

# Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

## Pentecost Sunday



**19 May 2024**

**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-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**                      O How Blessed are the Faithful                      Johannes Brahms

## Welcome & Announcements

*Please sign the red friendship pad as it is passed to you and return it to the center aisle noting your neighbor in the pew. You may leave your email if you would like to receive our weekly newsletter.*

*If you want to know more, email the office at [office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org).*

*Sunday School for all ages begins after the Message for All Ages on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays.*

*Children are welcome to fill a bag with books and toys, which are in the narthex, to use during worship.*

**Introit**                                      Spirit of Love                                      Aaron David Miller

\*Those who are able may stand.

**\*Call to Worship** - *responsively*                                      Liturgist – Rebecca Larson

One: Nurturing Spirit: fall afresh on us this hour, and compass us about.

**All: Encouraging Spirit: fall afresh on us this morning, and nudge us in the ways of shalom.**

One: Challenging Spirit: fall afresh on us today, and move us toward your justice.

**All: Fruitful Spirit: fall afresh on us all our days that we may live in your ways of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, and self-control.**

**\*Hymn**                                      Let Every Christian Pray                                      NCH (black) #261

**Unison Gathering Prayer**                                      *Universal Prayer for Peace*

**Lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth;**

**lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust;**

**lead me from hate to love, from war to peace.**

**Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.**

**Prayer of Reconciliation**                                      *A New Creed, United Church of Canada*

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.

### **God's Promise of New Life**

One: Anyone in Christ is a new creation. The past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new. Friends, believe the Good News:

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and given abundant life! Thanks be to God!!**

**Sung 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.**

### **Word for All Ages**

**Sung Response** Go, My Children, with My Blessing NCH (black) #82

**Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone; Waking, sleeping, I am  
with you, you are my own; In my love's baptismal river I have made you  
mine forever, Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.**

## **HEARING THE WORD**

### **Scripture Readings**

**All: Eternal God, in the reading of the scripture, may your word be heard;  
in the meditations of our hearts, may your word be known; and in the  
faithfulness of our lives, may your word be shown. Amen.**

Acts 2:1-8, 12-21, *Luke describes the day of Pentecost*

Reader: This is the good news.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Message** *Grounded in Remembrance: Empowered for Action* Rev. Campbell Lovett

**\*Hymn** God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak NCH (black) #531

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### **\*Passing of the Peace**

One: So if you are about to offer your gift to God at the altar and there remember that your sibling has something against you, leave your gift in front of the altar, go and make peace with your sibling, and then come back and offer your gifts.

**All: In response to Christ's command, we reach out to each other in love.**

### **Offertory**

Come Down, O Love Divine

Hilary Tadmán-Rubins

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

### **\*Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise Christ, the Word in flesh born low**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore:**

**One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

### **\*Unison Offertory Prayer**

**O God, most merciful and gracious, of whose bounty we have all received: accept, we pray, this offering of your people. Remember in your love those who have brought it and those for whom it is given; and so follow it with your blessing that it may promote peace and goodwill among all people and advance the realm of our Savior Jesus Christ.**

### **Prayers of the People**

Pastor: God, in your mercy . . .

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

### **Pastoral Prayer**

#### **Prayer of Our Savior**

**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**      God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending      NCH (black) #565

### **\*Pastoral Benediction**

**Choral Benediction**      Grant to Us Your Peace      Aaron David Miller

**Postlude**      O God, Our Help in Ages Past      William Croft

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.

Please join us downstairs after worship for coffee, food, and fellowship.

The Campton Congregational Church is celebrating their 250th anniversary on Saturday, June 1st. Please sign the congratulations card for them downstairs during Coffee Hour!

### **Keeping in Prayer:**

Prayers for the people of Portage, MI who suffer loss of homes and businesses when two  
tornadoes swept through the town

Prayers for Linda and Jim LaPrad following the death of Jim's sister

Prayers for Dale Mosher whose mother passed away

Prayers for Campbell and Eileen Lovett's friend Nancy, following the sudden death  
of her husband Joe

Prayers for Georgene Fabian who is now recovering at home

Prayers for Ken Morris, very good friend of Butch & Donna Castor,  
who has metastatic cancer

Prayers for the Rev. Judy Downing, friend of Eileen Torrey,  
who is critically ill with an aortic aneurysm

Prayers for Ruth Mosher as she undergoes outpatient dialysis.

Prayers for Rebecca Herr, as she undergoes chemotherapy

Prayers for Eleanor Spencer's brother, Ron Ury

Prayers for Kristin, friend of Alice O'Connor, who has recently been diagnosed with cancer

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

Prayers for the people of Palestine and Israel

Prayers for the people of Ukraine

Prayers for our partner church in Zimbabwe, Masvingo UCCZ

*If you have a prayer request, please write on the yellow card in the pews and place it in the offering tray, or send  
an email to [plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org)*

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

Monday, May 20	10:00 am Book Group
Tuesday, May 21	7:00 pm AA Meeting
Wednesday, May 22	11:00 am Lectio Divina
Thursday, May 23	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
Friday, May 24	8:00 pm AA Meeting
Monday, May 27	1:00 pm Knitting Group
Saturday, June 1	Plant Sale
Sunday, June 2	11:15-12:15 Prospective Members Gathering
Sunday, June 9	Children's Sunday and New Members Sunday!
Sunday, June 9	Following Worship: Last Coffee Hour Potluck
Sunday, June 9	11:30 am All Ages Organ Demonstration
Sunday, June 16	Following Worship: Annual Meeting

### **CHURCH LIFE**

#### **Preaching Schedule:**

May 26: Rev. Ruth Martz	June 16: Rev. Ruth Martz
June 2: Rev. Rebecca Larson	June 23: Rev. Sam Lovett
June 9: Rev. Ruth Martz	June 30: Rev. Campbell Lovett

**Board Game Coffee Hour, Today:** Faith Formation is hosting a board game coffee hour today. Please join us!

**Spring Plant Sale, June 1:** Calling all green thumbs! We're looking for donations of a variety of indoor and outdoor plants AND veggies plus pots to use for the sale. Please drop off plants on the afternoon of May 31. Contact Jenny Thibeault at [thibeaultjennyr@gmail.com](mailto:thibeaultjennyr@gmail.com) or 603-254-7824 if you have any questions.

