

# Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost, Ordinary Time  
New Member Sunday, Honoring Veterans



November 14, 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

## Theme

Eugene Walckiers

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; on first and third Sundays we have Church School and please know we welcome wiggling worshippers.*

## Moment of Silence and Lighting of Candles

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

### \*Call to Worship

One: God is Holy; a God who is with us: above, beyond, yet beside.

**All: As a solid rock; a God of both knowledge and wisdom. God guards our hearts and holds our struggles.**

One: Power on earth has no power with God; with God, the hungry are fed and the blind see clearly.

**All: Spirit – bring about life and love in us this hour. Remind us to whom we belong and for what purpose we exist.**

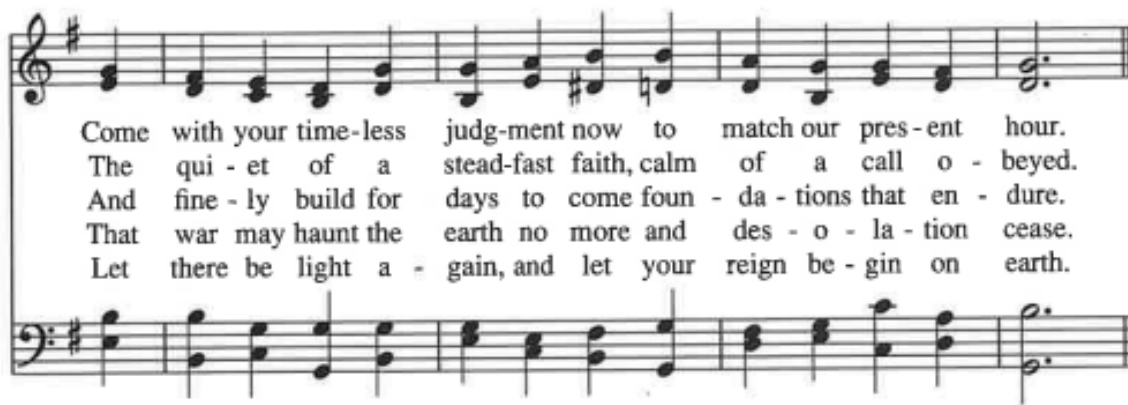
One: Even we who are needy will be brought to our call – those of us who struggle will find a seat of honor *in* a seat of humility.

**All: You are our pillar and our foundation, God: hear Your people in active prayer.**

### \*Hymn

O Day of God, Draw Near NCH (black) #611

1 O Day of God, draw near in beau - ty and in power,  
2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid,  
3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure,  
4 Bring to our world of strife your sov - ereign word of peace,  
5 O Day of God, draw near as at cre - a - tion's birth;



## 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: Creator God – surely Your beauty and power will surround us this hour and in our lives. Let us recall the ways You watch over our step and our word. Let our anxious hearts and struggling minds rest in the great faith laid out by Your word and the faith ancestors who have come before us. This very day, we are so honored to be with Linda, Jennifer, Campbell and Eileen. Rest on them each, God. In this hour, let us each consider the ways we are called to be church and the ways we are called to show Love to the world. We pray all this for Love's sake. Amen.**

## Silence for Personal Reflection

### God's Promise of New Life

**One:** Ancient of days, Holy Spirit – we have often missed opportunities to listen deeply to our neighbors. We have too often listened only with the intent to respond. This morning, let us find new life in moments of connectivity and genuine connection.

**All:** Let us see the bonds with those who seem so different from us. Give us empathy for all we encounter. We recall: 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.

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 floor 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!*

## Reception of New Members

*We invite forward Jennifer Byam, Linda Byam, Campbell Lovett & Eileen Lovett.*

**Community Covenant: We covenant one with another to seek and to respond to the Word and will of God. We purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church to witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world while worshipping God, and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our faith ancestors, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God and look with faith toward the triumph of righteous and eternal life.**

**Words of Welcome: We welcome you with joy into the life of our church! We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes, labors and joys of life lived in Christian community. In the Spirit of Jesus, in laughter and in love, may we continue to grow together in faith, serving God and our neighbors.**

## HEARING THE WORD

**Scripture Readings** 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 2: 2-5, 7-8 (adapted) Mark 13: 1-8

One: Holy One, may the meditations of our hearts and minds be acceptable to You on this day. May we be moved with peace and motivation today. We pray that Your Spirit moves between words and hearing.

**All: Amen.**

\*Hymn

Faith of Our Fathers

PH (red) #365

\*\*we invite people to use ‘mothers’ if they desire; please, let this hymn feed your spirit!\*\*

1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still In spite of dun - geon,  
 2 Our fa - thers, chained in pris - ons dark, Were still in heart and  
 3 Faith of our fa - thers, God's great power Shall win all na - tions  
 4 Faith of our fa - thers, we will love Both friend and foe in

fire, and sword. O how our hearts beat high with joy  
 con - science free, And blest would be their chil - dren's fate,  
 un - to thee, And through the truth that comes from God,  
 all our strife, And preach thee, too, as love knows how,

When - e'er we hear that glo - rious word! Faith of our fa - thers,  
 If they, like them, should die for thee. Faith of our fa - thers,  
 Man - kind shall then in - deed be free. Faith of our fa - thers,  
 By kind - ly words and vir - tuous life. Faith of our fa - thers,

ho - ly faith, We will be true to thee till death. A - men.

