

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany Communion Sunday



February 6, 2021

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.

GATHERING

Prelude

The prelude is an invitation to personal preparation for worship.

*those who are able and willing may stand

Welcome & Announcements

Please, if you are new to our community and want to be more involved, 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. Also, it is communion Sunday – if you want to participate from home, please find some ‘elements’ that may be used as bread and juice.

*Call to Worship

One: God is abundant and present. Let our senses be open to discern the catch!

All: Let us recognize the plenty in God’s grace-filled waters, let us cast our nets boldly.

One: God has prepared waters of peace, joy, and hope – let us dive in, even if our faith is paired with some doubt.

All: By being present today, we have taken a leap of faith. Let our leap go even farther – into the depths of love.

One: We may be caught and we may catch with the Spirit of God’s love.

All: Let it be so in this hour so that our hearts will be strengthened for the week to come.

***Hymn**

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty PH (red) #251

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee;
Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
Though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see;
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y;
Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
On - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y;

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
Which wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
Per - fect in power, in love, and pur - i - ty.
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty! A - men.

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

based on portions Psalm 138

We give you thanks, God. We come with all our hearts – we long to be caught by your love, once again. Let our hearts be so filled that we will aim to ‘catch’ others with the goodness we have found in your gospel word. We turn to you humbly this day; we will share of your blessed meal seeking the reconciliation we need to move forward. We rest with your steadfast love and faithfulness so that your name will be exalted. As we dwell in your word and share of the most sacred meal, let the strength of our souls be increased. We pray all this for Love’s sake. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God’s Promise of New Life

One: Holy God, too many times we have placed our nets in shallow waters. Today, we look to your depth, we will cast our nets again. We are not perfect, but we come humbly and with open hearts.

All: We want to be caught up in your love, Spirit of Life. Let us be caught so that we may catch. As we hear of your mysterious love and are fed a sacred meal, let us find so deep a comfort that we are compelled to carry this to those most in need and so 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.

We often will have a Children’s Message during this time; today we invite families to participate in Holy Communion from the comfort of their homes. Again, we invite children and families to get connected to our programming by emailing faithformation@uccplymouth.org.

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Psalm 138: 1-3

Luke 5: 1-11

One: Creator God, become a part of our being in this time. Let us be assured that Your love will hold us and propel us forward. Let us taste of your heavenly grace and be prepared to feed those most hungry. We pray You move in the meditations of our hearts and minds.

All: Amen

Message

“Caught & Catching With God’s Grace”

Rev. Sara M. Holland

*Hymn

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PH (red) #107

Traditional French Carol

1 Let all mortal flesh keep si - lence, And with fear and trem - bling stand;
2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, As of old on earth he stood,
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van-guard on the way,
4 At his feet the six - winged ser-aph; Cher - u - bim, with sleep-less eye,
Pon - der noth-ing earth-ly - mind - ed, For with bless-ing in his hand,
Lord of lords, in hu - man ves-ture, In the bod - y and the blood,
As the Light of light de - scend-eth From the realms of end - less day,
Veil their fa - ces to the pres-ence, As with cease-less voice they cry,

Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth, Our full hom-age to de - mand.
 He will give to all the faith - ful His own self for heaven-ly food.
 That the powers of hell may van - ish As the dark-ness clears a - way.
 Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High! A-men.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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:
 Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offertory Prayer

All: O Shining Light, we give thanks for the light of this day, for the grace of eternal love, for the ways that a journey for justice may lead us. Let our gifts become your peace, God. Shine through our gifts, our words and our actions, Holy Lord. Let these gifts reach those who are most in need – the orphan, the forgotten widow, the destitute. With Christ, in Christ, and through Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, all power and possibility is yours, God most Holy. Amen.

Invitation to Holy Communion

One: We are scattered God: in apartments, houses, condos; on counters, at dinner tables, on our couch and stretching on the floor. As we join in this historic ritual, let us know that this holy meal may strengthen us. Let us find renewal in this great Communion.

All: We are prepared God. Our tables and makeshift tables may be messy, but they are set. These tables are open: There are no prerequisites for God's love. This table is for those who believe a little or a lot. This table is for those who need community, those who need solace and those who need strength. Let us share in this abundance.

