

Plymouth Congregational, United Church of Christ

Sixth Sunday in Lent, Palm Sunday,
One Great Hour of Sharing



March 28, 2021

9:30 am

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 & Announcements

Prelude

“Regent Square”

Betty Roe

Call to Worship

One: We are yearning for the day, when we feel Your love enveloping us as if we were in an ocean of Your grace.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna! The day of God’s hope may be made real in our lives.

One: You’ve come for a day when nobody is hungry, a day when nobody is thirsty. We have been called to embody God’s love flowing freely, as a stream after a long winter.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna! The day of God’s hope may be made real in our lives.

One: You are shade from sun and shelter from the wind; You, the Compassionate One – You guide us to the springs of living water and we remember Your journey this day so that we might carry this story with us always.

All: Hosanna! Hosanna! The day of God’s hope may be made real in our lives.

Hymn

O Christ, The Great Foundation

NCH #387 (black)

1 O Christ, the great foun-da-tion
on which your peo-ple stand
to preach your true sal-va-tion
in ev-ery age and land:
Pour out your Ho-ly Spir-it
to make us strong and pure,
to keep the faith un-bro-ken
as long as worlds en-dure.

2 Bap-tized in one con-fes-sion,
one church in all the earth,
we bear Christ’s own im-pres-sion,
the sign of sec-ond birth:
- One ho-ly peo-ple gath-ered
in love be-yond our own,
by grace we were in-vit-ed,
by grace we make you known.

3 Where ty-rants’ hold is tight-ened,
where strong de-vour the weak,
where in-no-cents are fright-ened,
the righ-teous fear to speak,
There let your church a-wak-ing
at-tack the powers of sin
and, all their ram-parts break-ing,
with you the vic-tory win.

4 This is the mo-ment glo-rious
when Christ who once was dead
shall lead the church vic-to-rious,
their cham-pion and their head.
The Sov-ereign of cre-a-tion
a new do-min-ion brings,
the fi-nal con-sum-ma-tion,
the glo-ry of all things.

Timothy Tinefany Lew was born in China and was educated

Tune: AURELIA 7.6.7.6.D.

Passing of the Peace

We invite you to text or email someone a note of peace A hand-written note will work too. (You could place this on someone’s car later today if you are out and about.)

Gathering Prayer

One: Source of Love-Made-Flesh, we stream to You from East and West seeking Truth and Your sacred path.

All: Settle us, body and soul in the land of hope which Your prophets proclaimed – for we have read and heard – blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

One: Free our hearts and minds to hear anew Your call to compassion, the challenge of community, the needs of our neighbors.

All: Settle us, body and soul in the land of hope which Your prophets proclaimed – for we have read and heard – blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

One: Call to us in this one great hour that we may gather in Spirit and in Truth and be changed. Settled now, this we pray in Jesus' name and so, too, for Love's sake.

All: Settle us, body and soul in the land of hope which Your prophets proclaimed – for we have read and heard – blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: God of grace, transform our hearts so that our actions may follow. In our abundance, free us from the fear of scarcity, and open our hands to heal Your people and Your land. Set our feet on new paths and guide us to the spring which overflows with Your grace. As we cry hosanna, let us be reminded our call to show Your promise to all.

All: By God's grace we are granted new life; the Compassionate One beckons we come, let us cry hosanna as one people! Believe this good news: 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 Savior, When in Tears and Dust NCH (black) #185
 Savior, when in tears and dust, low we bow to you in trust,
 When repentant, to the skies scarce we lift our weeping eyes,
 Mindful how you suffered pain that God's love in us might reign –
 Help us claim what we would be, hear our solemn litany.

Children's Message

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Isaiah 49: 8-13

Mark 11: 1-11

One: Here end the readings from our tradition. May Holy Spirit join us as our souls move towards Christ's Love. Let us find wisdom for today in these ancient words. O Holy Spirit, we pray You move between words and hearing.

All: Amen.

Message

“Flowing Waters, Witness to Love”

Rev. Sara M. Holland

Hymn

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty

NCH (black) 215

1 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!
2 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!
3 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!
4 Ride on! Ride on in maj - es - ty!

