## Plymouth Congregational, United Church of Christ

### 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost: Our Dwelling Place



July 18, 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.

Per CDC guidelines, vaccinated individuals do not need to wear masks. If you are unvaccinated, please wear a mask.

### GATHERING

\*those who are able and willing may stand

### Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Holy Ground

Geron Davis

The prelude is an invitation to personal preparation for worship.

### \*Call to Worship

One: Blessed are you, gracious God, maker of earth and heaven; we give You thanks for the mystery revealed in the radiance of Christ and the Spirit.

# All: Are we strangers? How might we see ourselves in a communion of saints?

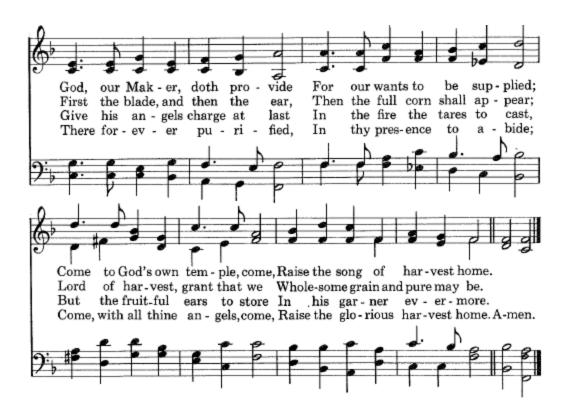
One: You Spirit is life-giving creativity for which we long, that which is undivided in beauty and power.

# All: Are we strangers? How might we see ourselves in a communion of saints?

One: With all the saints of the ages we lift our hearts to praise You forever.

All: Let us find ourselves as members of the household of God; let us know we are in a great communion.





### 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: Power of Peace, Eternal God, we come humbly and with gratitude. We have received much needed rain this week and the simplicity of the earth has held us. With our anxieties we forget Your ever-presence and abounding love. Let us find these in the hour; let us know that even when we feel as if we are strangers from You, from our neighbors and from ourselves, we are held. Let us know we are beloved as we sing, pray and hear Your good word. Give us hope, Holy One, that we might send such hope to people we encounter. Amen.

### Silence for Personal Reflection

### God's Promise of New Life

One: When we feel like strangers we often clam up and assume the worst about the people we know and meet. Let us be ever aware that even when we feel like strangers we are deeply known by You and held by Your love. We aim to rename ourselves as beloved.

All: Gracious God, remind us of the ways You created our bodies, minds and souls and let us name ways we are beloved. For your stories and word show 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.

ResponseSpirit of the Living GodNCH (black) #283Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on<br/>me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God fall afresh on

me.

### Message for All Ages

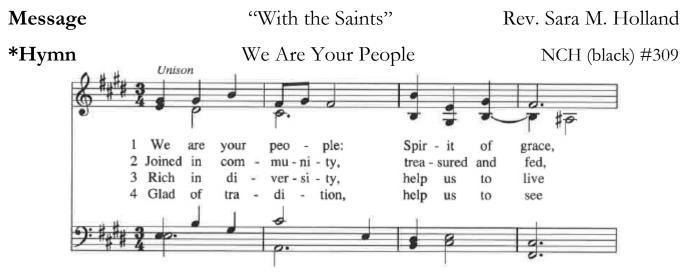
Children and youth are welcome to come forward during the message for all ages if they like. The message for all ages will truly be intergenerational this morning so if children want to stay in the pews that is okay too!

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 ReadingsPsalm 139: 1-14Ephesians 2: 11-22One: Holy One, be with the meditations of our hearts and minds. Grant that YourSpirit speaks comfort and challenge to us on this day. May we find ourselves in YourLove as we reflect - for You are our rock and redeemer. We pray that Your spiritmoves between words and hearing.

### All: Amen.





## **R**esponding to the word

### Prayers of the People

### Joys and concerns

Pastor:Oh 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

Be Thou My Vision Performed by Trish Lindberg We invite you to remember your support for the ministry of PCUCC.

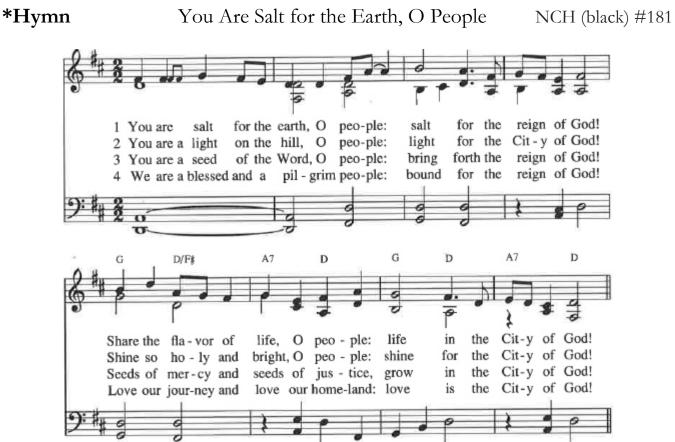
### \*Doxology

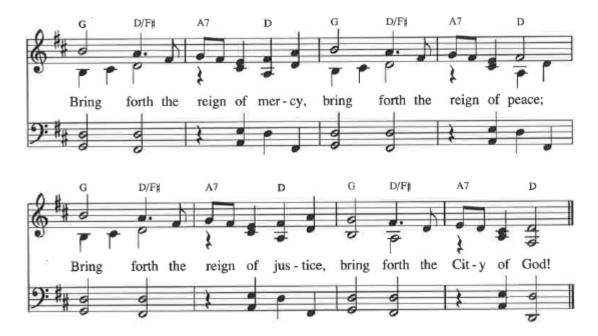
Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise God, all creatures here below Praise God above, you heavenly host: Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **\*Offertory Prayer**

