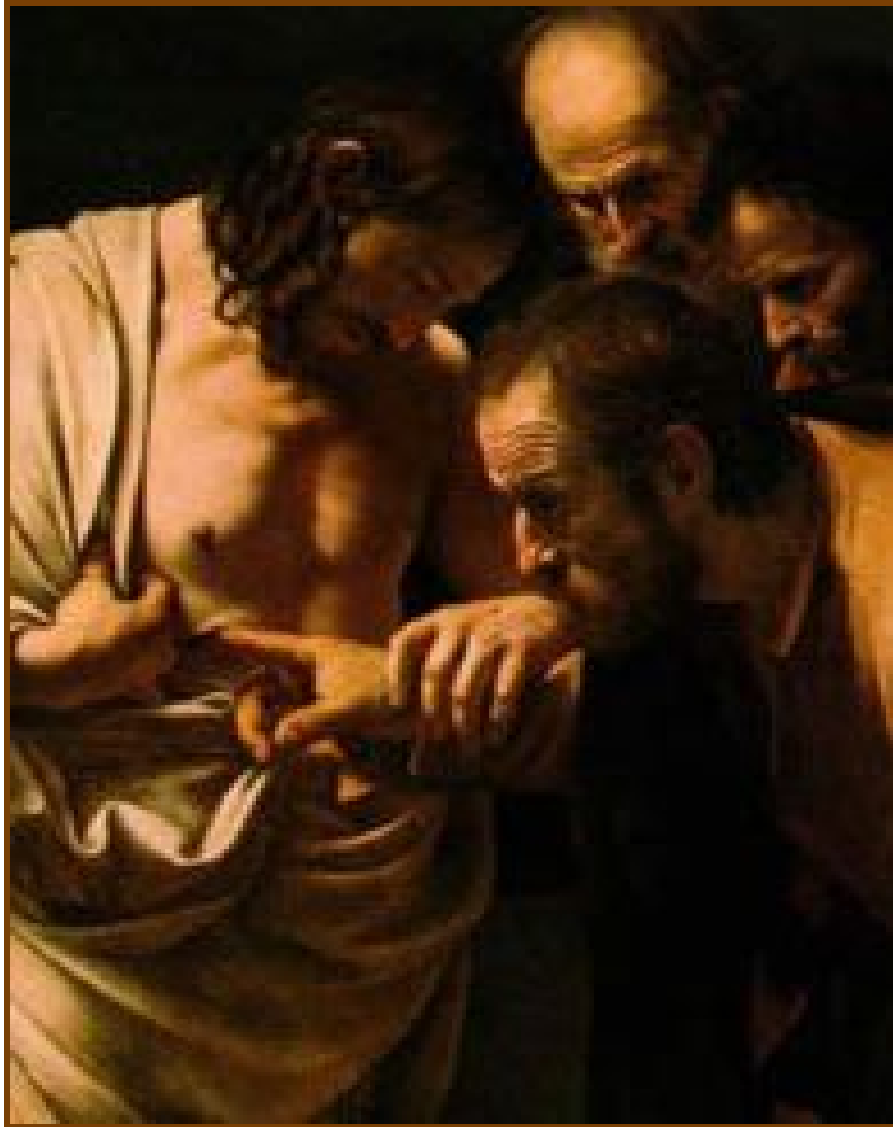


Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 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

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

Call to Worship

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: The whole creation rejoices; the birds sing from every tree.

One: Alleluia! Christ is in our midst!

**All: The laughter of children echoes our joy; words cannot express
our overflowing hearts.**

One: Alleluia! Christ is our light forever!

**All: Breathing peace on us in these moments; surrounding us with
grace and hope.**

Hymn

"Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"

Blk#230

Verse 1

**Come, you faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness;
God has brought all Israel
into joy from sadness;
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters;
Led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.**

Verse 2

**Spring has dawned on earth today;
Christ has burst from prison,
And from three days' sleep in death
as the sun has risen;
All the winter of our sins,
long and gray, is flying
From the Light, to whom we give
laud and praise undying.**

Prayer of the Day

One: Redeeming God, with you there is always more life, more hope, more joy. Hear your people as we pray together, saying:

All: When doubt assails us, and we fail to recognize you at work in our lives, Lord, grant us renewed faith in you. When fear impairs our faith, and our eyes and ears and hearts do not know you, Christ, our brother, steady our hearts. When anger and sorrow stop us from doing the risky work of love, let your compassion strengthen our resolve to be your channels of justice and peace. For we ask these things in the name of the One who breaks boundaries in pursuit of the lost. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: Within every kernel of doubt, there is a spark of life and hope. In those times when our faith falters, when we cannot recognize the presence of the Holy among us, God takes our faith and transforms it, patiently showing us the many ways Christ walks among us.