O Christ, with brave hu - mil - i - ty,
As crowds of peo - ple come to see
Ride on in hum - ble dig - ni - ty;
For you have set your peo - ple free

On - low - ly colt, your road pur - sue,
And shout ho - san - nas, lift - ing high
Be - hold the ones you came to save
And we, re - mem - bering all your pain,



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 "Worthy is the Lamb" Darlene Zschech
 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: Holy Giver of all good gifts, bless now this offering that great hours of labor have made possible. Bless the drops that become mighty rivers of grace and transformation. Bless the vision of a world transformed. Let a shining river of Love flow through us to Your waiting world. Let our cries of hosanna carry us this week in our encounters with all Your children. We pray all this, for Love's sake. Amen.

SENDING

Hymn

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

NCH (black) 216

1 All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,
2 O Prom-ised One of Is - rael, of Da-vid's roy - al line,
3 As you re-ceived their prais - es, re - ceive our prayers to - day,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san-nas ring!
the one called "God's be - lov - ed," of flesh and yet di - vine,
whose jus - tice and whose mer - cy and sov-ereign-ty hold sway.

The peo-ple of the He - brews with palms a - dorned your way;
To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
All glo-ry, laud, and hon - or to you, O Christ, we sing,

our praise and prayer and an - thems we of - fer you this day.
to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!

Benediction

Postlude

“Minatures for Organ: Four: Allegro”

Herbert Howells

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

Keeping in Prayer

Jamie McDougall and family, friends of Alice O’Conner
Sympathy to the family of Gypsy the cat, beloved member of Jim Preston’s household
Prayers for the Plymouth State community as a student passed away
Sarah Thorne Marjorie Glidden and family
Dick & Paulette Brace Alice & Margaret Avery
Lisa and Dawn, friends of Plymouth Congregational
Annie Rice, Bev Tedeschi’s mother Sue Switaj
Terry Cote & David Cote, close friends of Alice O’Connor
Jean Nilson, Susan Wei’s sister Heidi Watts, Fran Lewis’ sister
Judy Detzel, friend of Hanna Starck

Prayers for those administering and receiving the first COVID-19 vaccines.
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

Sunday	9:30 AM	Worship Service on Facebook Live
	10:00 AM	Virtual Sunday School
	6:30 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Racial Justice Exploration meeting via zoom
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Zoom Staff Meeting
Thursday	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Service
Friday	7:00 PM	Good Friday Service, A Service of Shadows

Easter Services

April 4th – Easter Sunrise Service at 6:10 am (via Facebook) and 9:30 am Worship Service
(via Facebook and then airing at 6:30 pm on Sunday night)

Update re: eventual return to worship: Rev Sara is creating a team of 5-10 people who will help in the planning of an eventual return (likely in stages) to in-person worship. This team will likely meet two times per month and will be busy; please, if you think you have the energy and time, contact Rev Sara. It will still be some time before we return physically though we need to be well prepared; currently the NH Conference has asked that we continue to worship online.

Faith Formation update: We’ll have an egg hunt on Easter Sunday at 1 pm

One Great Hour of Sharing is today: Our gifts to OGHS enables the UCC to be present for the long term in disaster recovery as we partner with churches and organizations around the world to walk with families as they rebuild their lives.

Please prayerfully consider increasing your OGHS gift this year. The need truly is great.

On Palm Sunday we invite you to make checks out to our church and add a memo that reads OGHS so our finance team can ensure funds are appropriately allocated.

Capital Campaign update: Members and friends of PCUCC will be receiving an update by mail this week regarding the Capital Campaign. The news is very exciting! Lisa and Bev are standing by to answer any questions you may have via phone or email. **Please mark your calendars: April 25th Congregational Zoom Meeting just after worship, please save the date.** Our campaign is focusing on the ramp on the north side of the building, a modest A/C installation, audio / visual upgrade and an organ console replacement. Email inquiries should be directed to Lisa Lovett at lilylovet@gmail.com and phone inquiries to Bev Newton at 603-254-9991.

Notice from Human Resources: We are actively seeking out an Office Administrator; if you know of someone who might be interested, please contact Jan Bass at jbass8150@gmail.com.

What's going on at PSU? Our hearts are heavy for our neighbors at PSU this week as a student has passed away; please remember the community in your prayers and meditations this week.

