

**Plymouth Congregational
United Church of Christ
20th Sunday after Pentecost
UCC Access Sunday & Disabilities Awareness Week**



October 10, 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

The prelude is an invitation to personal preparation for worship.

Welcome & Announcements

Please, if you are 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 lower level if it is needed and activity bags in the narthex; each 1st and 3rd Sunday we have Sunday School.

*Please note, those who are able and willing may stand.

*Call to Worship

One: God's word is alive today!

All: Let us listen and learn to live.

One: God's word is discerning today.

All: Let us listen and know ourselves better.

One: God's word is bold today!

All: Let us listen and take courage.

One: God's word is active today.

All: Let us listen and rise to act!

*Hymn

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

PH (red) # 225

Verses 1-4

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.

Passing of the Peace

We invite you to text or email someone a note of peace today. A hand-written note will work too, perhaps on someone's car or in their mailbox later today.

Unison Gathering Prayer

All: Gracious God, you call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship. Help us to understand and accept the costs of following Christ, that we may know the joy you intend for the faithful. Make us life-long learners in the school of faithfulness, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: From the first disciples to the disciples of today, all have found it challenging to live Christ-centered lives. When those early disciples found themselves questioning the very possibility of salvation, Jesus responded, "for God all things are possible." That is our good news. God through Jesus has made the impossible, possible. In Christ, faithful actions and loving wholeness are possible.

All: Let us know that no matter who we are, we may rest in God's love. Our ancestors have showed us: 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

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.

On first and third Sundays we have a message for all ages during this time. We invite children and youth to remain in worship this Sunday if they like. There are also available 'wiggle' spaces on the sanctuary floor near the restrooms as well as on the lowest level of the church building. We hope that families will make themselves comfortable and know that giggling kiddos are more than welcome throughout the entirety of our service!

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Psalm 90: 12-17

Mark 10: 17-31

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

All: Amen.

Message

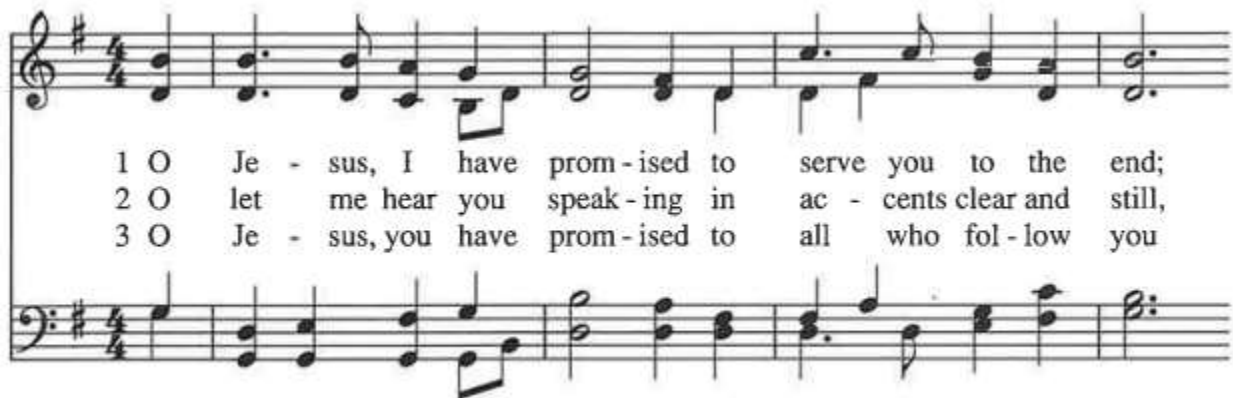
“Budgeting God's Realm”

Rev. Lynn Morrison

*Hymn

O Jesus, I Have Promised

NCH (black) #493



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 O let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
3 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my Sav - ior and my Friend;
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will!
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be, too;

I shall not fear life's strug - gles if you are by my side,
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol!
 And, Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 O speak, and make me lis - ten, O guar - dian of my soul!
 O give me grace to fol - low my Sav - ior and my Friend!