Prayers of the People

You will be invited to offer your silent prayers for others.

Breaking of the Bread and the Pouring of the Cup

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Closing Prayer & Lord's Prayer

All: Gracious and loving God, you have made us one in the body of Christ and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Let us be caught by the love given in the gospel and let us offer this to those we encounter. Send us forth to be your people in the world. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil and to proclaim in all we say and do the good news in Christ Jesus our Savior.

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.

SENDING

*Hymn

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

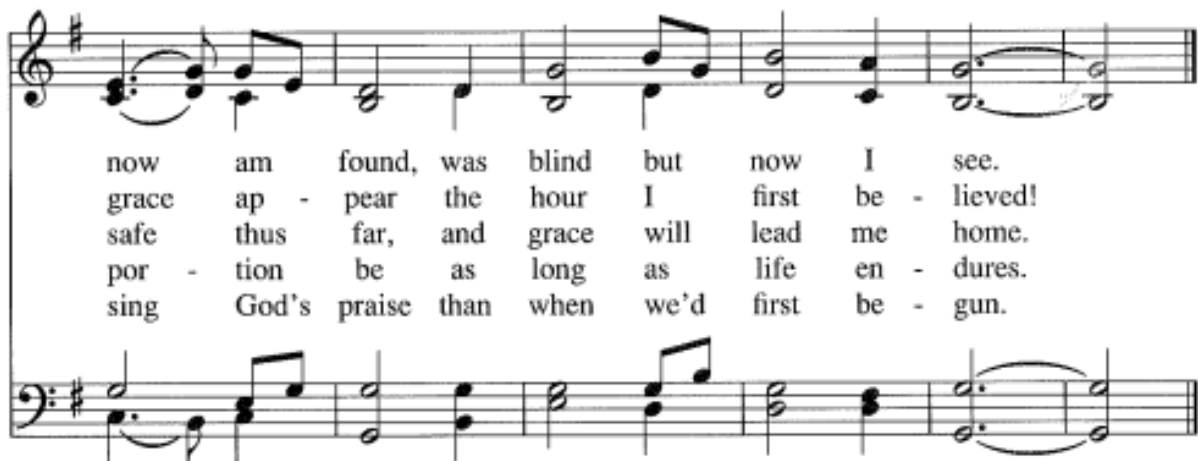
NCH (black) # 547



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, was blind but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

***Pastoral Benediction**

Postlude

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

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 Magrauth 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 Mike Hunt
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	5 th Sunday after Epiphany
	10:00 AM	Virtual Sunday School
	7:00 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv
February 7 th	10:00 AM	Book Group via Zoom
February 9 th	9:30 AM	Lectio Divina Bible Study
February 9 th	11:30 AM	Staff Meeting
February 8-17		Prepare to Serve
February 13 th		SOUPER Bowl Fundraiser for youth mission trip
March 2 nd		Ash Wednesday
March 13 th		New Member Sunday

Our church council agreed to discontinue in-person worship through February 6th given the covid-19 Omicron surge. We are so sorry for the inconvenience and the whole situation though we hope that everyone stays as low risk as possible. Our council will revisit the situation on February 9th.

All meetings of 4 people or more are to take place via zoom for now. Any other meetings need to be run by the church council and pastor. Masks continue to be required.

Youth Mission Fund Raiser: Soup & Sandwiches freshly made by us for you on the big day! Support our trip and order online. Choose from 3 hearty soups & sandwiches, and decide what yummy sides, fixings, and desserts you'd like too. You can pick up your meal at church on Sunday, Feb 13th from 9 to 11 am, or if you live locally, choose the delivery option and we will bring it to you. Order details at

<https://neartail.com/us/pcuccyouthmissiontripsouperbowlsubs>

Please submit the order form above and send payment to PCUCC at PO Box 86, by Monday, Feb 7th. Checks should be made out to PCUCC and note Youth Mission Trip on the memo line. Thanks for supporting our mission trip to Oregon!

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.

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.

PREPARE 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 7th 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

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 Administrator
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
organist@uccplymouth.org
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treasurer@uccplymouth.org

Guest musician: Zi Liang
Liturgist: Carol Stewart

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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