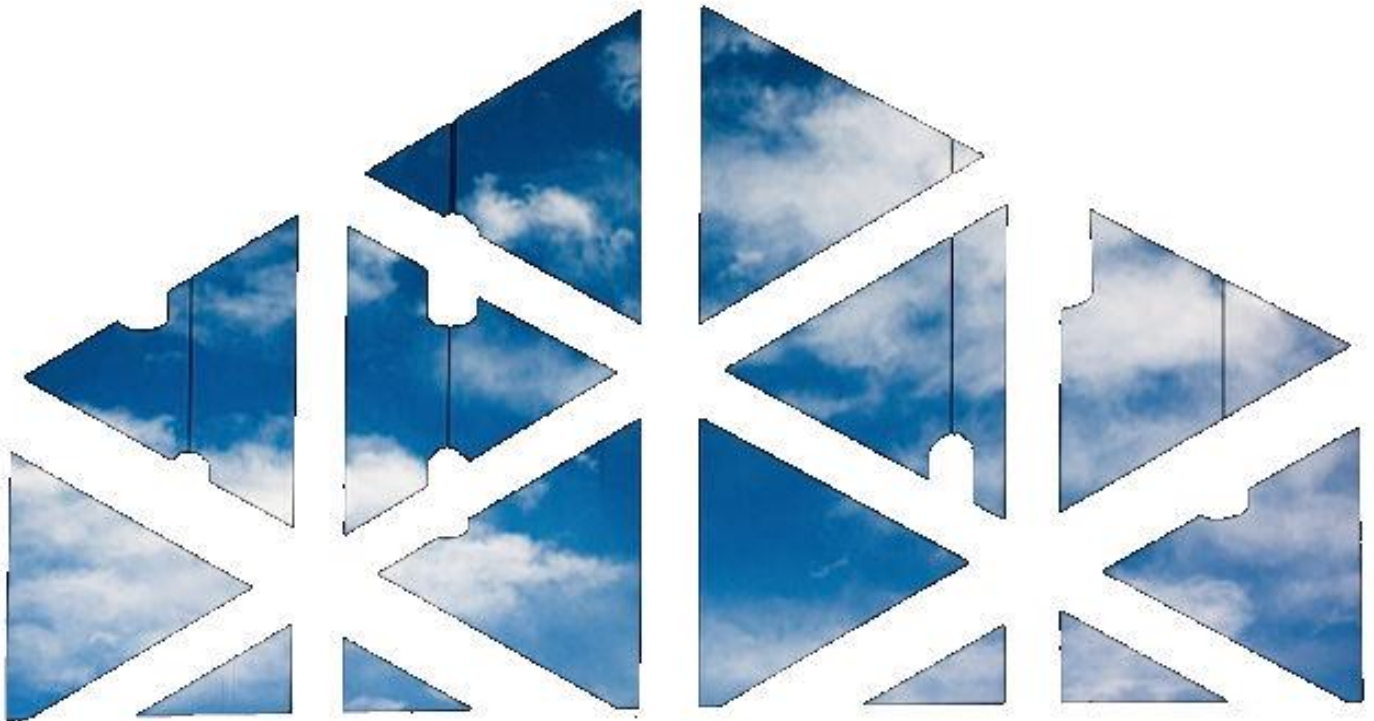


Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
Trinity Sunday

May 27, 2018

9:30 a.m.

A Just Peace Church
An Open and Affirming Congregation
A God is Still Speaking Congregation



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

Welcome to Worship!

We are grateful for your presence this morning. If you are new to Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, the following information may be helpful.

- We are an Open & Affirming congregation where all people are valued and accepted regardless of sexual identity or orientation.
- We are a Just Peace church that affirms that peace is possible in human history and prays ceaselessly that peace may prevail on Earth.
- We celebrate our Christian heritage and seek to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ.

