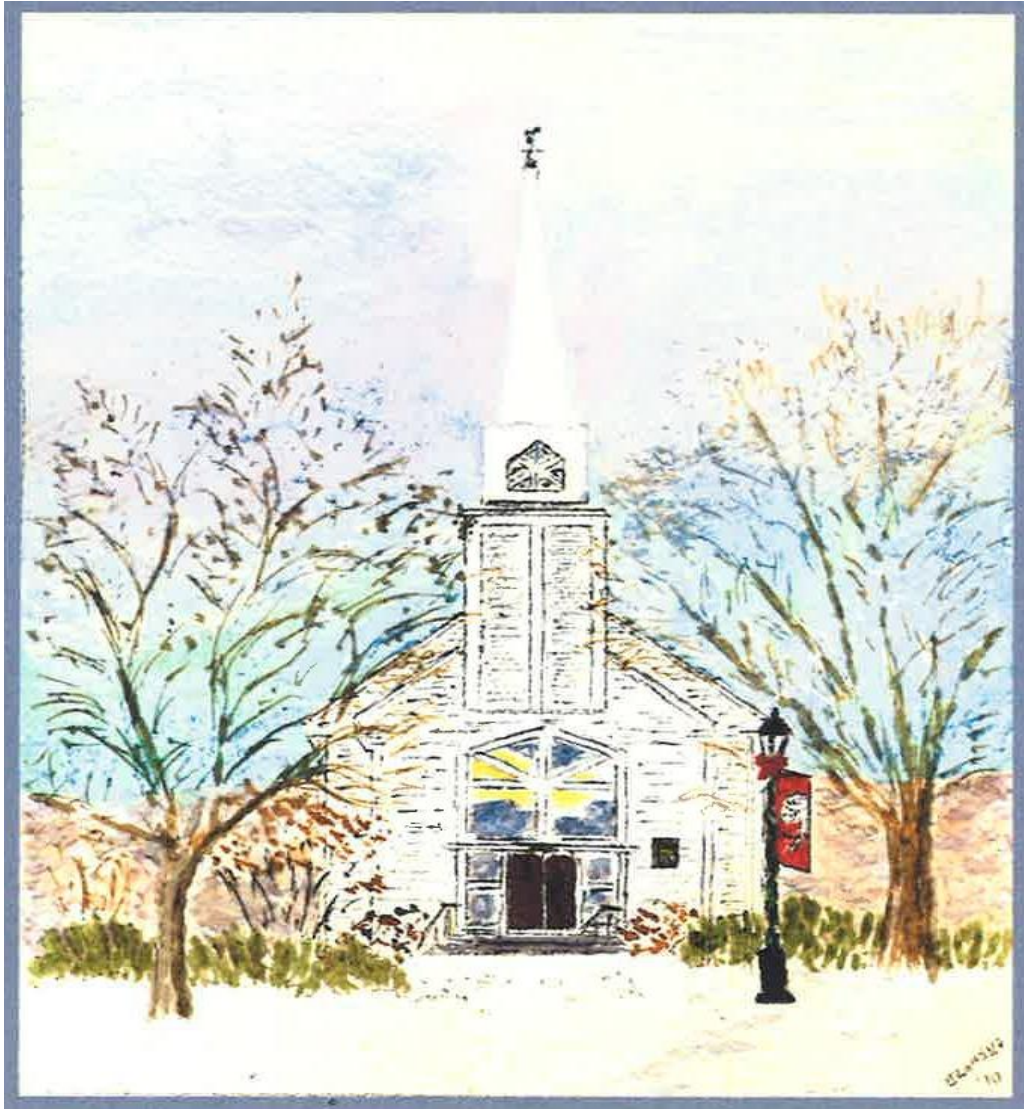


Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
February 2, 2020 **9:30 AM**



courtesy of Eleanor Lonske

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

**A compassionate community, intentionally inclusive,
openly searching, joyfully serving in the way of Christ**

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

A Just Peace, Open & Affirming, & God Is Still Speaking Congregation

"An inclusive spiritual family shaping a better you for creating a better world.
A place to make a difference."

