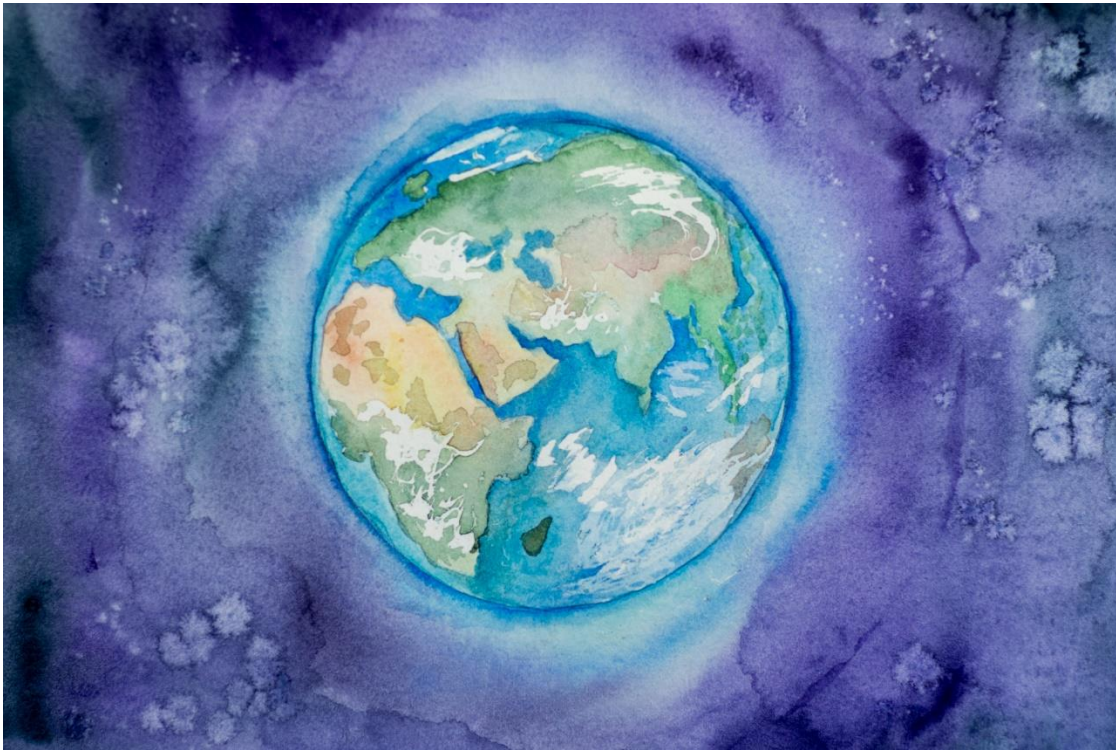


Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Fourth Sunday of Easter



April 21, 2024

9:30 am

We Practice Just Peace: doing justice, seeking peace
We are Open and Affirming: welcoming LGBTQ+ people
We Listen for the Still Speaking God
We are striving to be an Anti-Racism church
Our faith is 2000 years old; our thinking isn't.

Please inquire with people before assuming they are okay with physical contact.

GATHERING

Prelude

As the Dew from Heaven Distilling

J.J. Daynes

Welcome & Announcements

Please sign the red friendship pad as it is passed to you and return it to the center aisle noting your neighbor's name. If you would like to receive our weekly newsletter, please email the office at office@uccplymouth.org. Sunday School for all ages begins after the Message for All Ages on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays. Children are welcome to fill a bag with books and toys, which are in the narthex, to use during worship.

Introit

God of Love, Hear Our Prayer

John Helgen

*Those who are able may stand.

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist – Steve Majeski

“God Speaks, Earth Speaks” (*See insert*)

***Hymn**

Verses 1,2,3,5

SING OUT, EARTH AND SKIES

Words and Music by
Marty Haugen

Cantor: All:

1. Come, O God of all the earth: Come to us, O Right-ous One;
2. Come, O God of wind and flame: Fill the earth with right-ous-ness;
3. Come, O God of flash-ing light: Twin-king star and burn-ing sun;
4. Come, O God of snow and rain: Show-er down up-on the earth;
5. Come, O Jus-tice, Come, O Peace: Come and shape our hearts a-new;

Cantor: All:

Come, and bring our love to birth: In the glo-ry of your Son.
Teach us all to sing your name: May our lives your love con-fess.
God of day and God of night: In your light we all are one.
Come, O God of joy and pain: God of sor-row, God of mirth.
Come and make op-pres-sion cease: Bring us all to life in you.

Sing out, earth and skies! Sing of the God who loves you! Raise your

joy-ful cries! Dance to the life a-round you!

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***Passing of the Peace**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

In this time of Covid and flu, please respect each other's space by bumping elbows or making the peace sign.

Unison Gathering Prayer

O God, on this Earth Day Sunday, we come before you

to celebrate the Risen Christ

and to give thanks for the abundance and beauty of your creation.

