

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday Before Veteran's Day

November 8, 2020

9:30 a.m.



A Just Peace Church
An Open and Affirming Congregation
A God is Still Speaking Congregation

GATHERING

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

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

Call to Worship

One: The days are growing short, yet God's wisdom is with us.

All: Let us join together for a time of reflection, let us consider how God's wisdom might be ours. Those of us who have forgotten this call, let us remember.

One: The cold is setting in, yet we may tend a garden in our hearts.

All: Let us keep one another close, though physically separate. Let us know that we may tend a garden in our homes, in our hearts.

One: The world seems to be upside down, yet God holds us with care and hears our call for help.

All: Let us know that we are not alone.

Hymn

All My Hope on God is Founded

NCH #408

Verse 1

**All my hope on God is founded:
who else can my hope renew?**

**Still through change and chance God guides me,
only good and only true.**

**God unknown, grace alone
calls my heart to be God's own**

Verse 2

**Well does the almighty Giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow!
With delight our souls are nourished;
pleasure leads us where we go.
At God's hand does love stand;
joy awaits each new command.**

Verse 3

**In glad hymns to God eternal
sacrifice of praises be done,
high above all praises praising
for the love in Christ made known.
Hear Christ's call, one and all;
those who follow shall not fall.**

Gathering Prayer

One: Ever changing Power, be our Hope on this day. Allow us moments of quiet and peace during this time. Let us use such peace, quiet, reflection, and song to move our thought to action. Let us know that however separate we may feel, You walk with us. Let us know that even in our homes, staying low risk yet growing weary, hope may abound. Be with us during this hour, Holy God. Make Yourself so known to us that we must let others know the grace which comes to us through Love, through You.

All: O Ancient of Days, blessing and honor, glory and power be Yours. We look to Your wisdom during this time and we pray it becomes ours. Let us know that we may tend the garden of our heart during this time and let us know that as we tend we stand by Your side. Let us believe and let such belief give us a Hope that we will share with this world. We lift this all up to You, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: It is easy to fall in line with the way of the world, one of self-interest: a myopic way. We struggle to see God's wisdom and too many times we have felt that we are unworthy of such depth. Today, we center ourselves around our ability to access this divine wisdom. We will tend to ourselves and the world.

All: We come to You, God. We know, deep in our hearts, that there is nothing, nothing here, nothing anywhere else that will separate us from the Love of God in Jesus. It is for this promise and Spirit that we sing!

Response

"Spirit of Love"

NCH (black) #58

Verse 2

**Though we have frayed the fabric of your making,
tearing away from all that you intend,
Yet, to be whole, humanity is aching –
come, work with us, and weave us into one.**

Children's Message

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Wisdom of Sol. 6:12-16 1 Thess. 4:13-18

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

"Tending to Wisdom"

Rev. Sara M. Holland

Hymn

"Be Still, My Soul"

PH #77

Verse 1

**Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to thy God to order and provide;
in every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

Verse 2

**Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
to guide the future as he has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: thy waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.**

Verse 3

**Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

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

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

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, you heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Offertory Prayer

All: Blessed are You, O Power of Peace, Jesus. We thank You for the abundance of mercies: those that grace our lives and enable us to share. We thank You for wisdom and pray such depth leads us to share what we have. Let us remember that in giving, we receive. Accomplish through these gifts and our grateful commitment the work of Love for the sake of Creation. We pray that the hungry be fed and that the weak are made strong. In Jesus' name, Amen.

SENDING

Hymn

"I Come to the Garden Alone"

NCH #237

Verse 1

**I come to the garden alone,
while the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,
the Son of God discloses.**

Refrain

***And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.***

Verse 2

**He speaks, and the sound of his voice
is so sweet the birds hush their singing;
And the melody that he gave to me
within my heart is ringing. *Refrain***

Verse 3

**I'd stay in the garden with Him
though the night around me be falling;
But he bids me go; through the voice of woe
his voice to me is calling. *Refrain***

Benediction

Postlude

Keeping in Prayer

Dick Brace Patti Dyszinsky Annie Rice

Prayers for Our Nation and for the World!

Our partner church - Masvingo UCCZ, Zimbabwe

Prayers for Sam Lovett as he prepares for his
Ecclesiastical Council on November 15th.

*If you have a prayer request you'd like Rev. Sara to include in Sunday Worship,
please email her at plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org.*

This Week and More at PCUCC

Today – 9:30 AM Worship Service on Facebook Live

10:00 AM Virtual Sunday School

Tuesday, 9:15 AM & Wednesday, 11:30 AM - Zoom Staff Meetings

Wednesday, 12:30 PM – Lunchtime Prayers and Devotional

Friday, November 20th, 6:00 PM – Trans(gender) Day of Remembrance, Vigil held from sanctuary on Facebook Live. More information below.

Tuesday, November 24th, 7:00 PM – Interfaith and Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Announcements

Transgender Day of Remembrance – “Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honor the memory of Rita Hester, a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death, and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.” (information from glaad.org/tdor)

The service will be simple and contemplative. We will read names of those lost to violent acts against trans people. If you would like to read names that night, please email Rev Sara. We hope that you consider taking time to hold vigil yourself in some way and consider making a contribution in any amount to a worthwhile agency which supports trans people. Such information can be found at glaad.org

Sam Lovett's Ecclesiastical Council - Please join us on Sunday, **November 15th**, at 2:00 PM via Zoom! Following is the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84521472867>. The Meeting ID is 845 2147 2867 and the Passcode is 167124.

PACC Holiday Basket Program - Due to the current pandemic, the program will be mailing out Hannaford gift cards to those in need of a holiday meal. The application is available on the PCUCC website at uccplymouth.org or contact Debbie at 536-2626 or email at office@uccplymouth.org, and she will forward an application to you. Please complete the application and return to WV or to the PACC pantry by the **November 30th deadline**. Please keep in mind that PACC serves ONLY the following towns: Alexandria, Ashland, Bridgewater, Campton, Dorchester, Ellsworth, Groton, Hebron, Holderness, Plymouth, Rumney, Thornton, Warren, Waterville Valley and Wentworth. Hard copy applications are available at Whole Village.

Finance Committee - CHOOSE OUR CHURCH as your favorite charity on AMAZON SMILE and support our ministries and mission. Once on Amazon Smile, click on *Accounts and Lists* under your name, scroll down to *Amazon Smile Charity Lists*, select *Faith and Spiritual*, type Plymouth Congregational Church or Ply* to find all listings starting with Ply, then select our church.

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.

We want to thank the congregation for the outpouring of generosity for the Hope Fund during this time of need; this will surely be critically important throughout the winter months.

Book Group - Here is our intended order of Book Group readings so that you can purchase or otherwise obtain them in advance:

November: *The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert

December: *My Own Words* by Ruth B. Ginsberg

January: *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate

February: *The Yellow House: A Memoir* by Sarah M. Broom

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.

This coming week our Council will be publishing a community guide for
use of our facility for the volunteers and staff who do need to be on site.

Stay tuned and low risk!

Pastor's Office Hours

During this time of "physical distancing" and working remotely,
Pastor Sara will be at the church for office hours Monday 10:00-3:00,
Tuesday 9:00-3:00, Wednesday 9:00-3:00
and Thursday by appointment though all church doors are locked.

Small meetings may be possible in person with masks.
Please feel free to contact her by email at plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org
or on her work cell phone number at 336-485-5618 to set up a meeting.

The Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor	plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org
Deborah Healey, Office Administrator	office@uccplymouth.org
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Wayne Martin, Liturgist

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