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2nd, 2020

Sacred Fellowship 9:30 AM

We are delighted that you are here today! We hope you will find us an affirming, uplifting, and committed family of faith. Here we work to make everyone, without any exceptions, to feel accepted, inspired, and encouraged in their spiritual journey. In dialogue, we seek to understand. In encouragement, we seek to heal. In all things we yearn to live by love, for peace, with joy. This is a place where your intellect will be challenged, your heart will be nurtured, and your spirit refreshed. Varying beliefs are expressed openly and freely, and your doubts will not be suppressed. We trust that we are all, every person and part of creation, continuing to be blessed by God's grace; and that in community we can help each other to see this grace alive in our lives and relationships. We hope to share our gifts with you, even as we pray that you will want to share your gifts with us. Whoever you are and wherever you may be in your life's journey, we invite you to be a part of our lives and our spiritual home. Welcome!

CALLED TOGETHER AS SPIRITUAL FAMILY

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the registration pads when they are handed out
by the ushers and pass to your neighbor in the pew.

We ask that you please shut off cell phones and practice quietness during the service.
Please join us for fellowship and refreshments after the worship in the Fellowship Hall.

* = You are invited to stand as you are able.

Prelude

Welcoming the Light of Love in Our Midst Acolyte lights altar candles.

We prepare ourselves for communing with the sacred as love's light is brought into our awareness. The light of love burns within and among each of us, and we carry that light into our sanctuary; visually reminding us of the image of the divine that lives in our hearts, minds, and souls – and that we nourish through our faith-filled fellowship.

Choral Introit Our Father, We Seek Your Holy Presence Here

Affirming God's Presence in Us All "You Matter!"

***Hymn of the Call to Goodness** "Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult" #171

***Centering Our Souls**

“Blessed to Be Good”

Inspired by Micah 6.8; Psalm 15.1-4; Matthew 5.3-11

We are prone, O God, to come to worship to fulfill a felt duty.

But you ask us to come to draw strength for the struggle to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you throughout the week.

We ask how we might be closer to you.

And you tell us to get closer to our neighbors.

It is not performing the “right” rituals, singing the “right” songs, praying the “right” prayers, or giving the “right” amount of money, time, and efforts to your church that you require.

It is instead walking with integrity, doing what is right, speaking the truth from hearts with tenderness that allows us to live in and through your presence.

When we refuse to lie about others, gossip, be vengeful, and accusatory,

We show how to dwell in your midst -- right here, right now.

When we honor those who revere your ways over those who are powerful, popular, or plentiful in means,

We make your tent our home.

When we keep our promises and are faithful to our vows,

We place virtue over expedience, and values over convenience.

Help us to see the blessings in living in your ways, even though we be poor.

Help us to know we will be comforted when we mourn that your example lived in us is not always followed by others.

Remind us to possess the beauties of this good earth in our hearts even when we feel we are too weak and meek to do more than we do.

Center our appetites on being sated by goodness, for this is more fulfilling than overflowing with every other kind of success.

Inculcate in us a deep need to be compassionate and merciful, even as we desire the same from you and others.

Focus our vision on being like you, rather than on literally seeing you; for this is our purity of purpose.

Inspire us to be genuinely your children, those whose intentions, motivations, actions, and responses are all guided by peaceful living.

Strengthen us in our desire and dedication to righteousness, especially when we are mocked and ridiculed for doing so.

For the false testimonies of others are far less of a burden than the turning from your paths.

Give us cause to rejoice and be glad, not so much for what we might

gain as a reward as for what we will gain in self-respect.

For you call us to be just, loving, and kind no matter what the cost.

Bless us in all things to be blessing to others, as in your ways we make our way. Now and always.

WE LISTEN FOR THE SACRED IN THE MIDST OF OUR LIVES

A Skit by the Sunday School Children "MLK Day" Tom Smith
Song "I Have a Dream" Teresa Jennings

Prayers

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns, and Acts of Compassion or Kindness

Silent Meditation: The Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Unison Prayer

"Prayer from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer" Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. May it be so.

