Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



November 17, 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 is not.

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

Worship Services may be viewed online at the Plymouth UCC Facebook Page

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Morning by Edvard Grieg

Alastair Goundrey

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the **red friendship** pad 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.

Sunday School for all ages begins after the Message for All Ages. Children are welcome to fill a bag with books and toys, which are in the narthex, to use during worship.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist – Steve Majeski

One: Come, let us praise God, who promises us forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace.

All: Let us praise Christ, who is present with us in trial and rejoicing.

One: Let us praise the Spirit, who encourages us in the struggle for justice and peace.

All: We sing together in thanksgiving to the one God, with the church throughout time! Amen.

*HYMN

Praise to the Living God

NCH(black) #8

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

As a sign of our reconciliation with God and one another, we greet each other with expressions of Christ's peace, accompanied by a bow, bump, handshake, peace sign or hand over heart

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

Almighty God, you have called us into your church to be your servants in the service of others. Forgive us for falling short of your call. We have loved our buildings more than our brothers and sisters. We have been more concerned with budgets than with justice and peace. We have been more ready to talk about Christ

^{*}Those who are able may stand.

than to live in Christ's image. Cut through our evasions, increase our courage, renew our vision. Make us and the whole church more nearly what you would have us be; through Jesus Christ, whose Body we are. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

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.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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.

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 Mark 13: 1 - 8

One: May God bless to our understanding these words of Holy Scripture.

All: Amen

^{**}We believe that God is revealed in persons of all genders and sorts; we also honor tradition.

MESSAGE "We Would Be Building" Rev. Campbell Lovett

*HYMN We Would Be Building NCH(black) #607

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY Melanie Dixon

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.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Holy One, whose heart abounds with gifts, receive this offering as a sign of our intention to live surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: O God, in your grace and mercy . . .

Response: Hear your people at prayer.

PASTORAL PRAYER

SENDING

*HYMN Let There Be Light, O God of Hosts NCH(black) #589

*PASTORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Little Flower Girl of Paris William Gillock
Tessa Kelsey

The Postlude ends our 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 printed prayers in this morning's bulletin are from resources created by Ruth C. Duck

Keeping in Prayer:

Prayers for Rob Stewart as he recovers from surgery

Prayers for Donna Castor as she recovers from a recent fall at her home Prayers for the faithful work of our Pastoral Search Team: Roger Boyer, Melanie Dixon, Ken Howe, Christina LaRue, Lynn Morrison, Walker Magrauth, Steve

Majeski, and alternates, Jan Bass and Tim Kershner

Prayers for Rebecca Herr following recent surgery

Prayers for Mark Fabian who has recently been diagnosed with a brain tumor

Prayers for Alice O'Connor's friend Diane Straub

Prayers for the victims of war and famine everywhere

Prayers for Ruth Mosher as she undergoes outpatient dialysis.

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

> Prayers for the people of Lebanon, Palestine and Israel Prayers for the people of Ukraine

Prayers for Rev. Muchayi and his wife Maria, both of whom are unwell, and 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 office@uccplymouth.org

This Week and More at PCUCC

Monday, November 18
Tuesday, November 19
Thursday, November 21
Friday, November 22

10:00 am Book Group
7:00 pm AA Meeting
7:00 pm NA Meeting
8:00 pm AA Meeting

Sunday, November 24 4:00 pm Concert: NH Master Chorale

Monday, November 25 1:00 pm Knitting Group

Sunday, December 1 Intergenerational Church Decorating after worship

Preaching Schedule:

Nov. 24: Rev. Ruth Martz

Dec. 15: A Pageant Prequel

Dec. 1: Alison Thatcher

Dec. 22: Rev. Rebecca Larson

Christmas Eve: Rev. Ruth Martz

Today at 4 p.m., the International Institute of New England and Stellar Story Company will sponsor the presentation of "Suitcase Stories" at the Rex Theatre in Manchester NH. This program features foreign- and US-born residents sharing powerful and inspiring stories of refugee and immigrant life. Featured nationally on PBS, the Suitcase Stories® series exposes audiences to the complexity of migration. Storytellers are all local to New England, including the greater Manchester area. Go to: rextheatreorg.

Just in time for the holidays: Scented Soaps made especially for PCUCC by Plymouth Soap Works will be available for sale on Sundays in fellowship hall throughout the holiday season beginning Sunday, November 17th. All proceeds will go towards the general operating budget promoting the Mission and Ministries of PCUCC. Stay tuned for more information on the available scents, including unscented for people with sensitive skin. Price is \$8 for soap and \$12 for soap with soap dish. This fundraiser is guaranteed to help with your holiday shopping and raise funds for PCUCC's operating budget at the same time. Any questions, contact Linda LaPrad

Food Pantry: For the month of November, we invite you to donate Dinner Foods. These can be cans of soup with pop tops (not everyone has access to a can opener), mac 'n' cheese, any meat in pop top cans or packets like chicken, tuna, or spam. Please place items in the basket in the Narthex. Warmest thanks!

To Our Artist Friends: It is that time of the year when we change our sanctuary summer flowers pictures to paintings and pictures of winter scenes. Please bring a couple of your winter artwork pieces and leave them in the Chapel by Sunday November 24th. They can be old favorites or new paintings; we enjoy them all and are so grateful! If you have questions, please contact Eileen Torrey.

Decorating Our Church for Christmas: On December 1st following worship we will have an Intergenerational church decorating party. We will set up the Christmas tree in the narthex and decorate it and will also decorate the sanctuary. Please plan on staying and join the party!

The Book Group is reading <u>Dictionary of Lost Words</u> by Pip Williams. Join the discussion on November 18 at 10am in the parlor. Contact Kathy Henning for more information: henkat52@gmail.com.

The 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!

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 Transition Team Member 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

Music: Melanie Dixon, Alastair Goundrey, Tessa Kelsey
Preaching: Rev. Campbell Lovett
Transition Team: Rebecca Larson, Campbell Lovett, Ruth Martz
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Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries in our Community

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month or next, please email to:

office@uccplymouth.org

Leif Magrauth November 2
Georgene Fabian November 18
Ruth Martz November 29
Ann Thurston November 29