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## Prayers of the People

**Joys and concerns including thanks for those who have served in the military**

**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.

## 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

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

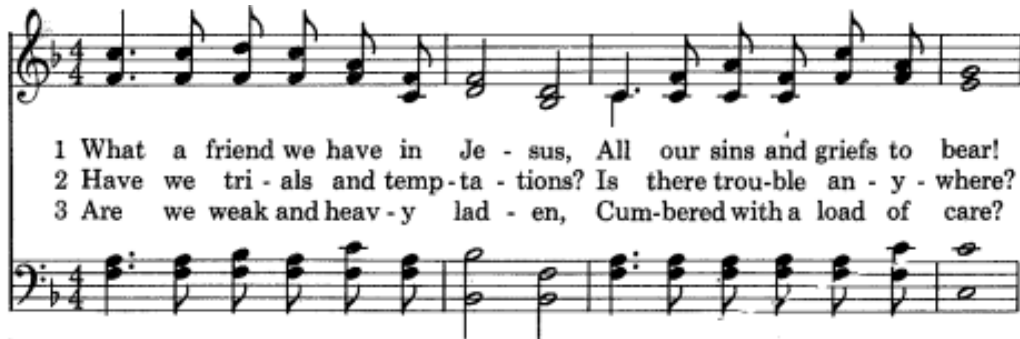
**All:** Spirit of Truth, we desire to be true to Love, to Gospel, and to Your call. We are thankful for those who have served and for the opportunity to find Your truth in meaningful connections. Holy One, accept these offerings and let them work to repair the world. With the dare to hope when all seems bleak, we present these gifts. Along with these gifts, we offer of our own lives in our communion here in church – let us provide Love through our actions and words. May we serve those most in need – the hungry, the hurting, and the lonely. We pray all this in Jesus' name, the Creator, Redeemer, the Sustainer of us all; amen.

# SENDING

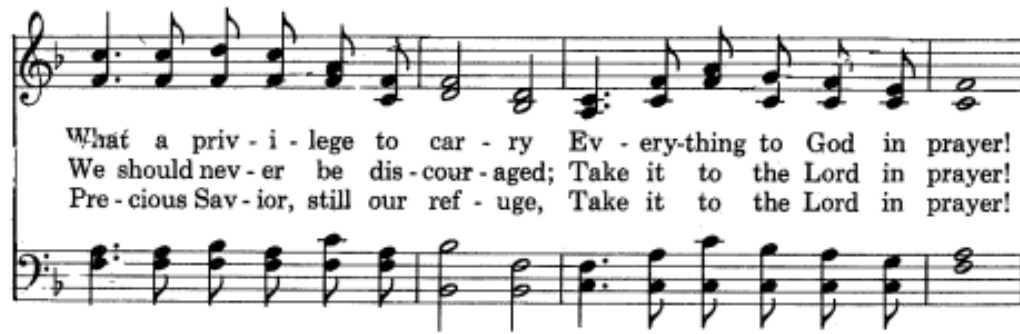
\*Hymn

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

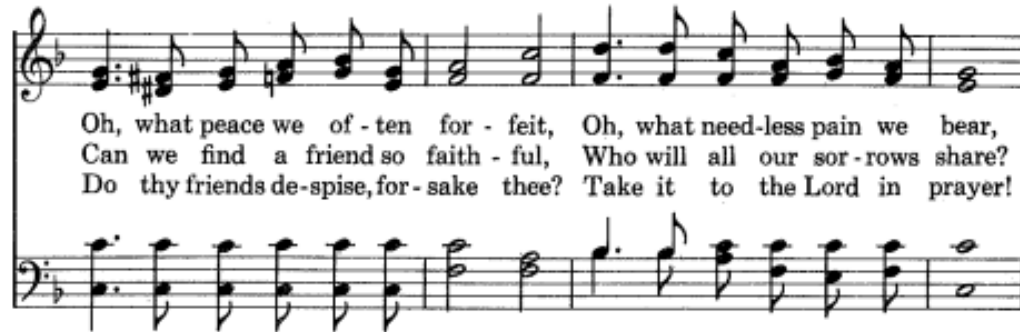
PH (red) #335



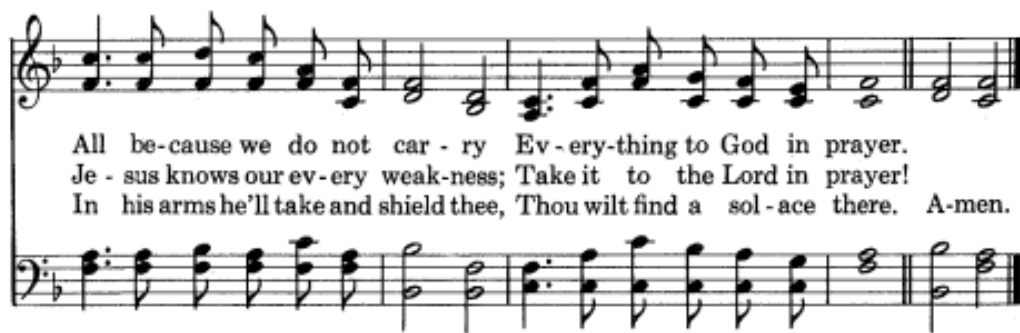
1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, Take it to the Lord in prayer!



