

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

17th Sunday after Pentecost: First in Caring



September 19, 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.

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 My Shepard Will Supply My Need Marshall McDonald
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 or relatively new to our community and want to be involved, share your email address or phone with a greeter in the narthex. We are delighted to get to know you!

There is a nursery space on the first floor if it is needed and bags with activities in the narthex.

Introit God is in this Holy Place J. Brahms, arr. H. Hopson

*Call to Worship

One: Friends in Christ, we are gathered to give thanks for all we have received in God's goodness:

All: to praise God's holy name; to acknowledge and confess our sins; to hear God's holy word;

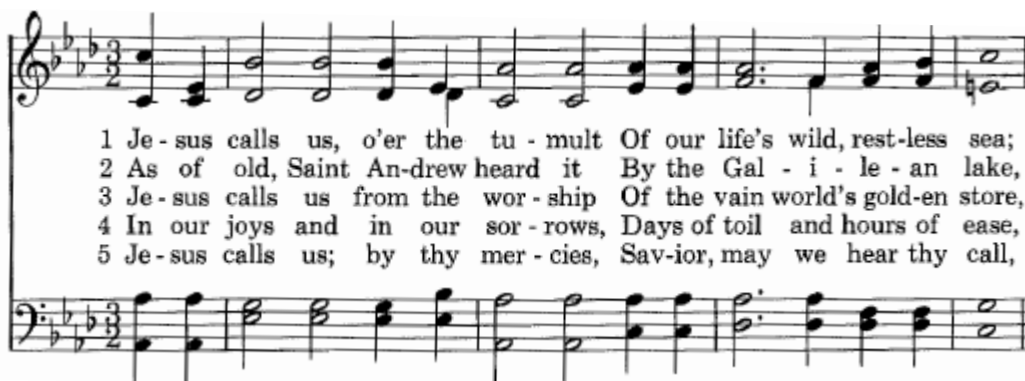
One: and to ask those things needful for life.

All: Let us draw near to God in all humility and celebrate infinite mercy.

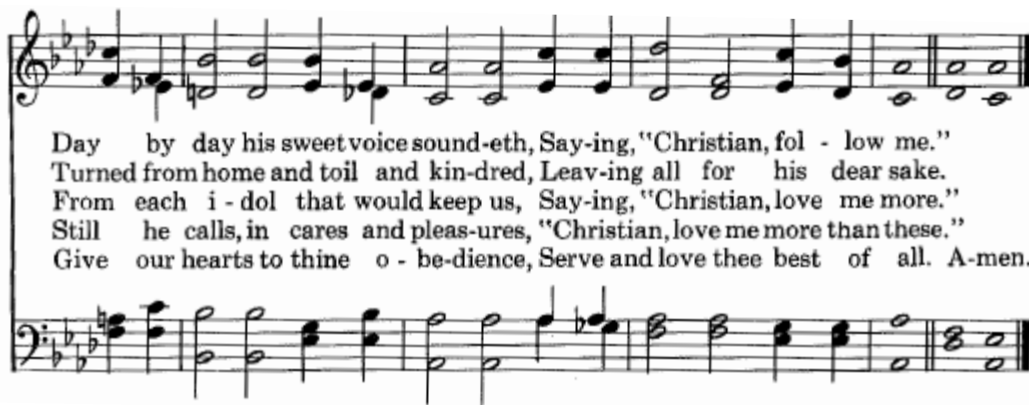
One: In this hour we are welcome to pour out our sorrow and our joys; for as God speaks, God listens too.

All: In our seeking wisdom we will surely find some courage. Let it be so!

***Hymn** Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult PH (red) #322



1 Je - sus calls us, o'er the tu - mult Of our life's wild, rest-less sea;
2 As of old, Saint An-drew heard it By the Gal - i - le - an lake,
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship Of the vain world's gold-en store,
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, Days of toil and hours of ease,
5 Je - sus calls us; by thy mer - cies, Sav-i-or, may we hear thy call,



Passing of the Peace

We invite you to text or email someone a note of peace today. A hand-written note will work too.
(You could place this on someone's car or in their mailbox later today.)

Unison Gathering Prayer

All: Gracious God, gentle in Your power and strong in Your tenderness, You have brought us forth from the womb of Your being and breathed into us the breath of life. We know that we do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from You. Feed our deep hungers with the living bread that you give us in Jesus Christ. May Jesus' promise, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them," be fulfilled in us. Through the Holy Spirit, make us a joyful company of your people so that with the faithful in every place and time we may praise and honor You. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: Holy Spirit, we often want to only tend to ourselves, even when we have opportunities to serve. Guide us back towards Your loving kindness, which we may share.

All: Surely we'll find new beginnings as we give of ourselves with courage and trust. Let us believe and proclaim: 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 the Living God

NCH (black) #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.