***Hymn of Blessing** "Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit" #180

Scripture Lesson Matthew 5.1-12

Message "A Polylogue on the Beatitudes"

***Hymn for Integrity** "Blessed Are the Pure in Heart"
Tune: St. Elizabeth 568.558

Music: Schlesische Volkslieder, 1842; arr. by Richard Storrs Willis, 1850
Words: Rev. Bret Stuart Myers, 2/26/2007; inspired by the Beatitudes

**Blessed are the pure in heart / Blessed are the merciful
For they see God their whole lives through
They will know mercy / They will find refuge
For what they give comes back to them**

**Blessed are the weary souls / Blessed are the mourners
For they will find that which gives them rest
They will be comforted / They will find God's abode
That which they seek for they will find**

**Blessed are the peacemakers / Blessed are the meek of soul
For they are God's sons and daughters true
They will inherit / They possess what is best
Their love and honor know no bounds**

**Blessed are the passionate / Who thirst for righteousness
For they are filled with the grace of God
They will not hunger / They will not suffer
From having left good deeds undone**

**Blessed are the victimized / Who sought for justice
For their hope outlives their lives
They are remembered / They are respected
For having been a friend of all**

**Blessed when we can rejoice / 'Midst insults, slander
For to be glad is its own reward
We will find strength indeed / We'll find integrity
Our spirits rise above all woes**

WE AFFIRM & CELEBRATE OUR UNITY AS GOD'S CREATION

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(As God calls all people to the table of forgiveness, peace, and loving fellowship, Plymouth Congregational UCC affirms an inclusive and open Communion Table. **All** persons (all ages, ethnicities, sexual orientations/identities, dis/abilities, religious affiliations, and other distinguishing features) are welcome to partake of this sacrament which affirms that we are all part of God's family and are to commune together in sacred relationship. Love and peace are the uniting virtues of this spiritual meeting place. Therefore, all who wish to join in this ritual of unity are invited to do so providing that you do so in the spirit of peace and mutual love for one another.)

The Purpose of Holy Communion

God seeks to be in communion with us, and wills that we be in communion with one another. Through the Christ in Jesus, God drew closer to us by living among us with all the desires and temptations of being human, and showed us that we each have the power to overcome wrongdoing by the inspiration of our spiritual lives and the discipline of our physical lives; thereby effecting the Christ in us. Jesus represented the individual model of how we each can do this; and in calling to his side the disciples and followers in his way of love and peace, many of whom were ostracized by the wider society, he revealed how to model this in our community here on Earth.

Reminding us symbolically of this union of body and spirit, Jesus took a loaf of bread, broke it like we are often broken in our relationships with one another, and showed us the way to reconciliation by asking us to share our bread with one another in remembrance of his own example. Through the broken bread, we participate in and become the body of Christ in the world.

In like manner, Jesus took the cup filled with the fruit of the vine, the vine that sustains us and links us to one another, and the fruit that nourishes the spirit of virtue that abides within and between each of us, and asked us to drink of that same spirit of loving-kindness and uniting harmony that was in him. Through the cup of blessing, we participate in and become the new life of Christ in the world.

The bread and fruit we partake nourishes us that we may nourish others. Through this sacrament of Holy Communion, we affirm that we are committed to Christ's way of love and peace by our motives, thoughts, actions, and practices in this world. We acknowledge that we are one community made by God, and that we must consciously choose, day by day, to be in right relationship with God, each other, and our sacred values. We therefore dedicate ourselves, individually and collectively, to make the Body and Spirit of Christ real in this world, here and now, and throughout our life as a community of the faithful. What we symbolize here in this holy space, we make real by our service when we go forth from this place.

Invitation

Christ invites "all" to the table of reconciliation – those who affirm their intrinsic worth, and those who are yet to do so...those whose hearts and minds are admirable, and those still struggling to make them so...those who are most like us, and those who are least like us. In the spirit of Christ, we at Plymouth Congregational United Church of

Christ welcome you to share your spiritual journey with us as we share ours with you in a sacrament designed to bridge all differences in a spirit of extravagant welcome, of heartfelt openness, and of mutual loving-kindness. In coming together, let us recognize our responsibility in living in love and peace with one another and all creation so as to be joined together as one Holy Communion of Body and Spirit throughout this good earth.

