

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
Third Sunday after Pentecost

June 21, 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

"Sicilienne"

G. Faure

arr. by Louis Hollingsworth

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

Call to Worship

One: Troubled prophets and struggling families, you listen to our voices, whoever we are.

All: There is no one like you, God of the listening heart.

One: Those who live in fear, and those who look for signs, you fill us with hope and surprises.

All: There is no one like you, God of steadfast love.

One: Seekers of power, as well as those who serve the vulnerable, you challenge us to use our gifts for others.

All: There is no one like you, God of all people.

Hymn

"Rejoice, You Pure in Heart"

Blk#55

Verse 1

Rejoice, you pure in heart;

Lift praises to the sky;

Your festal banner wave with joy,

The cross of Christ raise high!

Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice, give thanks and sing

Verse 2

Bright youth and seasoned age,

Strong souls and spirits meek,

Raise high your free, exulting song,

God's wondrous praises speak.

Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice, give thanks and sing

Gathering Prayer

One: God is always surprising us, leading us into new experiences, opening us to God's presence among us and within us. May we sense God's glory in the sights and sounds of this summer day as we join our voices in praying together, saying:

All: O God, how we need both light and enlightenment! Though we do not live in darkness physically, spiritually we experience disorientation amid competing values – confusion in the face of tough decisions, discouragement by the failure of initiatives of compassion, and disillusionment in response to so much apathy and inactivity. In situations that feel like darkness, shine your light upon us, O God, so that we might know the warmth of your love, the wisdom of your counsel, and the strength that grows to sustain our journey as a faithful community, joyfully following in the Way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: God's grace enables us to keep moving forward in faith. We trust this powerful truth: that Jesus came not to condemn the world, but to save it and offer abundant life to all.

All: We rejoice and give thanks for this love which keeps bringing light into our darkness, hope into our despair, and joy to all of life.

Response

"Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

Blk#63

Verse 2

**Holy Spirit, love divine, glow within this heart of mine.
Kindle every high desire, purify me with your fire.**

Children's Message

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Genesis 21:8-21 Matthew 10:24-39

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

All: Amen.

Message

"Sparrows and Swords"

Hymn

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"

Blk#23

Verse 1

**There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice,**

**which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earthly sorrows
are more felt than than in God's heaven;
there's no place where earthly failings
have such kindly judgment given.**

Verse 2

**For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our minds;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives would show thanksgiving
for the goodness of our God.**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

You will be invited to offer your personal prayers from 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.**

Offertory

"Honor and Praise to Him"

Ignace Leybach

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

Offertory Prayer

**All: Holy One, your heart abounds with gifts. May what we give 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. Amen.

SENDING

Hymn

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

Blk#400

Verse 1

**Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of our Go, and precious,
binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help for ever,
and our confidence alone.**

Verse 3

**Here renew your servants' vision,
that by faith they may attain
peace and hope, renewed compassion,
strength to comfort those in pain,
Tears and grief transformed to gladness
in your everlasting reign.**

Benediction

Postlude

"Shepherd's Dance"

Edward German

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.*

This Week and More at PCUCC

Today - Worship, Facebook Live 9:30 AM

Tuesday - Staff Meeting 8:30 AM

Wednesday - Midweek Devotional, Facebook Live 12:00 PM

Thursday - Search Committee

Announcement

Stewardship Team - Our 2020-21 pledge goal is \$200,000. As of this week, we have received 54 pledges totaling \$170,660. Thank you to all who have pledged in the support of the church missions and ministries. If you haven't pledged and are able to do so, please prayerfully consider sending your pledge by emailing a note to the Treasurer at treasurer@uccplymouth.org or mailing your pledge card to the church office, Attention Treasurer. Thank you, PCUCC Finance Stewardship Team

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.

Email Scam Alert - Several congregational members and staff have received emails stating they are from Rev. Mike Carrier. The email requests money to purchase gift cards and/or is asking people to be discreet regarding "Mike" contacting them.

