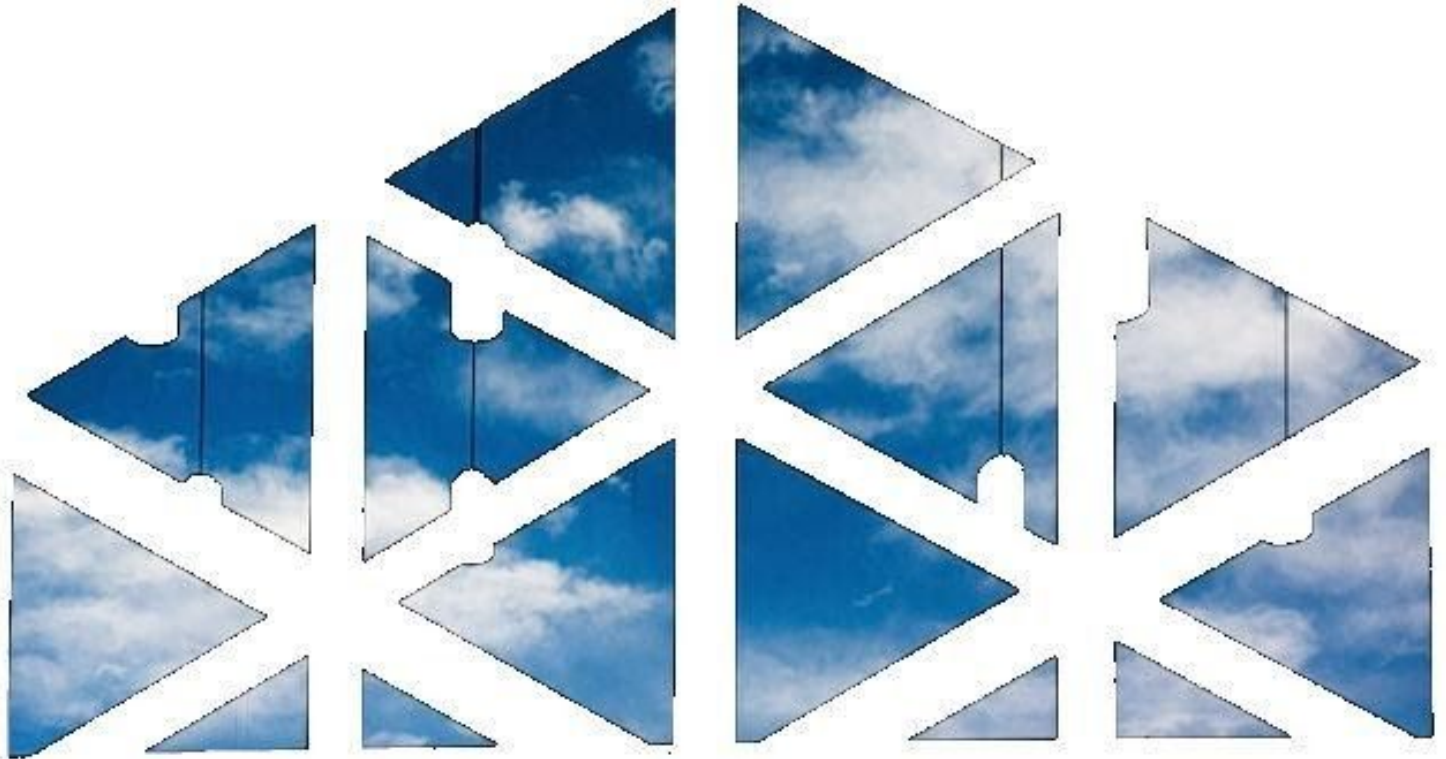


Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

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.

GATHERING

Welcome

Prelude

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

Call to Worship

One: When all seems lost, Lord, and we are afraid to begin again,

All: Forgive us, we pray, and inspire our hearts with hope.

One: When all our problems seem insurmountable,

All: Give us courage to carry on our daily living in faith.

