

Plymouth Congregational, United Church of Christ

Pentecost Sunday



May 23, 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

*those who are able and willing may stand

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Op. 68, No. 13: May, Sweet May

Robert Schumann

The prelude is an invitation to personal preparation for worship.

*Call to Worship

One: We come seeking God's Spirit. We know God moved among the early Christ followers and that God moves among us.

All: Come, heavenly Spirit, let us feel Your movement.

One: Surely the breath of God is in this place. As spring moves and the earth is joyful with the sounds of birds, life continues, with certainty.

All: Come, heavenly Spirit, let us become part of Your movement.

One: In God's Spirit, we seek a path. We look for strength in community and we aim to trust. We aim to be present for one another and for God.

All: Come, heavenly Spirit, let us know we are with You each and every moment.

*Hymn

Let Every Christian Pray

NCH #261

1 Let ev - ery Chris - tian pray, this day and ev - ery day,
2 The Spir - it brought to birth the church of Christ on earth
3 On - ly the Spir - it's power can fit us for this hour:

come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! Was not the church we love
to seek and save the lost: God nev - er has with - drawn,
come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! U - nite, in - struct, in - spire



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

Creator God, we often feel like dry bones: we feel ragged, worn, and we name a need for spirit, Your Spirit. We name that You are the power of love in our lives and we come with thanks. Meet us during this time. God, Your reign is as truth and life. Your reign is justice and Your reign is for all of creation, of which we are a part. Grant that we may sense Your Spirit this hour. In this time, we hope to find grace to be the hands and feet of compassion. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: We often feel we are in a valley, a dry valley with little to drink. Today, we hope to find that Spirit will quench our thirst and that we will be fed with love and hope. We seek a new beginning in Christ; we pray for the breath of God in our lives.

All: **Spirit Divine, move within us; we know Holy Spirit is among us as it was with the early Christ followers. Let us feel the ways you hold us as individuals and in community. For 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 the Living God

NCH (black) #283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me.

We invite you to check out the children’s message which was pre-recorded and posted on Facebook on Saturday!

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Acts 2:1-13

Ezekiel 37:1-14

One: Let these sacred texts move in our lives today. God join us in considering this text, we come for Your Truth. Let us find wisdom for today in these ancient words. O Holy Spirit, we pray You to move between words and hearing.

All: Amen.

Message

“Spirit Within You”

Rev. Sara M. Holland

***Hymn**

Breathe on me, Breathe of God

NCH (black) #292

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new
 2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
 3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one de - sire:
 4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.
 Un - til with you I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
 That ev - ery earth - ly part of me may glow with ho - ly fire.
 But live with you the per - fect life of your e - ter - ni - ty.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

You will 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 No. 12, Andante: Miniatures for Organ Herbert Howells

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: Blessed are You, O Power of Peace, for the abundance of mercies that grace our lives and enable us to share. Receive these gifts with the beauty of Your tender compassion, even as You receive us. Accomplish through these gifts and our grateful commitment, the work of love for the sake of creation. With Christ, in Christ, and through Christ in the unity of the Spirit, all power and possibility are Yours, God most holy. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

NCH (black)#293

Slowly

1 There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I
2 There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are
know that Spir - it's full - ness and be - lieve; you're the

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
one to prof - it when you say, "I am

to Refrain

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
going to stay with Je - sus all the way."

*Benediction

Postlude

It Is Well With My Soul Lavawan Riley

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

Keeping in Prayer:

Sympathy & Prayers for the family of Carol Hahn's Sister

Continued prayers for Masvingo UCCZ in Zimbabwe

Sympathy & Prayers to the family of Jamie McDougall

Bob, Georgine Fabian's brother and his wife, Joan

Prayers for Sam Lovett as Spirit calls him to ministry!

Sarah Thorne

Fran Lewis

Marjorie Glidden and family

Dick & Paulette Brace

Alice & Margaret Avery

Annie Rice, Bev Tedeschi's mother

Sue Switaj

Terry Cote & David Cote, close friends of Alice O'Connor

Jean Nilson, Susan Wei's 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.

This Week and More at PCUCC

Sunday	9:30 AM	Pentecost Sunday and partial return to worship!
	10:00 AM	Church School via zoom
	6:30 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv (this week's TV view will be from May 16th, 2021)
Monday	10:00 AM	Book Group meets
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Racial Justice Group meets (via zoom)
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Staff meeting
	4:00 PM	Prayer time and devotion (via zoom)
	7:00 PM	Council Meeting

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.

