

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 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

"Le Cygne"

Camille Saint-Saens

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

Call to Worship

One: We come, so God can teach us goodness and love for each person.

All: We will complete God's love by having the same compassion as God.

One: We come, so Jesus can lead us into lives of service and obedience.

All: We will complete Jesus' hopes by putting others before ourselves.

One: We come, so the Spirit can help us to empty ourselves for God and those around us.

All: We will complete the Spirit's peace by sharing our lives with others.

Hymn

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Blk#304

Verse 1

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Verse 3

All heirs of Israel's chosen race,

now ransomed from the fall,

Proclaim the wonders of God's grace, and crown Christ healer of all.

Proclaim the wonders of God's grace, and crown Christ healer of all.

Gathering Prayer

One: As we gather this day, we celebrate the God whose speech began the story of life, whose words brought form into being, and who ordered creation in harmony and goodness. We gather to celebrate our calling in Jesus Christ, whose life was the speech of God, whose words show the

shape of His Kingdom. May we be drawn into this unfolding story as we pray together:

All: God of glory, shatter our hardened hearts and make us a fountain of hope for others. Burn away our pride and transform us into servants of the broken and lost. Turn us from our selfishness so we may stand with people in need. Heal our blindness that we may see those who are hurting and respond with your compassion. Fill our minds with the presence of your Spirit, that we may walk joyfully in the Way of discipleship. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: Plant this good news deep in your thoughts: God loves you; God forgives you; God strengthens you for service.

All: May God's compassion make us more passionate to serve; may God's forgiveness make us more merciful; may God's love make us more loving to everyone.

Response

"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

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Exodus 17:1-7 Phil. 2:1-13

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

"Journeying by Stages"

Hymn

"Be Now My Vision"

Blk#451

Verse 1

**Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impart—
You my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.**

Verse 2

**Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
now and forever your child I will be.**

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

"Allegretto"

Kummer

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

Offertory Prayer

**All: As we look for new ways to impact the lives of others this week,
Loving God, may we always seek to share grace, love, hope, and
wonder with everyone we meet. In Jesus' name, we
pray. Amen.**

SENDING

Hymn

"At the Font We Start Our Journey"

Blk#308

Sing to the tune: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory," Hymn 126

Verse 1

**At the font we start our journey, in the Easter faith baptized;
doubts and fears no longer blind us, by the light of Christ surprised.
Alleluia, alleluia! Hope held out and realized.**

Verse 4

**At the door we are commissioned, now the Easter victory's won,
To restore a world divided to the peace of Christ as one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Easter's work must still be done.**

Benediction

Postlude

"Gott Vater Sei Gepriesen"

Anthony Giamanco

Keeping in Prayer

Dick Brace

Patti Dyszinsky

Annie Rice

Pat Andrews

Eileen Greenwood

Our prayers and sympathy to the family of Connie Steiner and Toni Maviki
on the passing of Connie's father, Elliston
Prayers for Our Nation and for the World!

Prayers for Sam Lovett as he continues
as the Bridge Interim at Meredith UCC until November 1st.

*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 Service, Facebook Live 9:30 AM

Virtual Sunday School, 10:00 AM

Wednesday – Staff Meeting 9:15 AM

Zoom Council Meeting 6:00 PM

Sunday, October 4th - Rev. Mike Carrier's last Sunday as our Bridge Pastor

World-Wide Communion Sunday

Wednesday, October 7th – Rev. Sara Holland begins her ministry with us.

Sunday Worship, October 11th – Rev. Sara Holland's first sermon with us

as our settled pastor and teacher

Zoom Coffee Hour at 10:45 AM to welcome

Rev. Sara Holland

Saturday, October 17th - NH Conference Annual Meeting, Virtually

Announcements

Our intrepid Bridge Pastor, Michael Carrier, will be leaving us after our service on October 4th, and there will be no Zoom coffee hour that day. He has anchored us in so many ways, and it would be appropriate for all of us to send cards, notes of appreciation or however you want to thank him for all he has done. *Remember, that he is still a member of this church and will be with us in our Virtual Congregation, so this is not a good-bye.*

NH Food Bank is having a Food Pantry give away in Plymouth on Thursday, October 29th, between 1:00 - 3:00 PM. They need volunteers to help direct traffic and load boxes of food into cars. If you want to help, please contact Ashley at the NH Food Bank at 669-9725. She will keep in contact with you about the location and when to be there. Thanks, Susan Wei

Office Hours – The office hours for the week of September 27th will be changed for two days. On Monday, September 28th, the office will be open and on Tuesday, September 29th, the office will be closed. Regular office hours will resume the following week.

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.

Book Group - We have our Zoom meeting on our first book of the new season on Monday, **September 28th** at 10:00 AM. The book is "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson. Hope to see you! Cheers, Peggy

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
Peggy Martin, Special Music

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