

# Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

## Tenth Sunday after Pentecost: Restore Us



**August 14, 2022**

**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 become a racial justice church  
Our faith is 2000 years old; our thinking isn't.

*We request that you are respectful when making decisions about masking.  
Please inquire to 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](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org). We are delighted to get to know you! Sunday school will begin on September 11<sup>th</sup>; this morning we invite children to remain in worship. Children are welcome to gather books and toys from the narthex to play with during worship. You may contact [office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org) to get more information about programming for any age.*

## Prelude

“Largo”

Vincenzo Bellini

*With great thanks this morning for flautist, Peggy Martin.*

\*Those who are able may stand.

## \*Call to Worship

Liturgist – Steve Majeski

One: May the fires of Pentecost continue to burn in our hearts and souls . . .

**All: As a fire consumes wood, so too God, consume our hearts.**

One: May the prayers of this day extend your gospel word . . .

**All: As flames engulf twigs, so too God, let your word engulf our minds.**

One: May the songs of our mouths bring peace, hope and joy this day . . .

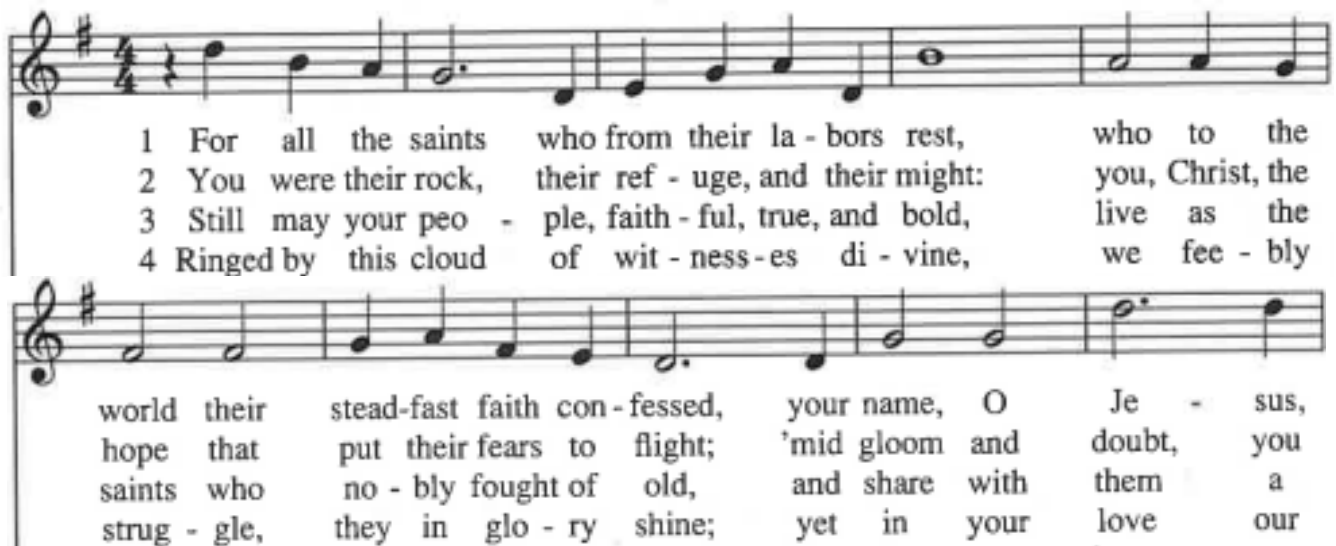
**All: As camp fires burn throughout this region, let us all be restored.**

## \*Hymn

For All the Saints

NCH (black) #299

Verses 1-4



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the  
2 You were their rock, their refuge, and their might: you, Christ, the  
3 Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold, live as the  
4 Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine, we feebly

world their stead-fast faith confessed, your name, O Je - sus,  
hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you  
saints who nobly fought of old, and share with them a  
struggle, they in glory shine; yet in your love our



## Passing of the Peace

*We invite you to text or email someone a note of peace today. A hand-written note will work too!*

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 One, we find hope as we bring restoration to the world – as we garden, tinker on cars, and work to improve simple parts of our homes. Thank you for the opportunity to bring and be change. God we have stagnated when you have called us to be dynamic – return us to the difficult parts of restoration – forgiveness, transformation that pushes us, and ultimately, unconditional love in all areas of our lives. Let us be sure of your presence this hour. Amen.

