Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 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 "Melody" Frank Schubert

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

Call to Worship

One: Here, in this place, God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

All: here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

One: Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

All: here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!

One: Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown:

All: here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to ride out the storms of life together.

Hymn

"God, Composer and Conductor" Jocelyn Marshall
Tune: Regent Square

Verse 1

God, composer and conductor of earth's matchless symphony, makes from silence glorious music, from discordance, harmony; brings forth joy from deepest sorrow, ecstasy from agony.

Verse 2

God, the architect and artist of earth's colours, textures, forms, gives new wonder to our vision, light in even darkest storms, teaches that with understanding, faith redeems and love reforms.

Gathering Prayer

One: In truth, we are more adept at making waves than calming storms. Our lives are such a whirlwind of activity, that we do not notice God's presence or hear the sounds of shalom carried on the wind. In this time together let us gratefully watch and listen as we pray with one heart and voice:

All: Lord of wind and waves, creation and creatures, your power is at work everywhere, stilling the storms, offering peace, lifting us up from the depths of our greatest fears. You come to us to strengthen our faith, to reveal your will and Way to us. Help us to keep our eyes focused on you amid all the distractions that seek to derail us from loving and caring for our neighbors. By your Spirit reform us into a faithful people called to be a blessing to your children everywhere. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: The First Letter of Peter calls us to have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart and a humble mind. "Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing."

All: God's mercy and grace continually transform our lives to make us a blessing to others. Thanks be to God for this Good News! Amen.

Response

"Spirit of the Living God" Verse 1

Blk#283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me

Children's Message

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Matthew 14:22-33 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 "Imagine"

Hymn "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

Blk#412

Verse 1

God moves in a mysterious way great wonders to perform;
God plants firm footsteps in the sea and rides upon the storm.

Verse 3

O fearful saints, fresh courage take, the clouds you so much dread Are big with mercy and shall break in blessings on your head.

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.

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

Offertory Prayer

All: O God, we are grateful that you come to us when we need you most. In gratitude we now offer ourselves in moments when you need us most: to lend a hand, support a good cause, rescue a struggling life, reach out to a soul in trouble. Strengthen us for the trials and tempests, the challenges and blessings that come our way. Amen.

SENDING

Hymn "Born of God, Eternal Savior" Blk#542

Born of God, Eternal Savior, source of life, of truth and grace, Human One, whose birth incarnate hallows all our human race, Come again, in all your glory; Come to us, inspire and lead; Fill us with your loving kindness; Heal our wrongs, and help our need.

Verse 1

Verse 4

See the Christ-like host advancing,
High and lowly, great and small,
Linked in bonds of common service,
Answering the Savior's call.

Jesus Christ, we hear your pleading
That your people should be one.
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition;
Here on earth, your will be done.

Benediction

Postlude "Praise to the Almighty" Joachim Neander

Keeping in Prayer

Dick Brace Patti Dyszinsky Annie Rice
Our prayers and sympathy to the family of Joe Oustecky
In loving memory and sympathy to the family of Archie Messenger
Our prayers and sympathy to the family of Charles Durgin
Prayers for Our Nation and for the World!

Bob Feeny as he prepares for his ordination

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
ZOOM Horton Center Summer Sunday 11:30 AM
Monday - Building & Grounds Meeting 9:00 AM
Search Committee 7:00 PM
Tuesday - Staff Meeting 9:30 AM
Wednesday - Midweek Devotional, Facebook Live 12:00 PM
Sunday, August 16th - Ordination of Robert Feeny 3:00 PM

Announcements

Faith Formation

This Sunday, **August 9th**, is Horton Center Summer Sunday!
The Horton Center had a great online summer camp program this year in lieu of in person camp! You are invited to view the recorded service via this YouTube. link https://youtu.be/WHc7mg78420.

Please wait to watch the video until Sunday morning!
Think of it as a fun mid-summer "Don't open 'til Christmas" surprise!
They will also be hosting a Zoom Coffee Hour at 11:30 AM.
Enjoy the magic of Horton Center in your home!

Invitation to HC Summer Sunday

Please click below to join the meeting.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89267091565

If you prefer to call into the meeting, please refer to the following information:

Meeting ID: 892 6709 1565

Telephone Number: 1-646-558-8656

Bob Feeny Ordination – Bob Feeny's Ordination is scheduled for **Sunday**, **August 16**th at 3:00 PM. For those who would like to send a card or letter, Bob's address is 5 Laurel Road, Weston, MA 02493. We're anticipating everyone will be able to watch the Ordination Service on Facebook Live.

Stewardship Team - Our 2020-21 pledge goal is \$200,000. As of this week, we have received 58 pledges totaling \$181,950. 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 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 - PCUCC's Hope Fund has generously received two donations in the memory of Jean Kempton and Archie Messenger.

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.

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 pastor@uccplymouth.org office@uccplymouth.org musicdirector@uccplymouth.org organist@uccplymouth.org windygla2@yahoo.com faithformation@uccplymouth.org treasurer@uccplymouth.org clwlcsw@gmail.com

Donna Castor, Liturgist

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