

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

6th Sunday After Epiphany
Racial Justice Sunday; Science & Technology Sunday



February 13, 2022

9:30 am

We Practice Just Peace: doing justice, seeking peace
We are Open and Affirming: welcoming LGBTQ+ people
We Listen for the Still Speaking God

Our faith is 2000 years old; our thinking isn't.

Masks are REQUIRED in our community at this time. Masks should be worn for the entirety of the service over both mouth and nose.

*If you need a mask break, please take a step outside of the building.
Finally, please respectfully ask neighbors before shaking hands or hugging.*

GATHERING

Welcome & Announcements

Please, if you are new to our community and want to be more involved, leave your email address on our sign in sheet in the narthex / entrance of the building or email us at office@uccplymouth.org. We are delighted to get to know you! On 1st and 3rd Sundays we have Church School, in-person or via Zoom depending on public health. You may contact faithformation@uccplymouth.org to get more information about programming for children and families.

Prelude

"Hallelujah"

Leonard Cohen

The prelude is an invitation to personal preparation for worship.

***Call to Worship** adapted from Mechtild of Magdeburg, 1210-1294

One: O burning mountain, O sun; the humblest you created sings your praise.

All: **Let us find our story and our song, once again – hear our prayers.**

One: O perfect moon, O fathomless well, O unattainable height; the humblest you created sings your praise.

All: **Capture our hearts this hour so that we'll be held all day and week by your perfect love.**

One: O clearness beyond measure, O wisdom without end, O mercy without limit; the humblest you created sings your praise.

All: **Here and now, we seek our story and our song!**

*Hymn

Blessed Assurance

NCH (black) #473

1 Bless-ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
 2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light! Vi - sions of
 3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest, I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of
 rap - ture now burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a -
 Sav - ior am hap - py and blessed; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a -

God, born of the Spir - it, washed in Christ's blood.
 bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
 bove, filled with God's good - ness, lost in Christ's love.

Refrain

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long;

This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Passing of the Peace

We invite you to text or email someone a note of peace today. A hand-written note will work too!

Leader: God be with you

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Unison Gathering Prayer

Thomas à Kempis, 1380-1471

All: My God, blessed light, when you come into my soul, all that is within me rejoices. You are my glory and the exultation of my heart; you are my hope and refuge in times of trouble. Set us free from all destructive passions, and heal our hearts of all distorted affections; that being inwardly cured and thoroughly cleansed, we may be fit to love and steady to persevere. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: Holy One, we have been tossed and turned by the chaos of the world, by relationships and by our own internal struggles. We have found miracles in your sacred word and so we are here today. We seek hope and we hope to be centered around Love.

All: Let us find ourselves as the trees beside still waters – assured of divinity in our lives and positive that we can carry Love to all in need. Let us see ourselves as hungry so that we may be blessed. Let us point to Love as we sing together:

Response As With Gladness Those of Old NCH (black) #159

As with gladness those of old did the guiding star behold; As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward beaming bright; So, true Morning Star, may we evermore your splendor see.

Message for All Ages

Again, we invite children and families to get connected to our programming by emailing faithformation@uccplymouth.org.

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Jeremiah 17:5-10 Luke 6:17-26

One: Creator God, let us feel your spirit move among us. Soften our hearts to the cries of those most in need as we work to move forward in our faith journey. We pray that your Love moves between words and hearing.

All: Amen.

Message “Moving Trees” Rev. Sara M. Holland

***Hymn** Jesus the Very Thought of Thee PH (red) # 225

1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of thee, With sweet-ness fills my breast;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, Nor can the mem-ory find
3 O hope of ev - ery con - trite heart, O joy of all the meek,
4 But what to those who find? Ah, this Nor tongue nor pen can show;
5 Je - sus, our on - ly joy be thou, As thou our prize wilt be;

But sweet-er far thy face to see, And in thy pres-ence rest.
A sweet-er sound than thy blest name, O Sav-ior of man-kind.
To those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!
The love of Je - sus, what it is None but his loved ones know.
Je - sus, be thou our glo - ry now, And through e-ter - ni - ty. A - men.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

You will also be invited to offer your personal prayers from the silence of your heart.