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

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 of Life, thank you for the way you have gifted our lives. Pour out your blessing upon these gifts that they may contribute to building your realm in our midst. We also pray that these gifts may be blessed to the joy of your people! May they bring cheer and gladness as they are put to good use. May they be free of fear and anxiety, given in love and trust, bearing your good news of grace to all creation. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn

Let Justice Flow like Streams

NCH (black) #588

1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spark - ling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,

En - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
An ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
And jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system contains three verses of lyrics. The second system contains the concluding lines of the hymn.

***Pastoral Benediction**

Postlude

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

Rev. Lynn will be happy to greet you outside the church as you leave.

Keeping in Prayer:

Love and sympathy for the family of Sid Lovett
Prayers for Sage Pirnie and her family
Sharon Wall, a friend of Donna Castor
Lynda & Len Swenson, parents of Megan Magraith
Aaron, Jess and all who struggle with addiction
Prayers for Courtney Crosato
Charlie & Wendy Scouras
Prayers for Healing for Valerie, a dear friend of Sally Jensen
Prayers for Healing for Brian Paine
Thoughts & Prayers for Terry Cote
Timothy Wei & Jean Nilson, family of Susan & Philip Wei
Prayers & Healing for Ruth Monroe
Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's mother-in-law
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

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	20 th Sunday after Pentecost, Indigenous Peoples Day Weekend
	7:00 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv
Oct 13 th	11:30 AM	Staff Meeting
Oct. 16 th	9:00 AM	220 th Annual Meeting of the NH Conference UCC via zoom webinar & YouTube Livestream. To learn more visit: nhcucc.org/conference-ministries/2021-annual-meeting
Oct. 17 th	9:30 AM	Confirmation Sunday, Baptism of Ball children. We welcome you to join in these historical rituals in person or via Facebook.
Oct. 20 th	9:30 AM	Lectio Devina Bible Study led by Pastor Sara
Oct. 24 th		Corn Maze trip! More info coming soon.

Oct. 31 st		All Saints Day
Nov. 7 th	9:30 AM	Installation of Rev. Sara M. Holland as our Pastor and Teacher, and thanksgiving for her leadership.
Nov. 14 th	9:30 AM	New Member Sunday

Note from Pastor Sara: Dear Church, it is hard to believe I'll joyfully celebrate *one year* with our beloved community this week! I am honored to be church with you each day. I will be away for my final vacation the Sunday of my first year of service, Oct. 10th, and return with gusto on Wednesday, Oct. 13th! As Courtney is away for health reasons at this time, please direct prayer concerns to Eileen Torrey for the upcoming week and do still contact me with urgent matters.

About Neighbors in Need Offering: Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts and direct service projects. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). Historically, forebearers of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara and Hocak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin and northern Nebraska. Please join us in this year's effort!

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. The M&O team 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, contact Linda LaPrad.

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.

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 Byam 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.

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.

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. 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 summer we purchased food for people, assisted families who needed back to school supplies, assisted folks with rental expenses as well as utilities. When we assisted families in preparation for school, we actually were able to meet a few of the children impacted; they were immensely grateful. We have deep gratitude for all of those who have contributed money and time related to the Hope Fund.*

Racial Justice Exploration: We are continuing these explorations this fall. 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. This group is currently involved in taking Harvard University’s Implicit Bias test online; we encourage you to consider doing so!

Book Group: 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. 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 - 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Thursday - 8:30 AM – 2:30 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.

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

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Celebrating Birthdays in October in our Community:

October 1	Paul Mason	October 16	Liam Kane
October 2	Paulette Brace	October 17	Donna Castor
October 5	John Fallon	October 20	Alice O'Connor
October 15	Larry Spencer	October 30	Chase Woodsum
October 15	Debbie Engelhardt		

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