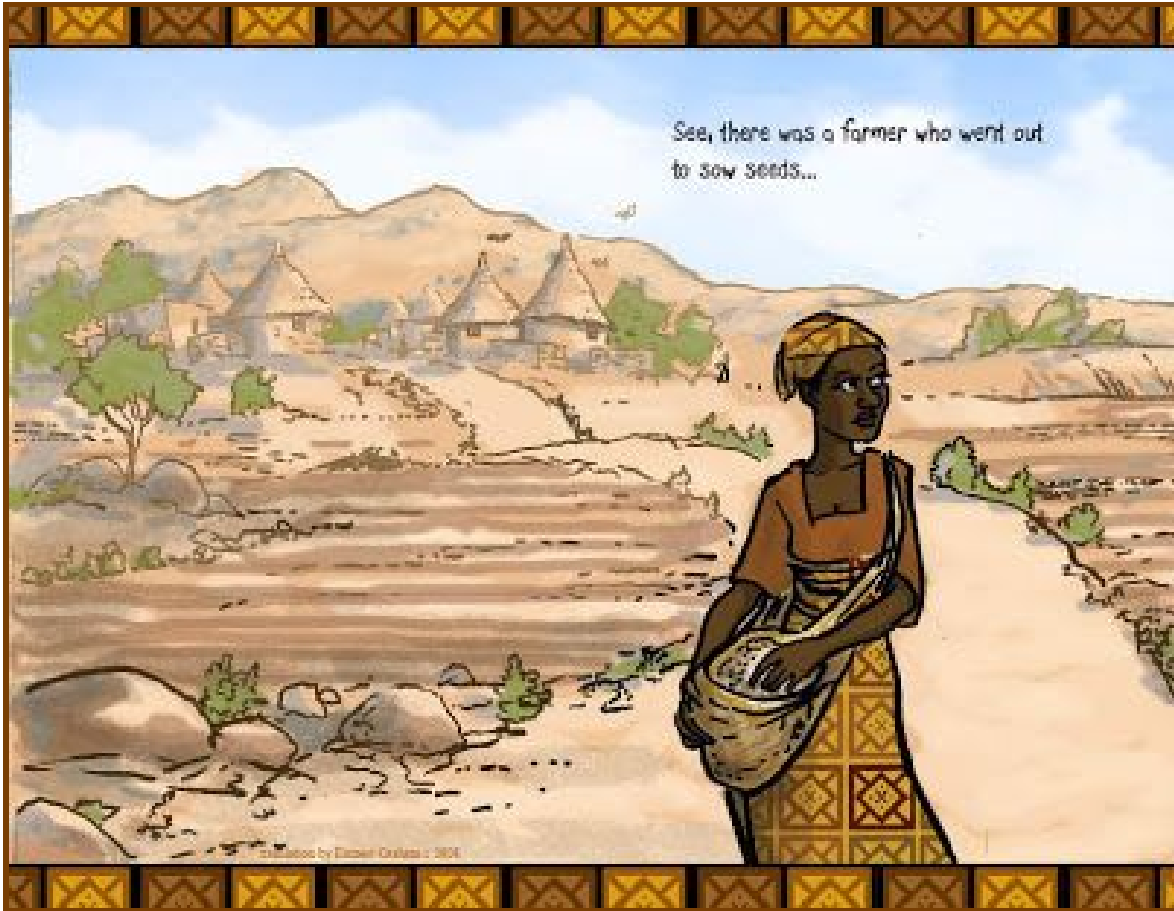


Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 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

"St. Anthony Chorale"

Brahms' Variations on a Theme by Haydn

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

Call to Worship

One: God scatters the seeds of reconciliation and love, and waits....

All: So much of it lands on flat pathways or rocky roads and won't take root....

One: God scatters the seeds of healing and hope, and waits....

All: Shallowness and fear claim the seeds and they cannot live.

One: God scatters the seeds of redemption and peace, and waits....

All: These are the places of deep growth where the seed will cast down strong roots.

One: Welcome to this day – a time to scatter broadly!

All: May our hearts be the rich soil in which God's love takes root.

Hymn

"Come Now, Almighty God"

Blk#275

Verse 1

**Come now, Almighty God,
help us your name to laud;
our songs we raise:
Ruler all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days!**

Verse 2

**Come now, Incarnate Word,
by heaven and earth adored;
our prayer attend;
Come, and your people bless,
and give your word success;
grant us your holiness,
Savior and Friend!**

Gathering Prayer

One: Jesus teaches in parables, telling stories in ways that draw us in and reveal God's will. As we are eager to hear God speaking in this time of worship, may our ears and hearts be open not only to understand but also to help us act for the good of all people. Listen, O Spirit of life, as we join our voices praying:

All: Your words do not return empty to you, Sower of grace. They take root deep within us, blossoming into gentleness which can comfort a broken heart, into compassion which can transform a cold shoulder into an embrace, into kindness which can make a curmudgeon break into laughter. You move into our lives, Comforting God, taking those fears which trip us in the night hours and putting them to rest at the dawn of a new day; gently watering the seeds planted in our souls until they grow into the fruit that brings your joy, your abundant life to all your children. Strengthen us in this hour to life fully for you each day in the coming week. For we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: It sounds so simple; we think it is too simple. But which is the burden you would choose: hate or love; anger or forgiveness; pain or peace? God invites us to receive the gifts which make it possible to live faithful lives.