Pastoral Prayer

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 Sonata in C Major K. 330 II. Andante cantabile

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:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Offertory Prayer

All: God as you have called us to offer our gifts you have called us to be Church to all the world. Let us be so moved. Multiply these, our offerings, Holy One. Let us feel our souls be multiplied to serve your purpose too. Let us work to carry the mercy and compassion of your saving word to all those who are in need. We pray that your love reaches those most in need – the hungry, the hurting, the lonely, and the forgotten. Amen.

SENDING

***Hymn**

Like a Tree Beside the Waters

NCH (black) #313

1 Like a tree be-side the wa-ters, nur-tured by your lov - ing care,
2 Like a tree be-side the riv - er, draw-ing life from ho - ly streams,
3 We, be - side the liv-ing wa-ters, drink from your e - ter - nal life.

We, O God, your sons and daugh-ters, your en - dur-ing wit - ness bear.
Fill us with your love for - ev - er; re - cre - ate our hopes and dreams.
Give to all, your sons and daugh-ters, faith that ris - es o - ver strife.

In each pass - ing gen - er - a - tion may your voice of love be heard.
Through the storms of life sus - tain us by the wis - dom of your grace.
O Liv - ing God, most glo - rious, strength - en us for life to - day.

Bless, we pray, this con - gre - ga - tion with your ho - ly, liv - ing Word.
May the chang-ing of the sea - sons find us in your warm em - brace.
By the hope of time - less prom - ise guide your church up - on the Way.

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

***Pastoral Benediction**

Postlude

Spring Song

W.A. Mozart

The Postlude ends our gathered worship and sends us into the world where our true service begins.

Rev. Sara will be happy to greet you as you leave the sanctuary.

Keeping in Prayer: Thoughts and prayers to Connie and her partner, Toni who are grieving the loss of Toni's Uncle Harvey.
Sympathy and love for the Swenson and Magrath family on the passing of Lynda Swenson
Thoughts and prayers for Fran Lewis
Sympathy and prayers for the family and friends of Claire Benedix
Prayers for the Malone family who are grieving
Prayers for Kathy, a friend of a community member who is struggling.
Thoughts and Prayers for Terry Cote's daughter Lynn Bowers
Prayers for Alice Avery
Prayers for Kathy Henning's nephew, Colin Slocomb
Prayers for Bill Larsen
Dianne Anderson, sister of Donna Castor
Prayers for Sage Pirnie and her family, granddaughter of Diane Arsenault and Pete Pirnie
Charlie & Wendy Scouras
Prayers for Healing for Valerie, a dear friend of Sally Jensen
Prayers for Healing for Brian Paine
Prayers & Healing for Ruth Munroe
Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's mother-in-law
Dick & Paulette Brace
Annie Rice, Bev Tedeschi's mother
Prayers for Sue Switaj
Prayers for the Masvingo UCCZ, our partner church in Zimbabwe

Prayers for those administering and receiving COVID-19 vaccines and boosters.
All those who are sick or have family member/s who have passed during the pandemic.

If you have a prayer request, you would 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	6 th Sunday after Epiphany
	10:00 AM	Virtual Sunday School on Google Classroom
	7:00 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv
February 8-17		Prepared to Serve
February 16 th	9:30 AM	Lectio Divina Bible Study
February 16 th	11:30 AM	Staff Meeting
February 16 th	1:00 PM	Mission and Outreach
February 19 th	3:00 PM	Winds and Strings Concert PCUCC Sanctuary
February 20 th	11:45 AM	Finance Meeting
February 21 st	10:00 AM	Book Group via Zoom
February 27 th	9:30 AM	Jazz Sunday
March 2 nd		Ash Wednesday
March 8 th		2022-23 Budgets are due
March 6 th	9:30 AM	New Member Reception
March 6 th	3:00 PM	Laura Belanger – Organ Recital

Our church council voted on February 9th and agreed to resume in-person worship. Per our Covid protocol, masks and distancing are required. We look forward to seeing you.

