

# Plymouth Congregational, United Church of Christ

## An Easter Celebration



April 4, 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

“Maccabeus”

David Terry

The prelude is an invitation to personal preparation for worship.

### Call to Worship

One: A Light has come to enlighten all; the stone is rolled away and we bear witness to a miracle, once again!

**All: Christ has risen; Christ has risen, indeed!**

One: No principality can control the Love of Christ and the glorious movement of Holy Spirit. Let us praise and sing this day!

**All: Christ has risen; Christ has risen, indeed!**

One: In celebrating the joy of resurrection, we recall the ways that we are renewed, day by day, breath by breath. Be our center, O Holy God!

**All: Christ has risen; Christ has risen, indeed!**

### Hymn

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

NCH (black) # 233

Arnold Rose, Trumpet

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Let the Vic - tor's peo - ple sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say: Al - le - lu - ia!  
Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Christ the Lord is Risen Today". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The first system contains four verses of lyrics. The second system contains four lines of lyrics. The music is in 4/4 time and features a melody with various note values and rests, accompanied by chords and bass lines.

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Dy - ing once, Christ lives to save, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Death in vain for - bids Christ rise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, glad heavens, and earth re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!  
 God has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!

## Passing of the Peace

We invite you to text or email someone a note of their beauty or belovedness. Remind someone they are a new creation! A hand-written note will work too.  
 (You could place this on someone's car later today.)

## Gathering Prayer

One: Eternal God, You created all things by the power of Your Word, and you renew the earth by Your Spirit.

**All: Let us feel our new beginning: Your Resurrection! Let us become alleluias to the world!**

One: Give now the life of resurrection to all who are in need; nourish us with hope this hour and let us proclaim Your Word to all the world.

**All: Let us feel our new beginning: Your Resurrection! Let us become alleluias to the world!**

One: Your heavenly reign is among us and has granted us an abundant life, even in the midst of struggle. Holy God, we know that You live and reign forever.

**All: Let us feel our new beginning: Your Resurrection! Let us become alleluias to the world!**

## Silence for Personal Reflection

### God's Promise of New Life

One: Spirit of Renewal, Jesus: we sing praises even in our brokenness and we know You see our faith; let us become part of Your story of new beginnings, once again.

All: **Holy God, we name ourselves to be a part of Your miracle! Let us proclaim Your good news, for You have risen indeed. 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**                      Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence                      PH (red) #107  
**Rank on rank the host of heaven, spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.**

## Hearing the Word

**Scripture**                      Psalm 118: 1-2, 14 – 17, & 21 – 24                      Mark 16: 1-8

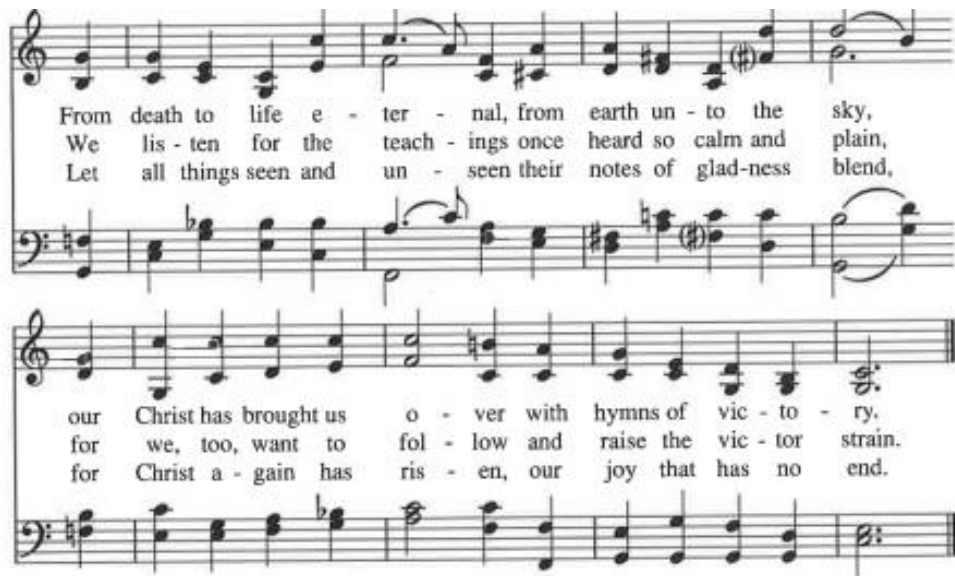
One: We read and hear that You have risen; let us dwell in Your sanctity. Let us feel Your Spirit as we reflect. Let us find wisdom for today in these ancient words. O Holy Spirit, we pray You move between words and hearing.

