### **Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ**

### Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 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

"Impromptu, Op. 142 No. 3: Theme"

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

### **Call to Worship**

- One: As one season presses into the next, the lives we lead are ever changing.
- All: Yet our God is steadfast, faithful in every season, every generation.
- One: When our confidence is shaken or hope is interrupted, where will we find help?
- All: Our help is in God, whose love is from everlasting to everlasting. Praise the Lord!

Hymn	
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"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Blk#31

Refrain All things bright and beautiful,

all creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.

Verse 1 Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings. [Refrain]

Verse2 The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, The sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky. [Refrain]

Verse 3 The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, The ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. [Refrain]

### **Gathering Prayer**

- One: The pressure to conform to this world, to capitulate to earthly powers rather than fear the Lord, tempts us, and sometimes we give in to that temptation. We seek to be faithful children of God, who is merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. With the confidence born of God's grace, we pray together:
- All: Lord, we grow hardhearted, seeing each other as competing for scarce resources rather than one human family created and cared for by you, our God of infinite abundance. We conform easily to

the ways of the world, striving endlessly for those things that do not satisfy, practicing greed and participating in systems that hurt people and creation. You call us to another way, the Way of Christ, a Way of compassion and justice, love, and service. You offer us a life of joy and grace, mercy and redemption, readily available to us when we turn to you and open ourselves to your transforming power. We turn to you now with grateful hearts. Amen.

### **Silence for Personal Reflection**

### **God's Promise of New Life**

- One: The Apostle Paul reminds us that if we think as Christ thinks, and live for others, we will find true freedom.
- All: Reawaken us with your voice that calls us to service; revive our weary hearts with your vision of creation; refresh our fatigued spirits that we might boldly proclaim your love and mercy to all!

"Spirit of the Living God"

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** 

## **H**EARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Isaiah 51:1-5 Romans 12:1-8 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	"From Worship to Worship"

Hymn

"Take My Life, God, Let It Be" Verse 1 Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully.

Blk#448

Take my moments and my days,

let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Verse 4

Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow. Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's community.

### **R**ESPONDING 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

"The Lord's Prayer"

Alfred Hay Mayotte

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

### **Offertory Prayer**

All: Receive these gifts, gracious God, bless them and distribute them in ways that reveal to the world your loving kindness and steadfast love. In a season of great upheaval and much uncertainty, may the giving of our resources and the sharing of our lives bring hope, comfort and relief to those most in need of good news. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

## SENDING

Hymn	"God of Unexplored Tomorrows" God of unexplored tomorrows, of today and yesterday, God of rock and flowing river, be our refuge, be our way. Guardian rock above, before us, strong foundation where we build, landmark through the haze of doubting shelter where our fears are stilled.		B. Jones Blk#307
	Be the cleansing, quenching water, irrigate, disturb and move, stir us from our easy shallows, current of refreshing love. God of rock and flowing river now and ever with us stand, to transform our land of promise into each one's promised land.		
Benediction			
Postlude	"Andante Grazioso"	Fran	z Josef Haydn

#### Keeping in Prayer Patti Dyszinsky

Dick Brace

Annie Rice

Our prayers and sympathy to the family of Charles Durgin Our prayers and sympathy to the family of Val Raymond Prayers for Our Nation and for the World!

Winnie Ousteckv

Congratulations and Prayers for Rev. Bob Feeny as he continues his ministry now as ordained pastor. Prayers for Sam Lovett as he continues as the Bridge Interim at Meredith UCC until November 1<sup>st</sup>.

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 - Search Committee 7:00 PM Wednesday - Staff Meeting 9:15 AM Wednesday - Midweek Devotional, Facebook Live 12:00 PM Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup> – ZOOM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> – Rally Sunday

### **Announcements**

**Search Committee News** - If you haven't already received a letter in the mail from the Search Committee, you will be receiving it soon recommending Rev. Sara M. Holland to be called to our church as pastor and teacher. Also, we will be sending a special Constant Contact out on Wednesday with more information. So watch your mail and then look for the Constant Contact on Wednesday.

**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** - 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

David Williams, Liturgist

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