Message for All Ages

Children and youth are welcome to come forward during the message for all ages if they like. The message for all ages will truly be intergenerational this morning so if children want to stay in the pews that is okay too!

***You are the seed that will grow a new sprout,
You're the star that will shine through the day.
You are the yeast and a small grain of salt, a beacon to glow in the night.
Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all:
Messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.***

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Psalm 1

Mark 9: 30-37

One: O Holy God, grant us peace as we meditate and reflect. Grant that Your Spirit speaks comfort and challenge to us on this day; give us strength and peace. We pray that You move between words and hearing.

All: Amen.

Message

“A Servant’s Heart”


Rev. Sara M. Holland

***Hymn**

Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed

NCH (black) #537

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. Below the treble staff, there are four lines of lyrics, each starting with a number (1, 2, 3, 4) and corresponding to the notes above. The lyrics are: 1 Chris - tian, rise and act your creed; let your; 2 Hearts a - round you sink with care; you can; 3 Of - fer oth - ers hope and joy, and God's; 4 Come then, law di - vine, and reign: faith that



prayer be in your deed; Seek the right, per - form the
 help their load to bear; You can bring in - spir - ing
 wor - ship your em - ploy; Giv - ing thanks in hum - ble
 doubt as - sails in vain, Per - fect love be - left of

true, raise your work and life a - new.
 light, strength - en them to do the right.
 zeal, learn - ing all God's will to feel.
 fear, born in heaven and ra - diant here.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

Joys and concerns

Pastor: O God, in Your grace and mercy . . .

All: Hear Your people at prayer

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 Anthem

The Lord's My Shepherd

Emma Lou Diemer

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: Wondrous Creator, You provide us our strength and gladness through the privilege of human creativity and labor. You supply all that is needful to bring forth bread and drink from the earth. With grateful hearts we offer you those signs of our work, that You may use them all to bring Love to all the world in need – the orphan, the lonely, the one without shelter. Amen.

SENDING

***Hymn**

I Love to Tell the Story

NCH (black) #522

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove.
2 I love to tell the sto - ry; more won - der - ful it seems
3 I love to tell the sto - ry; it's pleas - ant to re - peat .
4 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

Of Je - sus' ra - diant glo - ry, of Je - sus' end - less love.
than all the gold - en vi - sions of all our gold - en dreams.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, I tell it now to you
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when I sing in glo - ry, I know the new, new song

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
 be - cause I want to share it, be - cause I know it's true.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
 will be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; and when I am in glo - ry

I'll tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus' end - less love.

***Pastoral Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Let Us Go Forth Gladly

Hal Hopson

Postlude

It Is Well With My Soul

Cindy Berry

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 outside the church as you leave

Keeping in Prayer:

Lynda & Len Swenson, parents of Megan Magrauth
Aaron, Jess and all who struggle with addiction
Charlie & Wendy Scouras
Prayers for those affected by Hurricane Ida
Prayers for Healing for Valerie, a dear friend of Sally Jensen
Prayers for the people of Haiti & to the people of
Afghanistan
Prayers for Healing for Brian Paine
Thoughts & Prayers for Terry Cote
Rev. Rich Weymouth – family of Lisa Lovett
Timothy Wei, Susan & Philip Wei’s Son
Prayers & Healing for Ruth Monroe
Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson’s Mother-in-law
Sympathy and prayers for the family of Robert Heal Jr.,
brother-in-law of Marlin Collingwood
Continued prayers for Masvingo UCCZ in Zimbabwe
Bob, Georgene Fabian’s brother and his wife, Joan
Marjorie Glidden and family
Dick & Paulette Brace
Alice & Margaret Avery
Annie Rice, Bev Tedeschi’s mother
Sue Switaj
Jean Nilson, Susan Wei’s sister

Prayers for those administering and receiving 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

Today	9:30 AM	17 th Sunday after Pentecost
	7:00 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv (This week’s TV view will be from September 12th, 2021)
Tuesday	2:00 PM	Human Resources Meeting via zoom
	7:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting via zoom
	7:00 PM	Racial Justice Meeting via zoom
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Staff Meeting
	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
Thursday	6:00 PM	Staff Meeting

Save the date! Corn Maze trip on Sunday, October 24th more info coming soon!

NH Food Bank is having a mobile food pantry on Thursday, September 30th from 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM in the Walmart parking lot at 683 Tenney Mtn. Highway. This is a drive thru event, all items will be distributed to you in your vehicles.

A BIG Happy 90th Birthday to Philip Wei! We hope your birthday is as wonderful as you are Philip! If you would like to send him birthday wishes please mail them to:
Philip Wei 4818 Berkman Drive, Apartment 4159, Austin, TX 78723

Good News From Mission & Social Outreach - Gale Adams-Davis, a member of the M&O Committee, is hosting a refugee family from Central America. Rebecca Larson, Ann Thurston and Linda LaPrad are helping the family get acclimated to the area, and other team members are helping them continue navigating through the paperwork needed to settle in the U.S. M&O will be assisting in the effort and will be looking for volunteers who can help with the family's needs. If you are interested in helping, please contact Linda LaPrad.

