

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Easter Sunday

April 12, 2020

9:30 a.m.



A Just Peace Church
An Open and Affirming Congregation
A God is Still Speaking Congregation 9

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

GATHERING

Welcome

Prelude

Rise, Heart, thy Lord is Risen" Ralph Vaughn Williams
*The beginning of the prelude is an invitation to silent,
personal preparation for the worship of God.*

Call to Worship

One: The tomb is empty!

ALL: Christ is risen!

One: The soldiers have returned home.

All: Christ is risen!

The anger of the crowds is gone.

All: Christ is risen!

The time of grieving has ended.

All: Christ is risen!

One: Violence, fear, and death have disappeared!

All: Christ is risen!

One: People of God, a new day is dawning!

All: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

Hymn

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

Blk#233

Verse 1

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!**

Prayer of the Day

One: All around us are signs of God's care and creativity that bless and nurture us. Let us with joyful hearts pray together, saying,

All: God of all ages and of all people, the shadows and gloom of Good Friday have been dispersed by the light and color of this Easter Day. We rejoice in your power that turns our sorrow into joy, our despair into hope, our defeat into victory, and evil into goodness. Help us on this day, O God, to burst out of the tombs that have entrapped us: tombs of selfishness and

sinfulness, greed and gluttony, scandal and corruption, pride and prejudice. Let now a new life of divine grace and human love burst forth from each of us, through the power of Jesus Christ, the Risen One. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: Where the light of Easter Day shines through our lives, then faith can say,

**All: Christ is living,
Christ is moving,
Christ is healing all the world.
Here is God's good kingdom!**

Response

"I Greet You, Sure Redeemer"

Blk#251

Verse 4

**You have the true and perfect gentleness,
no harshness have you and no bitterness;
Grant us the grace that flows in you so free
that we may dwell in perfect unity.**

Children's Message

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Matthew 28:1-10

Acts 10:34-43

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

All: Amen.

Message

"It Is Finished' Doesn't Mean It's Over"

Special Music

Come, Ye Faithful"

R.S. Thatcher
Steven Small

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

"The Day of Resurrection"

Blk#245

Verse 3

**Now let the heavens be joyful,
let earth its song begin,
the whole world keep high triumph,
and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ again has risen,
our joy that has no end.**

Benediction

Pastor: These days we're learning not to look for the risen Jesus in a church building.

All: We will seek the risen Jesus within our homes and neighborhoods, in our Zoom meetings and school lessons, in the meals we deliver and the shopping we do for a friend.

Pastor: We're learning to move beyond the comfort of the familiar and risk the unfamiliar.

All: We know resurrection makes all things new! Because Jesus lives, new possibilities are ever before us!

Postlude

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Gail Smith

A "Special Thank You" to our soloist, Steven Small.

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

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 mark 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. Make your check out to PCUCC and write HOPE Fund in the memo. Send to Plymouth Congregational UCC, P.O. Box 86, Plymouth, NH 03264.

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

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Deborah Healey, Office Administrator

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Celia Woolverton, Grace Counseling

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Soloist, Steven Small

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