Mountains, lakes, and woods reveal your Spirit in our midst!

We pray that all may have enough food and water,

and a safe, beautiful place in which to live.

How awesome is your creation!

Today, we renew our daily commitment to live out our faith

in the face of a changing climate,

so that earth and skies sing out your glory

for every generation to come. Amen.

Prayer of Reconciliation, with moments of silence for personal confession

One: God...

All: We have forgotten who we are.

God's Promise of New Life

One: To bring new life to the land, restore the waters, and refresh the air;

To renew the forests, protect the creatures, and rejoice in the sunlight;

All: God, we join with you, with your Creation, and with each other.

One: To remember our calling, renew our spirits, and reinvigorate our bodies;

To recreate the human community and reconcile with all Creation;

All: We join together as diverse expressions of one loving mystery:

for the healing of the earth and the renewal of all life. Amen.

Sung Response

NCH(black) #17

To you, O God, all creatures sing, and all creation, everything,

Sings your praises, Alleluia!

As savory fruit and fragrant flower show forth your glory and your power,

Singing praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Word for All Ages

Sung Response

NCH(black) #524

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine, This little light of mine, I'm gonna let shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings Psalm 104: selected verses
John 20:19-31

One: May God bless to our understanding these words of Holy Scripture.

All: Amen

Message

“Woliwoni”

Rev. Ruth Martz

*Hymn

“We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”

NCH(black) #363

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Offertory

Lord, Fill My Heart with Thankfulness

Stephen Kramer

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.

*Responsive Offertory Prayer

One: Thank you for the things of the earth that give us means of life:
animals, plants and herbs that we use for food and medicine.

**ALL: Thank you for the natural world,
in which we find the means to be clothed and housed.**

One: Thank you, O God, for these gifts of nature that make life abundant.

**ALL: Help us to find our place among these gifts,
that we may embody humility and reverence.**

One: May we respect the life of all you have made.

**ALL: May we partner with others in ways that bring new life
to this precious planet and to all who are struggling to live. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

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

Response: Hear your people at prayer.

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer of Our Savior

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.

**We believe that God is revealed in persons of all genders and sorts; we also honor tradition.

SENDING

***Hymn** "Peace I Leave with You, My Friends" NCH(black) #249

*Pastoral Benediction

Deep peace of the running wave to you. Deep peace of the flowing air to you.

Deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Deep peace of the shining stars to you.

Sun and moon pour their healing light on you.

Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you.

Deep peace falling over you. God's peace growing in you.

Deep peace of Christ to you.

Choral Benediction

The Lord Is My Hope

Aaron David Miller

Postlude

O Lord Most Holy

F. Abt

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

Feel free to let the music lead you out, or stay to listen, however the Spirit moves you.

Please join us downstairs after worship for coffee, food, and fellowship.

Photo on this bulletin cover is by Elena Mozhvilo, www.unsplash.com.

Laconia Indian Historical Association (LIHA)

53rd Annual Labor Day **Pow Wow**: Sat. Aug. 30 - Mon. Sept 2, 2024

117 Osgood Rd., Sanbornton NH

Traditional drumming and dances in regalia, artisans and crafts

For details and daily entry fees (\$5--\$10): www.LIHA.org

Abenaki tales by Joseph Bruchac: “Dog People, Native Dog Stories,” and “The Hunter’s Promise.”

Keeping in Prayer:

Prayers for the Rev. Judy Downing, friend of Eileen Torrey,
who is critically ill with an aortic aneurysm

Love and condolences to the family of Carl Getty, Eileen's brother-in-law,
who passed away in Michigan on Sunday, April 7th

Prayers for Ruth Mosher as she undergoes outpatient dialysis.

Prayers for Rebecca Herr, as she undergoes chemotherapy

Prayers for the people of Ukraine

Prayers for Eleanor Spencer’s brother, Ron Ury

Prayers for Alice Carey, friend of Alice O’Connor, who will be undergoing radiation therapy

Prayers for Kristin, friend of Alice O’Connor, who has recently been diagnosed with cancer

Prayers for Paulette Brace’s son, Shawn Cassington, for ongoing medical issues

Prayers for Sage Pirnie and her family, granddaughter of Diane Arsenault and Pete Pirnie

Prayers of healing for Sue Switaj

Prayers for our partner church in Zimbabwe, Masvingo UCCZ

*If you have a prayer request, please write on the yellow card in the pews and place it in the offering tray, or
send an email to plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org*

This Week and More at PCUCC

Monday, April 22	1:00 pm Knitting Group
Tuesday, April 23	7:00 pm AA Meeting
Wednesday, April 24	11:00 am Lectio Divina
Thursday, April 25	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
Friday, April 26	8:00 pm AA Meeting
Monday, May 6	10:00 am Book Group

CHURCH LIFE

Preaching Schedule:

April 28: Alison Thatcher

May 12: Alison Thatcher

May 5: Rev. Rebecca Larson

Interested in becoming a member of PCUCC? We will be receiving new members soon. If you would like to become a member of PCUCC or know of someone who would like to become a member, please contact Ruth Martz or Eileen Torrey.