All: As we look around us, we see that grace abounds at the heart of all of life: as close as our own beating heart, and in the eyes of our nearest neighbor. We are all God's children, loved without condition.

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 Reading John 20:19-31

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

All: Amen.

Message

"From Huddled and Hidden
To Commissioned and Sent"

Hymn

"We Live by Faith and Not by Sight"

Blk#256

Verse 2

**We may not touch Christ's hands and side,
nor follow where Christ trod;
but in confessing we rejoice:
our Savior and our God!**

Verse 3

**Help then, O Christ, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
To call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found**

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

"Thine Is the Glory"

Red#193

Verse 2

**Lo! Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom.
Let his church with gladness
Hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting.
Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.**

Verse 3

**No more we doubt thee,
Glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee;
Aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors,
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above.
Thine be the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.**

Benediction

Postlude

Keeping in Prayer

Dick Brace
Sheri Stanley
Mary
Smathers
Family of Bob Rines

Jesse Armstrong
Barbara
P.V. George
Patti Dyszinsky
Stephanie Herr

Cassie & Kevin
Vickie Flener
June Thomas
Wendy & Steven Colby
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

*If you have a prayer request you'd like Pastor Mike to include in Sunday worship,
please email him at pastor@uccplymouth.org.*

Announcement

Building and Grounds - Many thanks to Dale Mosher for his tremendous work on the stairs at the church office entrance to the church. It looks fabulous! Please check out the photo on our Facebook page or newsletter.

Finance Committee - CHOOSE OUR CHURCH as your favorite charity on AMAZON SMILE and support our ministries and mission.

Yes, HANNAFORD prepaid grocery cards are available during this "stay-at-home" time of practicing safe distancing. Denominations of \$100, \$250 and \$500 are available.

Finance orders cards regularly. Please let Linda or Larry know via phone or email what you would like to purchase. We'll let you know when to mail your check to the church.

If you shop at HANNAFORD for your essentials, please purchase a prepaid card. The church receives 5% of each card purchased. Thank you for your continued support!

Stewardship Team - It's stewardship time and this year, we are asking for \$200,000 in pledges to support the mission and ministry of our congregation. Your contributions are invaluable to the life of this church.

We are very much aware that we're going through a period of economic uncertainty that could make pledging challenging, to say the least. In the face of this turbulent time, we ask you to prayerfully consider what you feel you can give to support the life and work of PCUCC. Once we are through this crisis and the future looks clearer, you can always adjust your pledge.

You should be receiving our annual pledge request in the next few days. Please return your pledge with the pledge card by regular mail or e-mail to the Treasurer at: treasurer@uccplymouth.org by May 7, 2020. We will dedicate and bless all our gifts on Stewardship Sunday, May 10th. Thank you, PCUCC Finance Stewardship Team

Zoom Fellowship Gatherings - As one way of trying to keep us all connected during this time of "being apart," the Church Staff is in the process of organizing a series of Fellowship Gatherings utilizing the Zoom platform. In the near future, you will be receiving an email which contains an invitation to join in on a particular Fellowship Gathering. If you would like to participate, all you have to do is click on the link and you will be brought into the "room" with your fellow members and friends at PCUCC.

If you have not yet made use of this video conferencing technology, all you need to do beforehand is go to www.zoom.us and download the app to your computer, iPad or phone.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Pastor Mike at 603-960-0196.

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 consider giving to the HOPE Fund. You can send your check to PCUCC and write HOPE Fund in the memo. Send to Plymouth Congregational UCC, P.O. Box 86, Plymouth, NH 03264.

A Message from Susan Wei... - If anyone is in need of a cloth face mask, please call Susan Wei at 968-7516. Susan will make and deliver masks.

Book Group - Wayne has requested another meeting on **Monday, April 20th**. You should receive an invitation. Please let me know. New folks should contact me to receive an invite to Zoom. The next meeting will be our second time discussing the *Outliers*.

The next fiction book of our list is *Boston Girl* by Anita Diamont. This book will be discussed on **May 4th & 18th**. Stay safe and stay well. Cheers, Peggy

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 "physical 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
Deborah Healey, Office Administrator
David Williams, Director of Music
Ashley Paine, Organist/Pianist
Gale Adams, Co-Director of Faith Formation
Julie Kelsey, Co-Director of Faith Formation
Larry Spencer, Treasurer
Celia Woolverton, Grace Counseling

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