## Moments for Confession

*Justice focus – God’s creation*

## *Silence for Personal Reflection*

## God’s Promise of New Life

One: Spirit of Truth, we too often forget the majesty of your earth and the wonder before our eyes. Let us be re-centered on the astonishing parts of life around us, that we might find hope.

**All: God turns to we the people and sets us free; God raises up for us a strong deliverer, and promises: we may be delivered from all evil, into Love. For this promise, for your Love, we sing:**

## Response

Let Justice Flow like Streams

NCH (black) #588

**So may God’s plumbline, straight, define our measure true,  
And justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.**

## 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.*

## HEARING THE WORD

**Scripture Readings**

Psalm 71: 1-6

Hebrews 12: 18-29

One: Blessed Redeemer, we pray that the meditations of our hearts and minds be acceptable to you, for you are our rock and redeemer. Move in the space between words and hearing that your love might be made known to those most in need.

**All: Amen**

**Message**

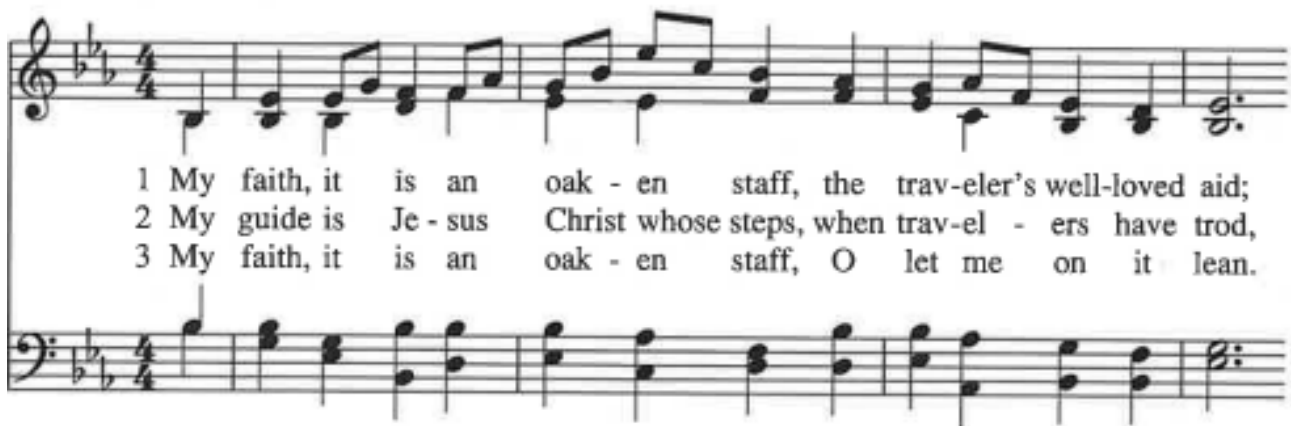
“Stability that Consumes”

Rev. Sara M. Holland

**\*Hymn**

My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff

NCH (black) #418



1 My faith, it is an oak - en staff, the trav-eler's well-loved aid;  
2 My guide is Je - sus Christ whose steps, when trav-el - ers have trod,  
3 My faith, it is an oak - en staff, O let me on it lean.

My faith, it is a song of trust, sus - tains me un - dis - mayed.  
 Wheth - er be - neath was flint - y rock or yield - ing grass - y sod,  
 My faith pro - vides the ground of hope, sup - ports a pur - pose keen.