All: **Amen.**

**Message**                      “Fear & Hope”                      Rev. Sara M. Holland

**Hymn**                      The Day of Resurrection                      NCH (black) #245

1 The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;  
2 Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right  
3 Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth its song be - gin,  
the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God,  
the Christ who reigns e - ter - nal in res - ur - rec - tion light;  
the whole world keep high tri - umph, and all that is there - in;



## Responding to the Word

### Offertory

“Naranza”

David Terry

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: Gracious God, we give You thanks for the springtime of our lives, for the beauty of your mercy, and for the chance to start afresh, every day. Receive the gifts we offer as signs of our commitment to becoming living gifts for the world. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, our power and possibility are yours, God most holy, now and forever. Amen.**

## Gathering at the Table

### 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. Let us be led to a great alleluia!

### 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

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. Now send us forth to be Your people in the world and to proclaim New Life in You. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil, and to proclaim in all we say and do Your Good News in Christ Jesus our Savior. This we pray through Christ our Lord who taught us to pray:

### 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.

## Sending

Hymn

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

NCH (black) #240

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 To the tomb the wom - en bring, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 There the an - gel clothed in white, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 "Has - ten now to Gal - i - lee," Al - le - lu - ia!  
5 Christ ap - pears in full ar - ray, Al - le - lu - ia!

Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Spic - es rich, an of - fer - ing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Tells the news with great de - light, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 "Tell the oth - ers what you see!" Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Sing with joy this Pas - chal day, Al - le - lu - ia!

Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Ask - ing where might Je - sus be, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 This the news the an - gel gives, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 With ex - cite - ment trem - bling, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Christ now from the dead is raised, Al - le - lu - ia!

UNISON

Suf - fer to re - deem our loss, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Sav - ior come to set us free, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 That the Sov - ereign glo - rious lives, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Off they run, good news to bring, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Ho - ly Trin - i - ty be praised, Al - le - lu - ia!

**Benediction**

**Postlude** "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" J.S. Bach, arr. Jonathan Robbins  
 Arnold Rose, Trumpet and Ashley Paine, piano

*This ends our worship and sends us into the world where our true service begins.*

## **Prepare Communion before Worship if able**

Today's worship service will include the celebration of the Lord's Supper. We encourage you to participate in the sacrament and to prepare bread and cup before the service begins. Here is a suggested preparation.

Before the time of the service, you will want to prepare some bread, a slice or a small loaf of any kind of bread. In some parts of the world tortilla, rice cake or cassava are used as this element which is defined not as a wheat product, but as the most common food of the people. Let it be something you alone or you with others in your house may break and share. Prepare a cup or cups of juice — perhaps grape or cranberry — or wine, with or without alcohol.

Set these elements in the living room or kitchen where you experience worship electronically with our faith community. Perhaps you want to put them on a lovely cloth or fabric that reminds you of a special time or a person deeply connected with you in the communion of saints. Perhaps you will light a candle, place a flower/plant or the photograph of someone you wish to bring into the circle of faith beside the bread and the cup. We invite you to make your preparation intentional and authentic.

### **Keeping in Prayer**

Maryam Pasha and her family

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](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org).

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

Thurs, April 1	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday service
Fri, April 2	7:00 PM	Good Friday service
Easter Sunday	6:10 AM	Sunrise service, Livestream on the front steps of the church
	9:30 AM	Worship Service on Facebook Live
	10:30 AM	Easter Flowers may be picked up from church
	1:00 PM	Easter Egg Hunt for children and youth



	6:30 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv
Monday	10 – 2	Easter flowers may be picked up from church office
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Zoom Staff Meeting
	7:00 PM	Evening prayer and devotional
April 10	10 – 12 a/p	Rev. Reneé Rouse on Racial Justice Exploration
April 11	9:30 AM	Bill Torrey offers sermon – please tune in!