**Prospective Members Gathering Sunday, June 2:** 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the Parlor. This is a gathering for anyone who is interested in joining our church, this month or in the future. Facilitator: Rev. Ruth Martz. RSVP: [ruthmjoy@gmail.com](mailto:ruthmjoy@gmail.com) or [office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org).

**New Members Sunday, June 9:** Please let Ruth Martz know by June 2 if you would like to join our church this morning!

**All Ages Organ Demonstration, June 9:** Join us for a finger-food potluck after morning worship and stay for an organ demonstration in the sanctuary presented by Bob Bengston. Ever wonder how that big instrument of ours actually works? What even are rails, pipes, and stops? Come with your questions and curiosity and enjoy this musical demonstration.

**Annual Meeting, June 16:** The Annual Meeting of our congregation will be on June 16th right after church in the sanctuary. All committee chairs need to send their annual report via email to the church office by Friday, May 24th giving Alison time to produce the Annual Report a few weeks before the meeting. Thank you!

**Building & Grounds needs VOLUNTEER HELP** to keep our grounds neat and tidy. Our immediate tasks are weed-whacking the bank above the parking lot wall and wedding the front and side beds around the church. Bring your own tools and come play in the dirt! If you have questions please call Jane Berg at 860-523-0435

**Attention church members and friends. Nominating Committee** is looking for interested individuals to join our church committee teams. If you have a passion and willingness to share your time and talents to contribute to the life of our church, please consider joining one of the wonderful groups of dedicated committee members. Please reach out to Megan Magrauth after church or by emailing [meganmagrauth@gmail.com](mailto:meganmagrauth@gmail.com).

**Lectio Divina:** All are invited to gather Wednesday mornings from 11 a.m. to noon for a Bible study modeled on Lectio Divina, the sacred reading of scripture. Please join us. Rebecca Larson will lead us.

**Book Group** is reading [Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the Past and Reimagining Our Future](#) by Patty Krawec. Join the discussion on May 20 at 10am in the parlor. Contact Kathy Henning for more information: [henkat52@gmail.com](mailto:henkat52@gmail.com).

**Knitting Group** meets every second and fourth Monday of the month at 1:00 pm. Join us with your fiber art of choice, trouble-shooting questions, or just for fellowship!

**Many people have been responsible for giving us coffee hours this whole year.**

THANK YOU ALL! A special mention goes to those who have been frequent flyers: Bev Newton, Arline Bownes, Sally Jensen, Ruth Martz, Rebecca Larson, Lynn Morrison, Jane Berg, Chris Pollack, Georgene Fabian, Linda Byam, Julie Kelsey, Emily Ball, Jennifer Byam, Linda and Jim La Prad, Donna and Butch Costor, and Jim Preston. In addition, the children in the Sunday School every third Sunday have set up, prepared food and decorations, and cleaned up. Please express your appreciation to them. They enjoy giving this gift to the congregation!

### **FROM MISSION & OUTREACH**

**KEEP THE SOFT PLASTIC COMING!** During the summer months, the Mission and Outreach Committee also asks everyone to bring in non-perishable food to restock our Food Pantry. Please put in or beside the large basket in the Narthex. Many thanks!

### **FROM FINANCE**

#### **2024-25 Stewardship Campaign Imagine Together**

Our current fiscal year closes on June 30 and this is the time when we look at the financial support needed to keep our church alive and thriving. The budget, of course, is the biggest driver in determining our focus for the next fiscal year, 2024-25. Unfortunately, many members have moved or passed away over the past several years resulting in an overall reduction in pledge income and an increased shortfall. Council and Finance are working together to minimize the impact of the upcoming shortfall / negative balance in next year's budget, and it is our hope that you will prayerfully consider increasing your pledge. Pledge

Sunday is May 19<sup>th</sup>. Please complete your pledge card and return it by May 17<sup>th</sup>, email the treasurer or place your pledge card in the collection plate on the 19<sup>th</sup>. With your financial support, we will be able to continue supporting the mission and ministry of our congregation. Please contact Linda LaPrad or Ann Thurston if you have not received the pledge information or have any questions.

*The spiritual practice of generosity arises from imagining all that God calls us to do as a community. Our donations to our congregation make it possible to turn what we imagine into a reality. Through our annual commitments to our congregation, we imagine together all that we can do.*

**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.

**Office Hours**

Tuesday – Friday 9:00-2:00

If you have a family emergency and want to talk with a pastor, please call Rev. Ruth Martz at 603-630-7936 or you may call Eileen Torrey at 603-252-7513.

Alison Thatcher, Office Administrator	office@uccplymouth.org
David A. Williams, Director of Music	musicdirector@uccplymouth.org
Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation	faithformation@uccplymouth.org
Ann Thurston, Treasurer	treasurer@uccplymouth.org
<p>Preaching: Rev. Campbell Lovett          Accompanist: Dan Perkins</p> <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 May in our Community

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

Jim Preston	May 2	Robbin Adams	May 20
Alison Thatcher	May 8	Tessa Nicole Kelsey	May 22
Troy Tedeschi	May 9	Jenny Thibeault	May 23
Eric Kelsey	May 12	Kathy Henning	May 24

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Scan to give to Strengthen the Church  
Special Offering