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, Oh, what need - less pain we bear,  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful, Who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - ery - thing to God in prayer.  
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a sol - ace there. A - men.

## **\*Pastoral Benediction**

## **Choral Benediction**

## **Postlude**

Autumn, from the four Seasons

Antonio Vivaldi

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:**

Love and Sympathy to Alice Avery and the family of Margaret Avery

Prayers for Kathy Henning's nephew, Colin Slocumb  
Susan Wei

Love and Sympathy for the family of Tommy Hadley who passed away recently, a close friend of the Kelsey's

Love and Sympathy for Janice, Jeff, Christopher and Maresa Nielson, the family of Joe Pedrin who passed away recently  
Bill Larsen's recovery and for his family

Dianne Anderson, sister of Donna Castor

Love and sympathy for the family of Sid Lovett

Prayers for Sage Pirnie and her family

Lynda & Len Swenson, parents of Megan Magrath

Aaron, Jess and all who struggle with addiction

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

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

Annie Rice, Bev Tedeschi's mother

Sue Switaj

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](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org).



### **This Week and More at PCUCC**

Today	9:30 AM	25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, New Member Sunday, Honoring Veterans
	7:00 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv
Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Racial Justice Meeting
Nov. 17 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 AM	Lectio Divina Bible Study
	11:30 AM	Staff Meeting
Nov. 18 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Nov. 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Service
Nov. 28 <sup>th</sup>		First Sunday in Advent
	11:00 AM	Decorating of the Star Child Tree
Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Vivaldi Concert
Dec. 12 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 PM	All Church Caroling
Dec. 19 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	'Blue' Christmas Service, making space for grief
Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service

**Decorating of the Star Child Tree** – Please join us for decorating the Star Child Christmas Tree in the Sanctuary on November 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM, right after Worship ends. The Star Child Tree is for children in Head Start & High School students that need a little extra help during the holidays. Look for the stars on the tree in the Narthex. Contributions can be made to Missions & Outreach. See Rebecca Larson for further details.

**Turkey Vouchers** - If you or anyone you may know needs help to purchase a turkey for thanksgiving, we have some \$15 vouchers to give. Please email: [office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org) or call the office at 603-536-2626. Please leave a voicemail if we do not answer.

**Good News From Mission & Social Outreach:** We are happy to report that everything is going well for the refugee family Gale Adams-Davis is hosting. Six-year-old Kimberly is doing great in school, acclimating well and making lots of friends. She has an hour each day of ESL at school giving her some extra help. Mateo will begin Head Start in January when he turns three. And Chris begins her once-a-week ESL classes in Plymouth on Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in helping there are several ways including transportation, babysitting, and providing friendship and activities. Let Linda LaPrad know if you can help.

**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 or Julie for more information at [faithformation@uccplymouth.org](mailto: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, Linda 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 or Linda 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 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](mailto: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:** The next book group will be on November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10 AM. All are welcome! Any questions please contact Peggy Martin at [pmartin03223@yahoo.com](mailto:pmartin03223@yahoo.com) or Kathy Henning at [henkat52@gmail.com](mailto: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 - 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM  
Wednesday - 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM  
Thursday - 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM  
Friday - 8:00 AM – 3:00 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](mailto: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	<a href="mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org">plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org</a>
Courtney Crosato, Office Administrator	<a href="mailto:office@uccplymouth.org">office@uccplymouth.org</a>
David A. Williams, Director of Music	<a href="mailto:musicdirector@uccplymouth.org">musicdirector@uccplymouth.org</a>
Ashley Rose, Organist/Pianist	<a href="mailto:organist@uccplymouth.org">organist@uccplymouth.org</a>
Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation	<a href="mailto:faithformation@uccplymouth.org">faithformation@uccplymouth.org</a>
Ann Thurston, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@uccplymouth.org">treasurer@uccplymouth.org</a>

Liturgist: Wayne Martin  
Guest Musicians: Jan Bass, Peggy Martin & Ashley Rose

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ  
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Celebrating Birthdays in November in our Community:

November 1 Ivan Bass  
November 2 Leif Magrauth  
November 5 Nick Zwald  
November 11 Michael Conklin  
November 13 John Shaw  
November 18 Georgene Fabian  
November 21 Cameron Brand

\*\*If you have a birthday or anniversary this month or next month that you would like listed, please email us at [office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org)