I'll trav - el on and still be stirred by si - lent thought or so - cial  
 They car - ried on, their joy un - spent; through pain and trial they on - ward  
 Your Spir - it, God, up - on me send, that I may be what you in -

word; By all my per - ils un - de - terred, a pil - grim un - a - fraid.  
 went, Un - stayed by plea - sure, still they bent their zeal - ous course to God.  
 tend. With pa - tient cour - age, we'll con - tend as ra - diant saints se - rene.

# 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

Op. 55, No. 10: Andante

Ernesto Koehler

*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

NCH #845, adapted

**All: O God**, most merciful and gracious, of whose bounty we have 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 Jesus, the one named Love. Amen.

# SENDING

\*Hymn

Lead On Eternal Sovereign

NCH (black) #573

1 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low in your way;  
2 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low not with fear,  
3 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, till sin's fierce war shall cease,

loud rings your cry for jus - tice, your call for peace this day:  
for in each hu - man con - flict your words of strength we hear:  
and all your saints to - geth - er will sing a hymn of peace;

Through prayer - ful prep - a - ra - tion, your grace will make us strong,  
That when we serve with glad - ness, you will not let us fall,  
Then all in your do - min - ion will live with hearts set free,

to car - ry on the strug - gle to tri - umph o - ver wrong.  
our trust is in your prom - ise that love will con - quer all.  
to love and serve each oth - er for all e - ter - ni - ty.

## **\*Pastoral Benediction**

**Postlude**            “Scherzetto” from Three Pieces for Organ      William Walton

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

### **Keeping in Prayer:**

Condolences and prayers for the family and friends of Julian “Shoe” Shoemaker,  
who recently passed away

Prayers for Herb Jensen, Sally Jensen’s brother, who is in hospice

Prayers for Jaime Armstrong, niece of Marlin Collingwood,  
who will be undergoing surgery for breast cancer

Prayers for Sarah, wife of John Anderson, who is recovering from surgery

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

Prayers of healing for Sue Switaj

Prayers for continued healing for Valerie, a dear friend of Sally Jensen

Prayers for Alice Avery

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

Prayers for Polly Bartlett, who struggles with cancer

Prayers for healing for Andrew Munroe

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

Prayers for an end to gun violence, in the spirit of Isaiah 2:4

Prayers for communities affected by war and for all immigrants

Prayers for the Masvingo UCCZ, our partner church in Zimbabwe

If you have a prayer request, you would like Rev. Sara to include in Sunday  
Worship, please email her at [plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org)



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

Aug 18	5:00 Meals for Many
Aug 19	8:00 AA Meeting
Aug 28	Hymn Sing
Sep 11	Rally Sunday!
Oct 15	NH Conference UCC Annual Meeting

**School Supplies Donations** accepted at Whole Village till August 15<sup>th</sup>. Please consider donating some of the supplies listed below for children from kindergarten to Grade 12. Donations can be dropped off at Whole Village Monday through Friday between 8:00-4:00.

Notebooks	Highlighters	Binders
Pens	Pencil cases	Loose leaf paper
#2 Pencils	Rulers	Lunch boxes
Pencil Sharpeners	Scissors	Backpacks
Crayons/Markers	Calculators	Thumb drives
Colored Pencils	Glue sticks	Gift cards/Cash

**Vegetables and Fruit Harvest Sharing and Caring:** Do you have an abundance of vegetables and/or fruit in your garden that you would like to share with your church friends? Please bring your extra veggies and fruit to church on Sundays and place on the shelves in the Fellowship Hall. Members and friends will be encouraged to pick them up and then leave a money donation in the jar to help stock our food pantries for our Plymouth area neighbors in need. This will run through August and September until the harvest is over for this year. Many thanks!!!

**Food Pantry: Our pantry needs restocking.** Please bring donations of food and place in basket at sanctuary door. Needed: Meals in a can like beef stew, tuna fish, canned fruit, cereal, snack bars. Cans with snap up tops preferred. Many thanks!

**Welcome to church families!** Activity bags are hanging in the Narthex and toys are made available, please ask an usher if you cannot find them. If your child needs more space during worship, please feel free to use the parlor on the

sanctuary level or downstairs in our nursery and fellowship area. Sunday School will resume in September. Please contact Jennifer Byam or Julie Kelsey for more information at [faithformation@uccplymouth.org](mailto:faithformation@uccplymouth.org).