Deacon's Corner - Welcome to our Deacon's Corner where we will provide updates as is appropriate and desired by community members. These updates will be general and not specific to protect the privacy of families and individuals.

Please continue to pray for Judy Detzel, friend of Hanna Starck, at 10 Willey Road, Ellsworth, NH 03223; if you didn't know – the wonderful stained glass in the chapel was made by Judy.

Continued prayers for Jim Preston as Gypsy passed away recently; he is happy to receive phone calls or notes of support during this time.

Huge thanks to all of our community members who have delivered meals in the past couple of months. The Averys and Braces have been so appreciative of this offering.

Finance Committee - CHOOSE OUR CHURCH as your favorite charity on AMAZON SMILE and support our ministries and mission. We can be found by entering Plymouth Congregational Church or Plymouth* under Faith and Spiritual list only.

Once on AmazonSmile click on “Accounts and Lists” under your name, scroll down to “AmazonSmile Charity Lists” select “Faith and Spiritual” then either type Plymouth Congregational Church or Ply* to find all listings starting with Ply then select our church.

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 orders cards regularly. Please let Linda or Larry know via phone or email what you would like to purchase. We will 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 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. Send to Plymouth Congregational UCC, P.O. Box 86, Plymouth, NH 03264. If you know of someone who is in need, please put them in touch with the church office or Pastor Sara.

Racial Justice Exploration - This is continuing on March 30th at 7 pm. The culmination will be a larger training and educational offering from Rev Renee’ Rouse, one of the Racial Justice Ministers from the New Hampshire Conference; save the date for April 10th, 10 am – 12 pm.

This group encourages examination of any of the following books:

Robin DiAngelo's *White Fragility: Why it is so Hard for White People to talk about Race*

Ibram X. Kendi's *How to be An Antiracist*

Rebecca Carroll's *Surviving the White Gaze*

Book Group - Here is our intended order of Book Group readings so that you can purchase or otherwise obtain them in advance: Our next selections will be *The Elephant Whisperer* by Lawrence Anthony, *Daughters of Erietown* by Connie Schultz, *The Woman Who Smashed Codes* by Jason Fagone and *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate.

Our church has moved to digital platforms for all events until further announcement.

The Worship Services will be live streamed on our Facebook page and are available on Sunday nights on PBTv at 6:30 pm. (Local channel 1302.)

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 Sara will be at the church for office hours Monday 10:00 AM-3:00 PM, Tuesday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM, Wednesday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM 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
David Williams, Director of Music	musicdirector@uccplymouth.org
Ashley Paine, Organist/Pianist	organist@uccplymouth.org
Gale Adams-Davis, Co-Director of Faith Formation	windygla2@yahoo.com
Julie Kelsey, Co-Director of Faith Formation	faithformation@uccplymouth.org
Larry Spencer, Treasurer	treasurer@uccplymouth.org
Celia Woolverton, Grace Counseling	clwlcsw@gmail.com
Bill Heron, Liturgist	
Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ 4 Post Office Square, P.O. Box 86 Plymouth, NH 03264 (603) 536-2626 - office@uccplymouth.org - www.uccplymouth.org	

Celebrating Birthdays in March and April in our Community:

March 4 Eliza McKinnon
March 8 Jean Swindell
March 11 Lisa Lovett
March 21 Winnie Oustecky, Shoe Shoemaker
March 26 Caleb Sweedler

April 1 Wayne Martin
April 5 Sue Switaj
April 7 Sabrina Tedeschi
April 12 Benjamin Adams
April 28 Kurt Maiser Anderson

If you have a birthday or anniversary in either of these two months that you would like listed please email us at office@uccplymouth.org

EASTER FLOWERS



We plan to have beautiful spring flowers to decorate the Sanctuary on Sunday, April 4th. A portion of your donation of \$15 (or more) will go to the HOPE Fund. Those who donate will be able to choose a plant or bouquet to take home. Please complete the Easter flower dedication information below for the bulletin.

Thank you!

In Celebration of Hope Fund Only

In Thanksgiving for

In Memory of

Your Name: _____

Phone: _____

*Make checks payable to: **PCUCC**

Mail or drop checks off to the church office by **March 29.**