Partaking of the Bread and Juice

(Please come forward by rows down the center aisles, taking a piece of bread, dipping it in the cup, eating, and returning to your seats by the side aisles. You may take additional elements with you to bring to those in your row unable to come forward, or we will have a server to bring the elements to any who cannot come forward. Grape juice and gluten free bread is used.)

Commissioning

Go forth with forgiveness, courage, faith, hope, love, peace, justice, kindness, and gentleness. May these virtues, representing the image of God in each one of us as was also manifested in Jesus, strengthen you to reach out in compassion as you nurture and aid others within this worldwide community. May the Spirit and grace of God be with you and among you. Blessings be.

WE DEDICATE OURSELVES TO GOD'S SERVICE THROUGH FAITHFULNESS

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

"Generosity arises from gratitude like heat arises from fire. Like fire, gratitude is lovely to see; but when it warms others with generosity, that is when it becomes a true blessing."

Gift of Music: Choral Anthem Beneath the Forms of Outward Rite
Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)

***Song of Dedication** Tune: Old Hundredth; p. 7

**The light of love does shine most bright
when all are siblings in our sight;**

We are one fam'ly on this earth;

We are God's children from our birth.

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

O God of Prophets and Peacemakers: We are thankful for your blessings of encouragement as we seek to correct injustices and come to the defense of those without voice. May these tithes and offerings be instrumental in nurturing equality, promoting peace, and

establishing harmony between all your peoples and all your creation. Help us to be generous not only with our monetary-giving, but also with our truth-giving, life-giving and soul-giving – for the betterment of your world. May it be so.

***Sunday School Children Benediction**

“Sing about Martin”
Jackie Weissman

***Encouragement for the Journey**

Postlude

The Light of Love Goes into the World

Love’s light is not extinguished from our worship, but is transferred from the flame of the candles to the passion in our hearts that we may go forth to let the light of love shine through us as we go to serve in the world.

WE GO FORTH AS PEACEMAKERS TO CREATE JUSTICE FOR ALL

Our worship is fulfilled, and our purpose is confirmed,
through our service as God’s stewards to the world and all creation.
Use the blessings God has given you as you share
the joy in your heart, the wisdom in your mind,
the love in your spirit, and the peace in your soul.

Thank you for sharing sacred fellowship with us.

Plymouth Congregational UCC is an open and affirming church, embracing diversity in our congregation and community, and affirming the dignity and worth of every person. We are an inclusive community of faith that celebrates God’s presence through shared stories and experiences of sacred meaning on Sundays, and through the nurturing of divine values and virtues manifested in active practices in our daily lives. We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of the church, regardless of race, ethnic background, gender/sexual identity, sexual orientation, physical or cognitive capabilities, nationality/citizenship, or circumstance of life. We are also a Just Peace church, emphasizing peace and nonviolence in all our relationships, personally and collectively, because we see the sacred worth of every person throughout this good earth. We are a Progressive Christian family of faith. We invite you to hear our experiences of the divine even as we are curious in learning about your own spiritual journey. We hope our values may intersect as together we strive to make our corner of the world a better place. Get to know us! We’d like to get to know you!

Keeping in Prayer

Ralph Reynolds
Jesse Armstrong
Cassie & Kevin
Rob Stewart

Mike & Michele Ettelston
P.V. George
Sheri Stanley

Dick Brace
Marilyn Mason
Barbara
Vickie Flener

Wayne Myers, uncle of Rev. Myers,
who is in the hospital and will be undergoing surgery in early February.

Bob Feeny and Sam Lovett,
members-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

February 9th – Meet & Greet, The Clarinet Family
February 9th – Guest Speaker Larry Spencer in Worship
February 26th – Ash Wednesday
March 9th – New Hampshire Master Chorale Concert
April 15th – New Hampshire Chamber Singers at 7:30 PM

Announcements

Coffee Hour – Today, everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall following Service for a beverage, snack and conversation. Let's enjoy a variety of food without a heavy dose of sugars.