Invitation to Sunday Nighters - Peggy and Wayne Martin would like to invite you to our house for a gathering of Sunday Nighters at 5:00 pm on Sunday, September 26. Please come only if you are fully vaccinated against Covid-19. We will meet inside our home. This is a pot-luck meal, so bring something to share. Our address is **2196 US Route 3, Campton, NH 03223. Our phone number is 603-726-3033.**

Please welcome Jennifer Byam to our church staff! Jennifer recently moved to Plymouth and is excited to join PCUCC as the Faith Formation Director. She has experience teaching first through third grades in Montessori classrooms. Jennifer has a Master of Arts in Teaching. Jennifer has previously attended First Parish Congregational Church in Wakefield, Massachusetts. In her spare time Jennifer enjoys walking and reading. She is looking forward to sharing the Bible with our students.

For this school year we will be running Sunday school in person, with masks on, the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Please email Jennifer if you need any additional information or have questions, faithformation@uccplymouth.org. We look forward to seeing you! We are seeking volunteers especially for our middle school and high school youth, please contact Jennifer or Julie Kelsey if you are interested.

Welcome to church families! Activity bags hanging outside the doors of the sanctuary in the Narthex and quiet 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 you may also find comfortable space on the lower level in our nursery and fellowship area.

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 start typing Plymouth Congregational Church & it should show up as you are typing to select.

Official call to the 220th Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Conference United Church of Christ, Saturday, October 16th, 2021, via zoom webinar & YouTube Livestream. To learn more visit: nhcucc.org/conference-ministries/2021-annual-meeting

HANNAFORD prepaid grocery cards are available in denominations of \$100, \$250 and \$500. Finance orders these cards on a regular basis, and the church receives 5% of amounts purchased. Cards are available by contacting Ann or Linda after services on Sunday, by phone, or email. Please make checks payable to PCUCC and write “Hannaford” on the memo line. If you shop at any HANNAFORD for your essentials, please purchase these prepaid cards often. 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: We are continuing these explorations this summer. We welcome new attendees and we pray you’ll reach out to Pastor Sara if you are considering ways to get involved in these important efforts. We will meet next on this Tuesday, September 21st at 7 pm via zoom.

This group is examining Layla Saad’s *Me and White Supremacy*.

Book Group – Plymouth Congregational Book Group will meet at 10 am Monday, September 27th in the Church Parlor. Please join us as we gather in fellowship and discuss our first selection of the year: *Anxious People* By Fredrik Backman.

During that meeting, we will choose our selections for the remaining months.

All are welcome! Any questions please contact Peggy Martin: pmartin03223@yahoo.com
OR Kathy Henning: henkat52@gmail.com

Our church council voted last week to remain open for this time with our mask mandate in place and a 65 person limit for any and all services or events. Because of this limitation, we encourage people to arrive early and be ever aware of physical/social distancing upon entry into our church home. Continue to be aware of COVID related concerns when on site; please do not assume old friends are okay with physical contact - always ask out of respect for the other person and be empathetic to anxieties anyone might have on the basis of the pandemic (or otherwise).

We want to encourage all community members (who are able) to get a COVID-19 vaccine. 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. **Small, in person meetings are allowed as long as all people in groups agree to such a format. Zoom, google meet, Skype, phone, etc. may still be used! Please consider care for creation and reducing greenhouse emissions when scheduling in person meetings.**

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

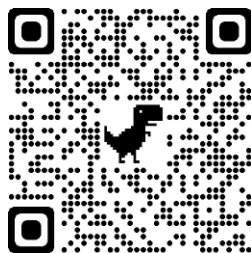
Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Sara will be at the church for office hours Monday – Wednesday 10:30 – 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.

The Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor	plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org
Courtney Crosato, Office Administrator	office@uccplymouth.org
David A. Williams, Director of Music	musicdirector@uccplymouth.org
Ashley Rose, Organist/Pianist	organist@uccplymouth.org
Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation	faithformation@uccplymouth.org
Ann Thurston, Treasurer	treasurer@uccplymouth.org

Liturgist: Wayne Martin

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
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(603) 536-2626 - office@uccplymouth.org - www.uccplymouth.org



Celebrating Birthdays in September & October in our Community:

September 8 Judy Floyd
September 12 Diane Arsenault
September 16 Philip Wei
September 20 Molly McCahan
September 25 Anna Switaj
September 27 Andrew Hedberg

October 1 Sophie Kelsey
October 1 Madelyn Kelsey
October 1 Paul Mason
October 2 Paulette Brace
October 5 John Fallon
October 15 Larry Spencer
October 15 Debbie Englehardt
October 16 Liam Kane
October 17 Donna Castor
October 30 Chase Woodsum

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