**AmazonSMILE** - By choosing our church as your favorite charity, Amazon will make a donation to the charity you designate at no cost to you. Please let Ann Thurston, Linda LaPrad or the office know if you need help setting PCUCC up as your favorite charity on AmazonSMILE.

**PREPAID HANNAFORD CARDS** - For every card purchased from the Finance Committee, the church receives 5% without any additional cost to you. Denominations of \$100, \$250 and \$500 are available by contacting Ann Thurston or Linda LaPrad after services on Sunday, by phone or email. Thank you for your continued support!

**HOPE Fund:** The HOPE Fund supports families at risk who need assistance paying for rent, heating, electricity, and medications. Please consider giving to the HOPE Fund. You can 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 Pastor Sara.

*The Hope Fund of our church continues to touch the lives of people in the Lakes Region. This winter, we have supported a number of people who were in need of housing support or assistance with utility bills. This is a part of our Christian witness; we have deep gratitude for all of those who have contributed money and time related to the Hope Fund.*

**Book Group:** The book group will resume on September 12<sup>th</sup> and will continue to meet every second and fourth Monday at 10:00am. The group will begin by reading [The One-In-A Million Boy](#) by Monica Wood. Any questions please contact Peggy Martin at [pmartin03223@yahoo.com](mailto:pmartin03223@yahoo.com) or Kathy Henning at [henkat52@gmail.com](mailto:henkat52@gmail.com).

**Racial Justice Exploration:** We welcome new attendees, and we pray you'll reach out to Alison Thatcher at [Baker.AlisonT@gmail.com](mailto:Baker.AlisonT@gmail.com) or Pastor Sara if you are considering ways to get involved in these important efforts.

**Please continue to be aware of COVID-related concerns when on site. We want to encourage all community members (who are able) to get a**

**COVID-19 vaccine and boosters. We hope that this will ensure the health and well-being of our most vulnerable community members.**

**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 - 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- Wednesday - 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- Thursday - 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- Friday - 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Pastor’s Office Hours**

Pastor Sara is generally at the church for office hours Monday – Wednesday 10:30 AM – 3:30 PM; please reach out to make an appointment. She keeps sabbath on Friday.

Please feel free to contact her by email at [plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org) or on her work cell phone number at 336-485-5618 to set up a meeting.

Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor	<a href="mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org">plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org</a>
Alison Thatcher, Office Administrator	<a href="mailto:office@uccplymouth.org">office@uccplymouth.org</a>
David A. Williams, Director of Music	<a href="mailto:musicdirector@uccplymouth.org">musicdirector@uccplymouth.org</a>
Ashley Rose, Organist/Pianist	<a href="mailto:organist@uccplymouth.org">organist@uccplymouth.org</a>
Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation	<a href="mailto:faithformation@uccplymouth.org">faithformation@uccplymouth.org</a>
Ann Thurston, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@uccplymouth.org">treasurer@uccplymouth.org</a>
Musical Offering by Peggy Martin, Flautist	
Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ 4 Post Office Square, P.O. Box 86 Plymouth, NH 03264 (603) 536-2626 - <a href="mailto:office@uccplymouth.org">office@uccplymouth.org</a> - <a href="http://www.uccplymouth.org">www.uccplymouth.org</a>	

Celebrating Birthdays in August in our Community

Jan Bass	August 1 <sup>st</sup>
Arline Bownes	August 11 <sup>th</sup>
Dick Brace	August 15 <sup>th</sup>
Angi Francesco	August 15 <sup>th</sup>
Georgia Merrithew- Stone	August 17 <sup>th</sup>
Natalie Amtmann	August 21 <sup>st</sup>
Colton Hyde	August 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Maeghan Warburton	August 24 <sup>th</sup>
Marti Shoemaker	August 29 <sup>th</sup>

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month or next month that you would like listed, please email to: [office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org)