It's time to plan ahead for our Pot-Luck Luncheon on Sunday, February 23th. To provide a "balanced diet" of food, we ask those whose last names begin with the letters A-H provide a main dish, those with I-P bring a salad or vegetable dish and those with Q-Z bring a dessert. Thanks for making this an enjoyable event.

There are many opportunities to help in the kitchen by setting up prior to the service, cleaning up afterwards or bringing in snacks or other foods to share. There is a sign-up page on the bulletin board next to the pass-through window. You may use one of the dated tags on the Will-U poster at the entrance to Fellowship Hall if you are bringing a snack. Please contact Chris Pollock at 603-674-8590 or e-mail at rpollack@metrocast.net to sign up or if you have any questions.

Thank you from the Hospitality Committee.

Music - Paid Singing Positions – PCUCC is seeking 1 tenor, 1 bass and 1 soprano to sing with an open-minded group of passionate singers during Spring semester. Choir is open to all regardless of faith background. Rehearsals are Thursdays between 7:00-8:30 PM and Sundays between 8:30- 9:15 AM plus 9:30 AM Service. For more information contact David Williams at musicdirector@uccplymouth.org

Points to Ponder

“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but
to do justice,
and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?”
— *Micah 6.8*

“Micah was writing at a time in which the Hebrew people were actually prospering as a nation – at least politically and economically. The problem was that they were becoming corrupt, self-centered, and arrogant. Well, at least those with power and influence. They had turned their egalitarian religious faith in which emphasized community to a capitalistic national faith which emphasized wealth and influence. In doing so, they made religious faith to be a matter of ritual rather than just relationships, and of pious practices rather than compassionate care for one another. In essence, it is pretty much where we are at in the USA today. Micah’s words ring as true for us as they did 700+ years before Jesus.” — *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“O God, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?
Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their
heart;
who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends,
nor take up a reproach against their neighbors...but who honor those who revere God;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt.”
— *Psalm 15.1-4*

“God wants integrity from us more than oblations, and desires virtuous conduct over
praise.
American Christianity, like the Hebrew people in the time of David, has focused on the
latter.
To get back to our religious roots, we need to focus on the former.”
— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”
— *Matthew 5.3*

“The poor in spirit are those who are systemically oppressed in their society.
They are the victims of injustice, violence, poverty, and powerlessness.
And they are the ones who resist the culture of empire and influence.
They are the broken-hearted due to vile values of their society.
Jesus wants to reverse the values of empire where greed is rewarded and power
esteemed.
Compassion not domination, and kindness not control, are how we are to live in
relationship.

To those committed to these counter-cultural values, they are blessed;
not in the physical conditions in which they live,
but in the spiritual peace of knowingly living by God's values –
something in which they can respect within themselves against all odds;
a spiritual home that nurtures their hearts and fulfills their souls.”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.”

— *Matthew 5.4*

“Those who mourn their and others' oppression will be comforted;
not perhaps in any observable way to the eyes of the world,
but in the knowledge that life's frustrations and cruelty will not have the final word.
The tears of the oppressed reveal that they still care about life;
and to remain caring means that the world's malice has not broken their spirit.
Simply recognizing this fact is an act of defiance and a testament to hope;
and tears are an indictment against the heartlessness of their oppressors.”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.”

— *Matthew 5.5*

“The meek do not see themselves as more worthy than anyone else.
Nor do they see themselves as less worthy.
They do not seek to be advantaged over others,
or to possess privileges in which others do not share.
The meek simply want everyone to be treated equitably.
Their earthly inheritance is the respect they receive from all who recognize their purity
of heart.

They are revered for not trying to get a competitive edge over anyone else,
and treating all people as their equals.

They are trusted by others, and that is a beautiful inheritance.”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.”

— *Matthew 5.6*

“We must recall that righteousness is not ritual piety, but a matter of character.
Those whose appetite is for goodness, and whose thirst is for virtue,
not only will be filled in the future with that in which they yearn,
but are already receiving the blessings of these traits
by placing that which matters most as most important in their lives.”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.”