Please be aware that this is an email scam which is using Rev. Mike's identity. Rev. Mike's PCUCC email address is pastor@uccplymouth.org. This is the address he uses for church business.

Grace Counseling - The email address for Celia Woolverton at Grace Counseling has changed. Celia's new address is clwlcsw@gmail.com. Please begin using this immediately.

Dear Friends,

As you may have heard, last fall I began a series of discussions with the New Hampshire Music Festival to offer our church for their Tuesday evening chamber music concerts. What has come out of those discussions is an amazing, mutually supportive partnership between NHMF and PCUCC. Unfortunately, the pandemic that has caused all of us to rethink how we navigate through our daily lives has caused the 2020 Festival to be canceled – but not completely.

Beginning June 30th at 7pm and continuing through the four Tuesdays in July (7, 14, 21 & 28), we will be live-streaming the chamber concerts from our sanctuary. The ensembles will be *very* small, and we will ensure that all distancing and sanitizing measures are in place. A professional company will be filming and live-streaming these concerts to ensure the highest level of production quality. Sadly, we cannot have you in the space with us, but we certainly look forward to being with you in your home and sharing this wonderful music with you. To access the link to each concert and the concert program, go to the NHMF website: www.NHMF.org.

When we were planning last fall, I suggested that each recital begin with a 30 minute organ prelude concert to show off the incredible instrument we have. NHMF jumped at that idea, and we will continue that plan in these live-streamed concerts. Our organists are Laura Belanger, Kristjon Imperio, Kyle Bertulli, Bruce Adami and Brian Jones. Each has chosen a thrilling program, and I know our magnificent Austin organ will truly shine.

There are many more exciting things to come from this partnership, and I can't begin to thank Lucinda Williams, Executive Director of NHMF, enough for this opportunity and for her friendship. It has been a great joy to work with her, and I look forward to many years spent building on this partnership, so stay tuned and we will share those plans in the coming months.

All best wishes,
David Williams, Music Director
Plymouth Congregational UCC

New Hampshire Music Festival + Plymouth Congregational Church present **From The Heart**, Virtual Chamber Concerts



TUESDAY, June 30 7PM @ nhmf.org	TUESDAY, July 7 7PM @ nhmf.org	TUESDAY, July 14 7PM @ nhmf.org	TUESDAY, July 21 7PM @ nhmf.org	TUESDAY, July 28 7PM @ nhmf.org
Brahms Bernstein Schumann Kreisler Strauss Nicholas Pappone <i>violin</i> Candace Chien <i>piano</i> Laura Belanger <i>organ</i>	Schumann Sasha Callahan <i>violin</i> Christopher Nunn <i>viola</i> Leo Eguchi <i>cello</i> Leslie Amper <i>Piano</i> Kristjon Imperio <i>organ</i>	Doppler Still Ewazen Valerie Watts <i>flute</i> Molly Norcross <i>horn</i> Leslie Amper <i>piano</i> Kyle Bertulli <i>organ</i>	Jacob, Aguila + Saint-Saëns Mary Kay Robinson <i>flute</i> Shawn Welk <i>oboe</i> Elizandro Garcia-Montoya <i>clarinet</i> Geroge Lopez <i>piano</i> Bruce Adami <i>organ</i>	Leclair, Glière + Colgrass Viktoria Tchertchian Lidija Peno-Kelly <i>violin</i> Christopher Nunn <i>viola</i> Richard Kelly <i>roto-toms</i> Bruce Adami <i>piano</i> Brian Jones <i>organ</i>

We are proud to have been recognized with a Readers Choice Silver Award and thank you for your votes and support.
Please stay safe and well. Enjoy these virtual concerts by visiting nhmf.org and clicking on the link on our homepage.

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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Bill Heron, Liturgist
Margot Swift, Special Musician

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