**Please welcome our guest musician and friend, Arnold Rose:**

Arnold Rose, Ashley’s Paine’s dad, has been playing the trumpet since grade school. He played through high school, took some time off and then picked it back up about 30 years ago - He hasn't put down the trumpet since! Arnold plays with the Brattleboro American Legion Band in Brattleboro, VT and the Residential Band, a jazz/big-band combo in Southern Vermont with my mom, Marlene, who plays the alto sax. Ashley and Arnold have played together in their home church (The United Methodist Church in Brattleboro, at many of my piano recitals and churches, and have also played in the American Legion Band together from about 2003-2006). They have also attended two competitions during that time. It is very special to have Arnold and Ashley playing together on Easter!

**Call to meeting for April 25<sup>th</sup>:** From Alice O'Connor, Clerk, PCUCC: The members of the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Plymouth, NH are called to attend a Congregational Meeting to inform everyone on the progress of our Capital Campaign. This meeting will be held on Sunday, April 25, 2021 starting at 10:45 am. Due to our current practices related to the Covid-19 virus, this meeting will be held via Zoom, but can also be accessed over the telephone. If you will be remotely attending this meeting, we ask that you either email us by replying to [office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org), or call us at: 603-536-2626 to let us know. A link to this Zoom meeting, as well as an agenda for the meeting, will be sent out 1 day prior to the meeting to all who have contacted us. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

**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.

**Huge thanks to Eileen Torrey for her commitment to our church family** during the interim office time. We continue to be blessed by her presence and leadership.

**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 [lilylovett@gmail.com](mailto:lilylovett@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](mailto:jbass8150@gmail.com).

**We continue to pray for the PSU community** as courses enter the spring season, the athletic department takes to outdoor fields and courts, and future students prepare to matriculate this fall.

**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.

**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** - Save the date for April 10<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 12 pm when Rev. Reneé Rouse will lead our community in a Racial Justice exploration via Zoom. No preparation is needed to attend this session.

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.

**Rev Sara will be off on April 5 & 6.**

Small meetings may be possible in person with masks.

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

David Williams, Director of Music

Ashley Paine, Organist/Pianist

Gale Adams-Davis, Co-Director of Faith Formation

Julie Kelsey, Co-Director of Faith Formation

Larry Spencer, Treasurer

Celia Woolverton, Grace Counseling

[plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org)

[musicdirector@uccplymouth.org](mailto:musicdirector@uccplymouth.org)

[organist@uccplymouth.org](mailto:organist@uccplymouth.org)

[windygla2@yahoo.com](mailto:windygla2@yahoo.com)

[faithformation@uccplymouth.org](mailto:faithformation@uccplymouth.org)

[treasurer@uccplymouth.org](mailto:treasurer@uccplymouth.org)

[clwlcsw@gmail.com](mailto:clwlcsw@gmail.com)

Carol Stewart, Liturgist

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

4 Post Office Square, P.O. Box 86 Plymouth, NH 03264

(603) 536-2626 - [office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org) - [www.uccplymouth.org](http://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  
March 30 Megan Magrauth  
March 31 Michael Nicholas

April 1 Wayne Martin  
April 5 Sue Switaj  
April 17 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](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org)\*\*

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# *Easter Dedications 2021*

*The flowers that decorate our Chancel this morning  
and the generous donations to the Hope Fund are given by:*

*In Memory of*

*Joan Campbell Lovett from the Sid Lovetts  
Mary Young from Libby Coley & Sara Holland  
Tina Leehr from Libby Coley & Sara Holland  
Helen, Louville & Lynne (Wayne's parents & sister) from Wayne Martin  
Our parents: Muriel and Robert W. Pollock Sr. and  
Caroline and Arthur J. Anderson Jr. from Bob and Chris Pollock  
Loved ones in the Pierson, Love, Hahn & Torres families from Carol Hahn  
Sara & Harold Moses and Guy Taylor from Paul R. Belyea  
Elizabeth W. Cheney from Ann Thurston  
Cynthia Clough from Ashley Paine  
Rick Fabian from Georgene Fabian  
Dave Talbot, Peggy Suntum from Alice O'Connor  
David Starck from Hanna Starck  
Mac Bownes from Arline Bownes*

*In Celebration of*

*The Vaccine for All from Nance & Ken Ruhm  
Great Grandson Forest LaPrad from Jim & Linda LaPrad*

*In Thanksgiving for*

*Friends and Family from The Sid Lovetts  
Our Family and our Church Family from Eileen & Bill Torrey  
Our pastor, Rev. Sara Holland & our staff David Williams, Ashley Paine, Julie  
Kelsey, Gale Adams-Davis & Michael Nicolas from Eileen & Bill Torrey*