— *Matthew 5.7*

“To be merciful is to be spiritually awakened and virtuously fulfilled.

It is the epitome of character development;
supererogatorily going beyond what mores, justice, and moral duties require,
and empathetically seeing the dignity and worth of one who is suffering,
without regard for how they came to be in the place they are,
while helping them to see their own inherent value as one deserving of compassion.
Their extravagant forgiveness, generosity, and loving-kindness is not expected;
and so they themselves are the recipients of seeing their magnanimous deeds being
appreciated.

This is the echo of mercy that when given to another comes to be received by one’s
self.”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.”

— *Matthew 5.8*

“The pure in heart are those who seek to do good for the sake of doing good.
There is no ulterior motive which they foresee as helping them out in any way.

They want to help others, and they do not look for any benefit in return.

In their altruistic benevolence and unconditional love, they mimic God;
and in that they mimic God, they are able to see the beauty and goodness of God’s
ways firsthand. They know God’s Spirit because that same Spirit resides in them.
They see God in the most important way: in their own way of being in the world.”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

— *Matthew 5.9*

“Perhaps we should translate ‘peacemakers’ as ‘shalom-makers.’

This is not simply about being anti-war and pro-peace,
but creating and transforming the entire society
to be one in which peace is the natural outcome of how we are in just and right
relationship
with all others – humanity, and creation.

It is about systematically creating a world in which all are treated as equals in worth
and dignity.

It is about coming to the aid of all who are in need,
and calling out any who look out for themselves rather than the whole.

It is the vision Jesus had for the world he urged us to create in accordance with God’s
Will.

It is the incarnation of the Great Commandment and the Golden Rule;
and that is how we are all truly the children of God – when we live by God’s own
virtues.”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.”

— *Matthew 5.10*

“Jesus makes it clear that the blessings he is saying will be ours are not the blessings that are considered to be blessings by those who follow other ethics than that of God. Persecution is not seen as a blessing by anyone who is not spiritually enlightened and ethically glorified. Jesus knows that following his way of love, peace, and justice will result in abuse by those complicit with empire. They will have to live in defiance of unjust laws, speak against all uses of violence and abuse, and call out hatred and fear-mongering as the evils that they are. This will certainly result in punitive measures by those whose values are the antithesis of God’s. Jesus wants to give words of encouragement to his disciples for when they will suffer unjustly at the hands of empire. To be persecuted for doing the right thing, and advancing God’s ways, is a badge of honor. It reveals where one’s true home is – not in earthly empire, but in heavenly community.”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.”

— *Matthew 5.11*

“To follow Jesus is not a matter of believing certain things. It requires a wholesale life transformation. When you are living with so much integrity that your values are unnerving the powers that be such that they become retaliatory and punitive against you, this means you are getting to them and affecting their consciences. You make it clear to them and to all observers that they are in the wrong. The backlash will be inevitable from anyone with a hardened heart, and from those who would have much to lose if your protests became successful and the power structures of society were changed. They will lie, sabotage, and use any other means to change you, or get rid of you. But to remain steadfast to God’s values despite their torment towards you is to be blessed. Your integrity cannot be bought at any price, and your values cannot be undermined with fear or cruelty. Physically, emotionally, and psychologically, you will likely suffer greatly for your opposition. But spiritually you will be blessed, for the greatest asset you have is a virtuous spirit; and no one but you can ever take that away from you.”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