Welcome to church families! Activity bags are hanging in the Narthex and toys are made available, please ask an usher if you cannot find them. If your child needs more space during worship, please feel free to use the parlor on the sanctuary level or downstairs in our nursery and fellowship area. We have Sunday school in person, with masks on, the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Volunteers are always welcome, please contact Jennifer Byam or Julie Kelsey for more information at faithformation@uccplymouth.org.

Winds and Strings Sharing Music Concert on 2/19/22 at 3:00 PM in the PCUCC sanctuary. Enjoy the rich sounds of Wind ensembles, strings, and solo instruments playing works by Mozart, Vaughn Williams, Schumann and other composers. Students from PSU and other members of the community will be performing together. This concert is a fundraiser for the Joan Campbell Lovett fund for PCUCC and PSU's Music/Theater/Dance Department.

AmazonSMILE - By choosing our church as your favorite charity, Amazon will make a donation to the charity you designate at no cost to you. Please let Ann Thurston, Linda LaPrad or the office know if you need help setting PCUCC up as your favorite charity on AmazonSMILE.

PREPAID HANNAFORD CARDS - For every card purchased from the Finance Committee, the church receives 5% without any additional cost to you. Denominations of \$100, \$250 and \$500 are available by contacting Ann Thurston or Linda LaPrad after services on Sunday, by phone or email. Thank you for your continued support!

HOPE Fund: The HOPE Fund supports families at risk who 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. If you know of someone who is in need, please put them in touch with the church office or Pastor Sara.

The Hope Fund of our church continues to touch the lives of people in the Lakes Region. This fall, we supported people in need of rent, security deposits and transitional housing. We have deep gratitude for all of those who have contributed money and time related to the Hope Fund.

Racial Justice Exploration: We welcome new attendees, and we pray you'll reach out to Alison Thatcher at Baker.AlisonT@gmail.com or Pastor Sara if you are considering ways to get involved in these important efforts.

PREPARED TO SERVE:

New Hampshire Conference UCC's Prepared to Serve 2022 will be held as an online event featuring 12 workshops from February 8 – 17. This year's theme is from the scripture passage found in 2 Corinthians 5:17: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" Registration is now open. The event brochure is available at

<https://www.nhcucc.org/uploads/documents/caring-for-congregations/PTS/PTS%202022%20Brochure.pdf> and you can register at <https://web.cvent.com/event/2a1ba075-cc57-496b-89c5-06d633e2c790/summary>

Book Group: The next book group will be on February 21st at 10 AM via Zoom. All are welcome! Any questions please contact Peggy Martin at pmartin03223@yahoo.com or Kathy Henning at henkat52@gmail.com

FOCT – We're in need of plastic grocery bags. We double bag FOCT groceries and need ~70 bags a week. Please bring in your Hannaford or Market Basket bags and leave them in the basket at the top of the stairs outside the sanctuary.

Please continue to be aware of COVID-related concerns when on site. We want to encourage all community members (who are able) to get a COVID-19 vaccine and boosters. We hope that this will ensure the health and well-being of our most vulnerable community members.

We will offer the option of meeting digitally indefinitely (Facebook). You may also catch our services (one week delayed) on Sunday nights on PBTv at 7:00 pm. (Local channel 1302.) Please check for Constant Contact and the Facebook page for ongoing updates.

Office Hours

Tuesday - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Wednesday - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Thursday – 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Friday - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Sara is generally at the church for office hours Monday – Wednesday 10:30 AM – 3:30 PM; please reach out to make an appointment. She keeps sabbath on Friday. 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.

Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor
Eileen Torrey & Linda LaPrad,
Interim Office Administrators
David A. Williams, Director of Music
Ashley Rose, Organist/Pianist
Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation
Ann Thurston, Treasurer

plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org

office@uccplymouth.org
musicdirector@uccplymouth.org
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Guest Musician: Peggy Martin
Liturgist: Campbell Lovett

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Celebrating Birthdays in February in our Community:

February 11	Chris Pollock
February 11	Maris Thatcher-Forgues
February 26	Beverly Tedeschi
February 28	Robert Pollock Jr.

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month or next month that you would like listed, please email to: office@uccplymouth.org