All: This is the good news: God desires to take our burdens from us. We would let go of them and welcome hope, joy, and grace into our lives. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response

"Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

Blk#63

Verse 3

**Holy Spirit, power divine,
fill and nerve this will of mine.
Boldly may I always live,
bravely serve, and gladly give.**

Children's Message

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Isaiah 55:10-13 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

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 "Extravagant, Reckless, and Wasteful"

Hymn "Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast" Blk#318

Verse 1

**Almighty God, your word is cast
like seed into the ground;
Now let the dew of heaven descend
and righteous fruits abound.**

Verse 4

**So when the precious seed is sown,
your quickening grace bestow,
That all whose souls the truth receive
its saving power may know.**

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

"Materna"

Calvin Hampton

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

Offertory Prayer

All: May these gifts bring light to those who walk in darkness, hope to those who live in despair, and justice to those who are oppressed. Grant to each giver a sense of participation in the most important opportunity of all time: to share your love with the world. To this end we dedicate our offerings and ourselves. Amen.

SENDING

Hymn

"Lead On Eternal Sovereign"

Blk#573

Verse 1

**Lead on eternal Sovereign,
We follow in your way;
Loud rings your cry for justice,
Your call for peace this day:
Through prayerful preparation,
Your grace will make us strong,
To carry on the struggle
To triumph over wrong.**

Verse 2

**Lead on eternal Sovereign,
We follow not with fear,
For in each human conflict
Your words of strength we hear:
That when we serve with gladness,
You will not let us fall,
Our trust is in your promise
That love will conquer all.**

Benediction

Postlude

"Amazing Grace"

Arr. J. Schrader

Keeping in Prayer

Dick Brace Mary June Thomas
John Smathers Patti Dyszinsky Annie Rice
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

Monday - Search Committee 7:00 PM

Tuesday - Staff Meeting 8:30 AM

Virtual Chamber Concert 7:00 PM

Wednesday - Midweek Devotional, Facebook Live 12:00 PM

Tuesdays, July 21st & 28th - Virtual Chamber Concert 7:00 PM

Sunday, July 26th - Commissioning Service for Church Leaders

Announcements

Commissioning Service for Church Leaders - On Sunday, **July 26th**, we will hold a Commissioning Service for new and continuing leaders in our church via Zoom at 10:30 AM following the regular Worship Service on Facebook Live. The congregation will receive an email invitation to be a part of this service which will include the Zoom link and an Order of Worship. Links will also be provided in the church newsletter.

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. Please be sure to note in the check memo line if you want pledges received in July to be credited towards the 2019-20 fiscal year. If there is no notation, money received will be applied to the current 2020-21 fiscal year. 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.

Office Hours - The church office will be open on Wednesdays and Fridays between 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM: However, the church doors will continue to be locked. If you need to contact Debbie and/or would like to meet, please call the office at 536-2626. For the safety of everyone, a mask will need to be worn and will be provided. Please no drop-ins. Thank you.

A Message from Robbin Adams - We are looking for another person to be the tenth recipient of the NHSS array electricity. Also, we will be needing another ten people as of January, because people are only in for two years. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks, Robbin

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	clwlcsw@gmail.com

David Williams, Liturgist
Margot Swift, Pianist

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

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 at 7pm and continuing through the remaining Tuesdays in July (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

Brahms
Bernstein
Schumann
Kreisler
Strauss

Nicholas Pappone
violin

Candace Chien
piano

Laura Belanger
organ

**TUESDAY,
July 7**

7PM @ nhmf.org

Schumann

Sasha Callahan
violin

Christopher Nunn
viola

Leo Eguchi
cello

Leslie Amper
Piano

Kristjon Imperio
organ

**TUESDAY,
July 14**

7PM @ nhmf.org

Doppler
Still
Ewazen

Valerie Watts
flute

Molly Norcross
horn

Leslie Amper
piano

Kyle Bertulli
organ

**TUESDAY,
July 21**

7PM @ nhmf.org

Jacob, Aguila
+ Saint-Saëns

Mary Kay Robinson
flute

Shawn Welk
oboe

**Elizandro
Garcia-Montoya**
clarinet

Geroge Lopez
piano

Bruce Adami
organ

**TUESDAY,
July 28**

7PM @ nhmf.org

Leclair, Glière
+ Colgrass

Viktoria Tchertchian
Lidija Peno-Kelly
violin

Christopher Nunn
viola

Richard Kelly
roto-toms

Bruce Adami
piano

Brian Jones
organ

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.