— *Matthew 5.12*

“On the surface, it may appear that Jesus is saying to ignore all the heartache and suffering you will have for living by God’s ways, and simply celebrate that while this life is filled with strife you will later be compensated in a life to come. I suspect this is not what he is saying or meant at all. Rather he is likely avowing that we should count our spiritual integrity as more important than our physical viability, and that we should esteem our ethical and moral character more than the emotional turmoil to which we are subjected. It is not that we are to be all happy and blissful about all the abuse we receive at the hands of those who we oppose as being against the values and virtues of God, but rather that we are to respect our spirit and honor our character more than we fear such persecution. Others may revile us, but God will respect us for remaining faithful. Others may harm us, but God will heal our spirits because we lived by sacred values rather than profane values. The prophets suffered and died for being faithful, and the same may be true of us as well. But consider that it is those very prophets whom both the righteous and God most respect and honor, and we understand that though we may not make it to the jutting mountaintop of justice, the shining peak of peace, or the beautiful col of compassion, we have seen them, like Moses, from a distance. Our faith remains in the world God wants us to live in, not the one in which empire forces upon us. We revere the prophets for their moral resolve and spiritual tenacity. We, too, will be honored by the host of those who exemplify and follow God’s values over human values. What is the way you want to be remembered?”

— *Bret S. Myers, 1/30/2019*

“Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world's grief.

Act justly now.

Love mercy now.

Walk humbly now.

You are not obligated to complete the work,
but neither are you free to abandon it.”

— *The Talmud*

Nourishment for the Journey

“In our culture, some regard themselves as religious while a growing number regard themselves as spiritual. Micah 6.8, Psalm 15, and Matthew 5.1-12 make it clear that thinking ourselves as good for either of these reasons is not sufficient in God’s eyes.

Being religious or spiritual is empty of any praiseworthy acknowledgment from God unless it is accompanied by being ethical. Some say we should be prayerful; God says to be just. Some say we should read our Bibles; God says be kind to all. Some

say we should be meditative and introspective; God says walk humbly with God and God's creation.

Those who live with God in their lives are those who focus on being good people – i.e., behaving in ethical and moral ways towards others. God lives with us when we tell the truth, and do it in a way that is compassionate and gentle...when slander never passes our lips...when we never intend harm toward anyone...when we never are vindictive nor even accusatory, but when we revere those who revere God, and when we are willing to hurt our own social or physical well-being rather than do any harm to our moral well-being.

God is made manifest in us when we put character first and foremost in our lives. The Beatitudes spell this out as much as Micah 6 and Psalm 15. We are blessed for being people of good character, not for all the other things others may aspire toward. It is clear in these blessings that being a person of ethical integrity and spiritual purity is to be preferred over all of the other collective benefits that this world has to offer.

Is this what we practice in our daily lives? Does our faith change the way we live in this world? Does it make us different from those who would rather do whatever it takes to get ahead or to win? Would we feel blessed if justice, kindness, and being humble were our priorities? Would we feel blessed if being good and doing the right thing resulted in criticism, disdain, hatred, and persecution from others? Do we look to the consequences, or to the purity of our souls? How do we feel most blessed?"

— Rev. Bret S. Myers, 1/29/2014

The Rev. Bret S. Myers, Interim Pastor
Deborah Healey, Church Office Administrator
David Williams, Director of Music
Ashley Paine, Organist/Accompanist
Gale Adams-Davis, Co-Director of Faith Formation
Julie Kelsey, Co-Director of Faith Formation
Larry Spencer, Church Treasurer
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Liturgist, Megan Magrath

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Please make an appointment with Rev. Myers if you would like to meet with the pastor.

You may call the church office at 603-536-2626,

email him at revbmyers@yahoo.com, or call/text his cell at 608-370-9472.

*Bret's office hours are Sunday 10:45 AM – 12:00 PM, Tuesday 1:00-7:00 PM,
Wednesday 1:00 – 8:00 PM, Thursday 2:00-5:00 PM and other hours by appointment.*

Meet and Greet: The Clarinet Family

Come and enjoy the rich sounds of various members of the clarinet family, ranging from the Contra Bass to the little piccolo clarinet, on Sunday, February 9, 2020, at 3:00 pm at the Plymouth United Church of Christ, the "Church on the Common". Listen to pieces by Brahms, Finzi, Reade, Mazart, Grieg, and Vaughn-Williams.



Rehearsing for this concert, is Allan DiBiase, piano, Ronald Martens, Jaelyn Chaffee, clarinet majors from Plymouth State University, Sally Jensen, Clarinet, and Kari Jukka-Pekka (JP) Vainio, cello.