All: Morning Star, we give You thanks for all good things which bless us. We give You thanks for the gift of selfhood, for hearts and minds to see Your miracles, and for relationships through which we are challenged to growth and new life. Bless these gifts, we pray. Let these humble offerings be carried to the child who is hungry, the grandparent who is lonely, the caretakers working long days and the ones who are commonly forgotten. We pray all this for Love's sake. Amen.

# SENDING





### \*Benediction

PostludeOh Jordan's Stormy Banksarr. By Cindy BerryThe 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:	Galen Doscher, son of Fred & Margee Doscher
	Brian Paine
	Thoughts & Prayers for Terry Cote
	Rev. Rich Weymouth By Lisa Lovett
	Prayers for the family of Mac Andrews, husband of Pat Andrews
	Timothy Wei, Susan & Philip Wei's Son
	Prayers & Healing for Ruth Monroe
	Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's Mother-in-law
	Rob & Monica Heal & family, Marlin Collingwood's brother-in-
	law
	Sympathy & Prayers for Carol Hahn's family
	Continued prayers for Masvingo UCCZ in Zimbabwe
	Bob, Georgene Fabian's brother and his wife, Joan
	Prayers for Sam Lovett as Spirit calls him to ministry!
	Marjorie Glidden and family
	Dick & Paulette Brace
	Alice & Margaret Avery
	Annie Rice, Bev Tedeschi's mother
	Sue Switaj
	Jean Nilson, Susan Wei's sister
	Judy Detzel, friend of Hanna Starck
	7

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 <u>plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org.</u>

### This Week and More at PCUCC

Today	9:30 AM	8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost
	6:30 PM	Worship service airs on PBTV (this week's TV view will be from
		July 11th, 2021)
		UCC General Synod ends (virtual event)
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Racial Justice meeting via zoom
		*Staff meetings resume in mid-August*

Important note: we will continue to stream our service online via Facebook and also have our service on PBTV.

Please join us for Sam Lovett's ordination on July 25th at 2 pm! We will limit the number of people present to 125 so do arrive early if you are able. Please save the date and plan to support and affirm Sam and the ministries to which he is being called.

Our next outdoor fellowship down by the river will be the first Sunday in August just after church. As a part of this fellowship time, we will be baptizing a friend in Christ, Tiesha Fenwick. Tiesha is a PhD student at PSU. This will be a wonderful event for anyone who is able to attend and support the ecumenical Christian church family through this sacrament; we hope you join us!

We are seeking out people to join a technology team which will include a rotation of folks to assist on Sunday mornings! Please let Rev Sara know if you are willing for this summer or fall. Training will be provided!

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.

**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!

**Our Director/s of Faith Formation positions are opening!** We are seeking someone who is interested in faithfully leading our children and youth; we begin our search in house because theological fit is important. If you might be interested in helping us choose curriculum and plan faith formation efforts, especially for Sunday mornings, please reach out to Jan Bass, the chair of Human Resources. This position is critically important to the life and ministry of our entire church, is paid, and is part time. It would pair well with another M-F job. Consider becoming a part of our team! Jan's email is: jbass8150@gmail.com

**Deacon's Corner** – The updates in this area are general so as to protect the privacy of families and individuals. Galen Doscher, son of Fred & Margee Doscher Brian Paine Thoughts and Prayers for Terry Cote

A note from Susan Wei: I would like to invite anyone who wants to come to a Friday night potluck dinner at our condo in Thornton on Orris Road building I apartment 5 B (every Friday in June and July). Bring a chair, a dish to pass, and we will have a grill going if you want that. It will be from 5 to 8 PM. If it is raining do not come as it will be outside. Need directions? Email me at: <u>mommyawei@gmail.com</u> and I will send it to you! The more the merrier!

**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 spring and 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 July 20<sup>th</sup>. This group is examining Layla Saad's *Me and White Supremacy*.

**Our church is now meeting in person and digitally;** we will continue to offer both options indefinitely. The Worship Services will continue to 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.

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

Monday – 9:00 AM – 2:15 PM Tuesday - 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM Wednesday - 8:00 AM – 11:15 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 <u>plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org</u> or on her work cell phone number at 336-485-5618 to set up a meeting.

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

Liturgist: Rebecca Larson Special Musician: Trish Lindberg

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ 4 Post Office Square, P.O. Box 86 Plymouth, NH 03264 (603) 536-2626 - office@uccplymouth.org - www.uccplymouth.org

Celebrating Birthdays in July in our Commu
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- July 6 Justice Merrithew-Stone
- July 6 Marilyn Wixson
- July 7Tammy LawlerJuly 8Lorelei Paine
- July 8Lorelei PaineJuly 8Sally Jensen
- July 8 Sally Jellsen
- July 17 Johanna Bentwood
- July 18 Alfie Kerr
- July 24 Rose Shimberg
- July 31 Bill Torrey

\*\*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\*\*