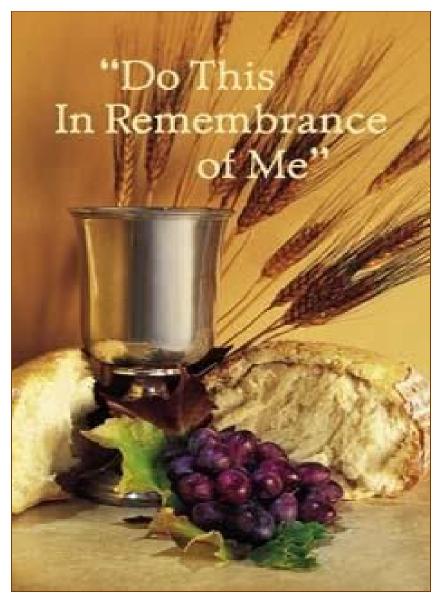
Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ Maundy Thursday

April 9, 2020 7:00 p.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

Tempo di Marcia" from St. Cecilia J. Benedict The beginning of the prelude is an invitation to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God.

Call to Worship

One: In the growing darkness we gather.

All: Our Lenten journey has brought us to this night. Jesus, our Teacher and Lord, sets before us the symbols of ministry: a towel, and a bowl; the gifts of life: bread and cup.

One: He gives us an example and a commandment ever-new: **All: That we should love one another as he has loved us.**

One: This is how everyone will know we are his disciples,

All: When we love one another.

Hymn

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" Blk#498

Verse 1

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you. 1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet, Jesu, you acted as servant to them. [Refrain]

Gathering Prayer

One: It was a night of hope as they gathered so long ago. Like them we gather to draw near to one another and God, as we pray together:

All: God of love, we give you thanks for this night Jesus shared with his disciples. Between the public parade and the public charade of his trial is this intimate hour. Though even now we do not fully understand, we long to follow his example: to serve as he served, to love as he loved. Help us to know and do all that Jesus taught that

we might be a blessing. Guard us in this hour that we may not fall asleep or betray the one we love. Keep us ever faithful. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: On this holiest of nights, we have received the good news: God has come in Christ Jesus, to fill us with hope and peace, to bathe us in grace and mercy.

All: In remembrance, we are called: to bring hope where despair resides; to be servants to those who are broken; to love as selflessly as we are loved by Jesus Christ.

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."

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Lessons

Hebrew Lesson Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 Gospel Lesson Luke 22:14-16

One:

Here end the readings from our tradition. May God grant us wisdom and courage to live our faith boldly.

Message "Longing"

Hymn "Where Charity and Love Prevail" Blk#396

Verse 1

Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; Brought here together by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

One: This is the night of love. And this is the table of love. At this table, Christ, who loves us, is with us.

All: He is with us, and we are his. We belong to God. We are his with all our fears, all our grumbling, all our hesitations, all our loves, all our joys, and all our passions. We are his!

Offering our Prayers of Gratitude

Breaking of the Bread and the Pouring of the Cup

Sharing of the Bread & the Cup

Closing Prayer

All: Thank you, God, for uniting us with Jesus in this holy mystery. We are no longer our own, but yours. So send us, and put us to leading and serving, loving as you have loved us

wherever we go. For we offer prayer this with grateful hearts, saying:

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.

ENDING

Pastor: After the meal, Jesus and his disciples sang a hymn before they

went out to the Mount of Olives. (Mark 14:26)

Hymn

"Journey to Gethsemane" Verse 1

Blk#219

Journey to Gethsemane
Go and feel the tempter's power
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
Watch the anguish of this hour;
Do not hide or turn away:
Learn from Jesus how to pray.

Benediction

Pastor: This is the night of love,

People: Calling us to go into the world in the strength of this

feast, in the care of this community, and with the

love and blessing of our God. Amen.

Postlude Sostenuto e legato J. Benedict

Keeping in Prayer

Dick Brace Jesse Armstrong Cassie & Kevin
Sheri Stanley Barbara Vickie Flener
Mary P.V. George June Thomas
Smathers Patti Dyszinsky Wendy & Steven Colby
Family of Bob Rines Stephanie Herr Elaine Boniface

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

PREPARE COMMUNION BEFORE WORSHIP

Before the time of the service you will want to prepare some bread, a slice or a small loaf of any kind of bread. In some parts of the world tortilla, rice cake, cassava are used as this element which is defined not as a wheat product but as the most common food of the people. Let it be something you alone or you with others in your house may break and share. Prepare a cup or cups of juice — perhaps grape or cranberry — or wine, with or without alcohol.

Set these elements in the living room or kitchen where you experience worship electronically with our faith community. Perhaps you want to put them on a lovely cloth or fabric that reminds you of a special time or a person deeply connected with you in the communion of saints. Perhaps you will light a candle or place a flower or plant or the photograph of someone you wish to bring into the circle of faith beside the bread and the cup. Thank you for your preparation.

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. Please send your offering to Plymouth Congregational UCC, P.O. Box 86, Plymouth, NH 03264 and write OGHS on the memo line. Thank you for your support!

HOPE Fund - The need for assistance through our HOPE Fund will increase as families at risk need assistance paying for rent, heating, electricity and medications.

Please in Lieu of Easter Flowers, consider giving to the Hope Fund to assist our neighbors in the Plymouth area. Please make your check to PCUCC and write HOPE Fund in the memo. Send to Plymouth Congregational UCC, P.O. Box 86, Plymouth, NH 03264. Thank you!

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, 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

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ 4 Post Office Square, P.O. Box 86 Plymouth, NH 03264 (603) 536-2626 ~ office@uccplymouth.org ~ www.uccplymouth.org