A Special Word to our Visitors

- Please fill out the fellowship pads the ushers will hand out at the beginning of the service. We would love to get to know you better and keep you up-to-date on all the programs, events and activities offered throughout the year.
- Families with infants and children are especially welcome to our service. Childcare is available during the worship service in the nursery. Please speak with an usher if you need assistance to find our nursery.
- Children's bulletins, activity bags (to be returned after worship) and toys are available in the Narthex. To find out more about our Sunday school program, we may talk to our Faith Formation Director Cindy Bjerklie or visit our website.
- Our service can be heard in the parlor, library and nursery.
- Our sanctuary is equipped with the Telecoil Loop System for the hard of hearing. For assistance on how to connect to the Telecoil, please speak to one of our ushers.
- Our building is fully accessible to all people. A small parking lot on the south side of the church is available only to persons with limited mobility or physical disability. The entrance to the parking lot is located immediately behind the Post Office, off Highland Street. An elevator connects all three levels.
- Join us for Coffee Hour in the fellowship hall immediately after the service.

Help us to protect the environment by dropping your bulletin in one of the recycling baskets at the two main entrances to the sanctuary. You may also download your bulletin from our website and follow the service on your own mobile device.

Large print bulletins are also available.

Transcripts of our Sunday Sermons and videos of the worship services are available on our website, www.uccplymouth.org.

Our worship service is live-streamed on our Facebook page every Sunday.

GATHERING

Prelude

Give Thanks

arr. Don Wyrzten

*The beginning of the prelude is an invitation to silent,
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

Welcome and Life of the Church

Centering Song

*Call to Worship

**Indicates congregation standing*

One: Creator of the white birch and Maker of the tall Elm tree,

**All: We gather in your Presence,
where our hearts are at home and at rest.**

One: Jesus of history and Christ of our faith,

**All: We gather in this sacred space,
where your love is at work in and through our lives.**

One: Spirit of forgiveness and Spirit of reconciliation,

**All: We gather in this community,
where we are inspired to worship God in spirit and truth.**

One: Trinity of beauty, Trinity of loving, Trinity of community,

All: Early in the morning, we gather, to praise you!

*Hymn

"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

Red#251

Prayer of the Day

One: Friends, open your hearts to the mystery of God's grace as we pray together, saying:

All: God-with-us, remind us once again that you have put us in the world, at this time and in this moment, to do our best to inhabit our bodies beautifully. Help us to act what we believe. Give us courage to persist in choosing love, hope, and faith above all else. Meet us here in this sacred gathering where heaven and earth unite; so here, in this sacred place of peace and struggle, of prayer and songs, we may truly know your Presence, hear your Word, and sense your Holy Spirit. May our voices and hands, our feet and eyes, our minds and hearts honor you: God the Shaper, Christ the Questioner, Spirit the Adventurer. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: Brothers and sisters, believe, proclaim, embody and live out the Good News!

All: We believe that God rejoices in our human life, has faith in our human abilities and understands our human frailty. In Christ, God invites us to be more fully human in the way we love, live, and practice our religion. Thanks be to the Triune God!

Prayer Response

"The Kingdom of God"*

(sing twice)

The musical score is written for guitar and voice in the key of D major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef and a bass clef. The lyrics are: "The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly". The second system also has a treble clef and a bass clef. The lyrics are: "Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your king - dom. The". The chords are indicated above the notes.

Em C Am G D G D C
The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and joy in the Ho - ly

4 Am/C D G C Em Am G D Bm Em D G
Spir - it. Come, Lord, and o - pen in us the gates of your king - dom. The

*Sign of Peace

One: May the peace of God surround you; may the peace of Christ be with you; may the peace of the Spirit sustain you.

All: May we share the peace and make it real.

One: Let us greet one another with the sign of peace.

Children's Message

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Lessons

One: Listen for the Word of God

Epistle Lesson

Romans 8:14-25

NT p.983

Gospel lesson

John 3:1-17

NT p.924

One: May God bless our reading, hearing, and doing of God's holy word.

