

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

First Sunday after Pentecost

June 7, 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

"Whispering Hope"

Alice Hawthorne

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

Call to Worship

One: God, whose imagination saw all that is good, beautiful, and loving,

All: continues to see us as beloved children in the divine family.

One: The Word which called forth the stars in every universe,

All: speaks to us of giving ourselves to the work of building human community.

One: The Spirit, which moved over creation, breathing life into all things,

All: fills us with peace and patience, with hope and healing to share.

Hymn

"Praise to the Living God"

Blk#8

Verse 1

**Praise to the living God, the God of love and light,
Whose word brought forth the myriad suns
and set the worlds in flight;
Whose infinite design, which we but dimly see,
Pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.**

Verse 2

**Praise to the living God, from whom all things derive,
Whose Spirit formed upon this sphere the first faint seeds of life;
Who caused them to evolve, unwitting, towards God's goal,
Till humankind stood on the earth, as living, thinking souls.**

Gathering Prayer

One: As we gather together this morning via screens of various sizes, each of us brings our concerns, our preoccupations, our hopes, and our dreams. We may not yet be fully present as we rush to clean up from breakfast, wondering where our communion elements are or our Order of Worship. So, we pause to unite our hearts in prayer, saying:

All: Holy God, we were created in your image, an image of mutuality and respect for one another; an image of a dance ever moving, ever in tune one with others; an image of community with shared blessing and mission. We know we have fallen short of your intention for the human family. We are broken in so many ways. This day, may your healing love flow freely among and within us, recreating us to reflect your image revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: By God's grace, our chaotic choices become creative grace for others; our foolishness can be transformed by God's goodness; our lives can become new by the Spirit of our God.

All: The good news is as true as it was on creation's first morning: Creator God is the redeeming Word who is the Breath of life for all people, even us. Thanks be to God for forgiveness and grace in our lives. Amen.

Response

"Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove"

Blk#281

Verse 3

**Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove,
with all your quickening powers;
Come, shed on us the Savior's love,
that it may kindle ours.**

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Genesis 1:26-31

2 Corinthians 13:5-11

One: Here end the readings from our tradition. May God grant us wisdom and courage to live our faith with the fiery passion of Pentecost.

Message

"Grace, Love, and Community"

Hymn

"Creator God, Creating Still"

Blk #278

Verse 1

**Creator God, creating still
By will and word and deed,
Create a new humanity
To meet the present need.**

Verse 4

**Great Triune God, for this new day,
We need your presence still.
Create, redeem, sustain us now
To do your work and will.**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Offertory

"Communion Hymn"

David M. Kellermeyer

We invite you to remember your support for the ministry of PCUCC.

Offertory Prayer

All: Holy one, your heart abounds with gifts. May all our giving be a sign of our trust in you and our intention to live surrounded by your mercy, inspired by your Spirit, open to the joy of your presence, hospitable to one another, and generous toward your world. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

One: We are invited by Christ to receive the fullness of faith at a feast prepared for all of God's people. Open your hearts and minds to the possibilities which this Table presents: of a world at one and in peace, of a people reconciled and loved, of lives made new and grounded in the hope of Christ's resurrection.

All: Everyone is welcome to be here. In this way, we lift up a world of inclusion, where all people live with respect and dignity.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

You will be invited to offer your silent prayers for others.

Breaking of the Bread and the Pouring of the Cup

Sharing of the Bread & the Cup

Closing Prayer

All: For the beauty of creation, the gift of life and your presence with each of us, even though we are physically distanced, we give you thanks. Let this Table be an inspiration for us. Work

through us so that we might be channels of your mission in the world, to build your community on earth as we pray together the prayer Jesus taught us, saying:

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

"Praise to the Living God"

Blk#8

Verse 3

**Praise to the living God, who knows our joy and pain,
Who shares with us our common life, the sacred and profane.
God toils where'er we toil, in home and mart and mill;
And deep within the human heart God leads us forward still.**

Verse 4

**Praise to the living God, around, within, above,
Beyond the grasp of human mind, but whom we know as love.
In these tumultuous days, so full of hope and strife,
May we bear witness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.**

Words of Blessing

Pastor: Called and filled with the very breath of peace, we are sent forth by the Spirit, God's grace.

All: We will join the Spirit in bringing life where there is fear, in offering love where hate seeks to take hold. Amen.

Postlude

The Postlude ends our gathered worship and sends us into the world where our true service begins.

Keeping in Prayer

Dick Brace	Jesse Armstrong	Cassie & Kevin
Sheri Stanley	Barbara	Vickie Flener
Mary	P.V. George	June Thomas
John Smathers	Patti Dyszinsky	Maroni Family
Elaine Boniface		Annie Rice

Rob Stewart's Sister-in-law's Family

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.*

PREPARE COMMUNION BEFORE WORSHIP

Today's worship service will include the celebration of the Lord's Supper. We encourage you to participate in the sacrament and to prepare bread and cup before the service begins. Here is a suggested preparation.

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 or 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, place a flower/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.

Upcoming Congregational Events

During this time when we are continuing to "physical distance" in order to keep everyone safe and well, we will come together for two upcoming events via Zoom. Below are the details.

Zoom Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour! On **today, Sunday, June 7th**, we will have a **Zoom Coffee Hour at 10:30 AM** following the morning Worship Service on Facebook live.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The **Annual Congregational Meeting** is scheduled for **Sunday, June 14th, at 10:30 AM** following the morning Worship Service on Facebook live.

An email containing a Zoom invitation will be forwarded to everyone from the church office.

This Week and More at PCUCC

Today - Worship, Facebook Live 9:30 AM

Today - Zoom Coffee Hour 10:30 AM

Monday - Staff Meeting 3:00 PM

Wednesday - Search Committee 7:00 PM

Wednesday - Midweek Devotional, Facebook Live 12:00 PM

Sunday, June 14th - Zoom Annual Meeting 10:30 AM

Announcement

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!

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.

Book Group - On Monday, June 15th, we will discuss *The Girl with Seven Names*. It is a North Korean Defector's story by Hyeonseo Lee. This will be the final book of our season. Cheers, Peggy Martin

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	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

Carol Stewart, Soloist and Liturgist

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