitting group
Sunday, August 20	Following Morning Worship: A potluck celebrating shared ministry with Pastor Sammy
Tuesday, August 29	Seminar (10am to 4pm) & Lecture (6:30pm) with author, Carter Heward, at UU Church in Concord
Sunday, September 10	Rally Sunday!

CHURCH LIFE

Volunteer Driver Needed: 603 Equality, a statewide LGBTQ+ advocacy group, is looking for a volunteer to drive a prospective patient from Plymouth to the Queer Care Fund at Equality Health Center in Concord on **Wednesday, August 16**. If you are interested in this opportunity to live into our Open & Affirming Mission, please contact the church office: office@uccplymouth.org.

Have you always wanted to serve as liturgist, and I haven't asked you yet? Please contact me, Eileen Torrey, and I will be glad to sign you up!

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 25th, we have received pledges totaling \$146,100 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
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Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries in August in our Community

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

Jan Bass	August 1	Natalie Amtmann	August 21
Arline Bownes	August 11	Jim LaPrad	August 21
Dick Brace	August 15	Colton Hyde	August 22
Angi Francesco	August 15	Maeghan Warburton	August 24
Georgia Merrithew-Stone	August 17	Marti Shoemaker	August 29