All: Amen

Sermon "This is How the World will Be Saved"

***Hymn** "Creator God, Creating Still"

Blk#278

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

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.**

Offertory

Gift of Music

***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.

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

All: For the immensity of the solar system, for the life-sustaining gift of the earth, for the beauty of nature, we give thanks. Teach us, O God, to be grateful for our planet, for humankind, and for the breath of life. Use our bodies and our resources as signs of your love in human history. As you sent Christ, send us into the world not to condemn, but to save. Amen.

SENDING

***Hymn** "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" Blk#556

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction**

Postlude America the Beautiful arr. Marilyn Ham
The Postlude ends our gathered worship and sends us into the world where our true service begins.

Keeping in Prayer

Jack & Vicky Meyers	Eilene Greenwood	The Jaeubowski Family
Lynn Anderson	Nancy Pirnie	Ginny Arsenault
Pat Andrews	Bethany	Penny Colgan-Davis
Family off Eric Chapman	Matthew Sanchez	Sara Willingham
Kyle Avery	Ana Cristina França	

Bob Feeney, our Chicago Seminary Student

Prayers for Sam Lovett, a member-in-discernment in the Merrimack Association

If you have any prayer requests, please fill out a prayer card located in the pew rack and drop it in the offering plate.

Save these dates

May 27th – Sunday Niters with Bob and Carol Stewart

June 10th – Sunday Niters with Bob and Carole Curry

Announcements

Sunday Niters Niters Although not an official arm of the church, Sunday Niters has been a part of this congregation since the time of Revs. Michael and Jane Henderson who were pastors at Plymouth UCC in the 1980's. It has endured ever since. With an occasional exception, we meet second and fourth Sunday evenings during "the off season" meaning not from mid-June into September. A potluck dinner is hosted by various members or friend of the church often accompanied by a program and at other times just for the sociability. All are welcome. Host venue volunteers and those to present programs are always being sought. And thanks to Philip Wei for all his past efforts on behalf of the Niters, For more information about Sunday Niters, contact Tink Taylor. On **May 27th**, we meet at Bob and Carol Stewart at the usual time with a high altitude dish. From Exit 28, take Route 49 into Waterville Valley for approx. 5 miles – just beyond "WV 5 Miles" sign, turn left on Upper Mad River Road (cross bridge) - approx. .7 miles past Gateway Townhouses to 3rd road on right, Orris - .6 miles to "T", parking lot on right – Bear left past Woodwinds sign – turn left at next "T" – then right at "Y" staying on Orris. We are 4th house on right, #262. Park in driveway or up the hill to area in front of house, 726-3535. No program announced. On **June 10th**, we meet at Bob and Carole Curry which is the last get together until September. Take exit 23 in New Hampton off of 93 – turn left and go under 93 to Old Bristol Road on right – take left onto Carter Mt. Road to the end at #234. Bring a dish.

Groceries and Raising Money for PCUCC Everyone has to eat and many of you shop at Hannaford's. Have you thought about using a Hannaford gift card. For the next couple of months, the Finance Committee will be offering Hannaford Gift Shopping cards in a variety of denominations to see how this program works as a fund raising effort. The cards will be available in a variety of denominations (\$50, \$100 and \$200). For every one hundred dollars you spend on the card, we will get back five dollars. See either Linda LaPrad, Chair of Finance, or Larry Spencer, Treasurer. You can either supply us with cash or a check made out to PCUCC with Hannaford gift card in the memo line.

Faith Formation We are seeking volunteers to help with our children's programs, particularly with teaching Sunday School and music. If you're interested in working with our great kids, please contact Cindy Bjerklie at faithformation@uccplymouth.org.

The Reverend Paulo G. França, Minister
Deborah Healey, Church Office Administrator
Cindy Bjerklie, Director of Christian Education
David Williams, Interim Director of Music
Ashley Paine, Interim Accompanist
Larry Spencer, Church Treasurer
Celia Woolverton, Grace Counseling

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Linda LaPrad, liturgist

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