Our Food Pantry shelves are almost bare! Please help your fellow community members in need by buying a few extra items for our food pantry on your next shopping trip. Suggested items are tuna in packets, canned goods with flip tops, and single serve applesauce, granola bars, and trail mix. You can leave items outside the church office or

place them in our Little Free Food Pantry in front of our church building. Your donation has a huge impact on this essential ministry!

Attention church members and friends. Nominating Committee is looking for interested individuals to join our church committee teams. If you have a passion and willingness to share your time and talents to contribute to the life our church please consider joining one of the wonderful groups of dedicated committee members. The nominating committee is excited to talk with folks about their interests and involvement. Please reach out to Megan Magrauth or Georgene Fabian with questions or interest in joining one of our amazing groups. Feel free to catch up with us in person after church or email meganmagrauth@gmail.com or georgene.fabian@gmail.com. We look forward to talking to you soon!

Lectio Divina: All are invited to gather Wednesday mornings from 11 a.m. to noon for a Bible study modeled on Lectio Divina, the sacred reading of scripture. Please join us. Rebecca Larson will lead us.

Book Group is reading [Becoming Kin: An Indigenous Call to Unforgetting the Past and Reimagining Our Future](#) by Patty Krawec. Join the discussion on May 6 and 20 at 10am in the parlor. Contact Kathy Henning for more information: henkat52@gmail.com.

Smores Time! Sign up for an UCC Outdoor Ministries Camp! Kids & Adults are Welcome! Horton Center is currently accepting registrations for sessions this summer. Come enjoy a transformative week on top of Pine Mountain celebrating the beauty of God's natural wonders and be a part of this incredibly supportive and positive community. Catalogs are available and can also be found online at www.hortoncenter.org. Conference scholarships are available. Counselors are also needed- enjoy great food and fun and a week of camp for free! Contact Tivvi Pare at tpare@nhcucc.org or Megan Magrauth at meganmagrauth@gmail.com with any questions. Hope to see you on the mountain this summer!

Spring Plant Sale Upcoming in May: Calling all green thumbs! We're looking for donations of a variety of indoor and outdoor plants AND veggies plus pots to use for the sale. More information coming soon! Please reach out to Jenny Thibeault at ThibeaultJennyR@gmail.com or 603-254-7824 if you have any questions.

FROM MISSION & OUTREACH

Soft Plastics Collection April and May: All soft plastic MUST be cleaned of food, dried, and stick-on labels cut out. Soft plastics include items such as: plastic bags, frozen food bags, plastic wrappings, bubble wrap, mulch/dirt bags, plastic nut bags, etc. Please place items in the large box in the Narthex and the bag in Fellowship Hall, where there are also samples. All soft plastic will be brought to the UU Church in Laconia, where it is trucked to Maine and repurposed into composite Trex decks and furniture. Thank you! Please pick up excellent resources for limiting your use of PLASTIC: "Real Faith in a Synthetic World: Plastic Jesus."

FROM FINANCE

Our current fiscal year closes on June 30. This is the time when we look back at all we've accomplished and look at the financial support needed to keep the flexibility, creativity, and faithfulness of our church alive and thriving. The budget, of course, is the biggest driver in determining our mission and ministry focus for the next fiscal year, 2024-25. Council and Finance will meet later this month to review church finances and priorities and determine next year's budget which will be presented to the congregation. Although the church has several sources of income, your pledge is most important in influencing the mission and ministry focus in the next fiscal year. You will soon be receiving information regarding our 2024-25 stewardship drive. With your financial support, we will be able to continue supporting the mission and ministry of our congregation. Please contact Linda LaPrad or Ann Thurston if you have any questions.

Support PCUCC with no cost to you! Purchase a **Hannaford Gift Card** in the amount of \$100, \$250, or \$500 by contacting Linda LaPrad or Ann Thurston. For every card purchased from the Finance Committee, the church receives 5% with no additional cost to you.

Office Hours

Tuesday – Friday 9:00-2:00

If you have a family emergency and want to talk with a pastor, please call Rev. Ruth Martz at 603-630-7936 or you may call Eileen Torrey at 603-252-7513.

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David A. Williams, Director of Music	musicdirector@ucplymouth.org
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Ann Thurston, Treasurer	treasurer@ucplymouth.org

Preaching: Rev. Ruth Martz
Accompanist: Dan Perkins

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Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries in April in our Community

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month or next, please email to: office@ucplymouth.org

Wayne Martin	April 1	Sabrina Tedeschi	April 17
Sue Switaj	April 5	Michael Carrier	April 25