One: When we think only of self and seek only our own good, without concern for others,

All: Help us to see that our strength is in our unity, and that only in working together in your name can we hope to see your reign of peace among us.

Hymn

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Blk#25

Verse 1

**O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.**

Prayer of the Day

One: We are fearful in these moments, and so lose faith; we wonder what tomorrow will bring, and so lose our trust in God; we see and hear and sometimes share in hurtful deeds and angry words, and so lose our humanity. So, let us trust again in God's goodness and grace as we pray together, saying,

All: We are scared, God of our lives. There, we have admitted it. Our days are spent in isolation, even when we are with family. We wonder if you are with us as worry rolls over our hearts. Yet, the good news is that you are indeed with us, God of our days.

Yet, the good news is that you cradle us in your peace, Spirit of Gentleness: rocking us to sleep on troubled nights; opening our eyes to the grace of each morning; filling us with the love and hope we can share with everyone around us.

Yet, the good news is still good news, and so may we trust, believe, hope, and live as your people. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: Can our hope live? Put your hope in God, dear friends, for God offers us that love which never fades, that life which is joy and peace.

All: We wait for God, and God does not fail us. God's hope, God's love, and God's grace are forever. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response

"Give Me a Clean Heart"

Blk#188

**"Give me a clean heart so I may serve you.
God, fix my heart so that I may serve you.
For I am not worthy of all the blessings.
Give me a clean heart and I'll follow you."**

Children's Story

HEARING THE WORD

Hebrew Lesson

Genesis 3:1-13

One: Here ends our morning readings. May God grant us strength and courage to live our faith boldly.

All: Amen.

Message

"Who Is Responsible?"

Hymn

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"
Verse 1

Blk#292

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

You will be invited to offer your prayer aloud or in the silence of your heart.

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.**

SENDING

Hymn

"Forward through the Ages"

Blk#377

Verse 1

**Forward through the ages,
In unbroken line,
Move the faithful spirits
At the call divine.
Gifts in diff'ring measure,
Hearts of one accord,
Manifold the service,
One the sure reward;**

Refrain:

**Forward through the ages,
In unbroken line,
Move the faithful spirits
At the call divine.**

Benediction

Postlude

Keeping in Prayer

Dick Brace
Sheri Stanley
Mary
John Smathers

Jesse Armstrong
Barbara
P.V. George
Patti Dyszinsky
Family of Bob Rines

Cassie & Kevin
Vickie Flener
June Thomas
Wendy & Steven Colby

Prayers for Our Nation and for the World!

Bob Feeny as he explores his Call to ordained ministry.
Sam Lovett, Member-in-discernment in the Merrimack Association

Announcement

Our **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering information is included in Constant Contact. One of the important ways our offering reaches people is to bring relief to those affected by disasters, especially the pandemic this year that pretty much is affecting people everywhere. Please give generously. The offering was scheduled for Palm Sunday, but can be sent to PCUCC any time before then. Please mark OGHS on the memo line.

Our church is closed to all events until further announcement.
The Worship Services will be live-streamed on our Facebook page.
Please check for Constant Contact and the Facebook page for information
about upcoming Worship Services.

Pastor's Office Hours

During this time of "social distancing" and working remotely,
Pastor Mike will be at the church periodically.
Please feel free to contact him by email at pastor@uccplymouth.org,
or his cell phone at 603-960-0196.

The Rev. Michael Carrier, Bridge Pastor	pastor@uccplymouth.org
Deborah Healey, Office Administrator	office@uccplymouth.org
David Williams, Director of Music	musicdirector@uccplymouth.org Ashley
Paine, Organist/Pianist	organist@uccplymouth.org
Gale Adams-Davis, Co-Director of Faith Formation	windygla2@yahoo.com
Julie Kelsey, Co-Director of Faith Formation	faithformation@uccplymouth.org
Larry Spencer, Treasurer	treasurer@uccplymouth.org
Celia Woolverton, Grace Counseling	gracecounseling@uccplymouth.org

Guest Pastor, Rev. Al Mather
Liturgist, Bill Heron

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