A message from the Finance Committee: It's stewardship time.

This is the time we look back at all we've accomplished and look forward at the financial support needed to meet the challenges of our next fiscal year.

We've been blessed with exceptional lay and pastoral leadership and your financial support is needed to keep our programs and mission thriving.

Our TOGETHER FOR JOY stewardship information is being mailed out this week. We ask that you prayerfully consider your financial support and return your pledge as soon as you are able.

If you have any questions, please contact the treasurer, Larry Spencer or Linda LaPrad, Finance chair. They'll be happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

For all we accomplish TOGETHER FOR JOY, we thank you.

-PLEASE TURN IN YOUR PLEDGE CARD ASAP-

We have returned for some in person worship! Our max capacity will be 20 people in addition to those ushering and leading worship. Masks will be required and all in attendance will practice care for neighbor by practicing physical distancing in faithful covenant for one another. Priority the first few Sundays will go to those who do not have web access at home.

People registering ARE welcome to bring a friend who is in their 'pod;' you just have to register! We hope you will register online if you are able by using this link:

<https://forms.gle/G6JkSx2k1NEKY1zT8>

You may also call the church office to register! 603-536-2626

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

Hi everybody! My name is Courtney Crosato and I am so happy to be the new Office Administrator for Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ! I love to garden & hang out with my 2 curious cats Pepper & Dahlia. I also have 2 lovely children & a supportive husband. Being in this position allows me to have the freedom to spend more time with my family. I plan to continue the positive & peaceful atmosphere this church brings to my heart and work hard as a team member to help everything run smoothly! Thank You

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

Capital Campaign: Lisa and Bev are standing by to answer any questions you may have via phone or email. 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 lilylovet@gmail.com and phone inquiries to Bev Newton at 603-254-9991.

Deacon's Corner – The updates in this area are general so as to protect the privacy of families and individuals.

Sympathy & Prayers for the family of Carol Hahn's Sister
We are happy to note Fran Lewis is doing a bit better this week.

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.

Mobile Food Bank - New Hampshire Food Bank is having a Mobile Food Pantry!
Date: May 26th Time: 12pm - 2pm Where: Walmart Parking Lot at 683 Tenney Mountain Hwy. in Plymouth. **No need for an appointment, this is a drive-thru event. All items will be distributed to you in your vehicles.**

The members of the Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ in Plymouth, NH are called to attend our Annual Meeting (virtually). The Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 13th, at 10:45 am (or as soon as worship ends). 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. We ask that you pay attention for updates about the meeting link. A link to the Zoom meeting, as well as an agenda for the meeting, will be sent out the week prior to the meeting to all who have contacted us. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Listening Session is being rescheduled for September or October. To learn more about listening sessions, please email Rev. Sara or Rebecca Larson. In short, they are an opportunity to share and hear about what weighs most heavily on our hearts.

Racial Justice Exploration: We are continuing these explorations this spring and summer, on an every other week basis. For now, we will shift to reflections of readings and education. 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.

This group encourages examination of any of the following books:

Ibram X. Kendi's *How to be An Antiracist*

Rebecca Carroll's *Surviving the White Gaze*

If you are interested in taking a trip to the Black Heritage Trail (which is in Portsmouth) on June 5th, we hope you will let Peggy Martin know, her email is: pmartin03223@yahoo.com

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:

Born a Crime by Trevor Noah (discussed on May 24th)

Leading from the Outside by Stacey Abrams (discussed on June 7th)

Consider attending the UCC national gathering this year! General Synod will take place between July 11 & 18 and will explore the theme Rooted in Love. We encourage attendance, especially because it is virtual this year. You are able to attend just a day or two if you like! Visit generalsynod.org for more information.

Our church is now in person and meeting digitally; we will continue to offer both options indefinitely! To register for in person worship, please find the link above.

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.

Meetings will continue to be held remotely until further notice. 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!

Office Hours

Tuesday - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Wednesday - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Thursday - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Friday - 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

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. Keep in mind all church doors are locked. Small meetings may be possible in person with masks. 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 Williams, Director of Music	musicdirector@uccplymouth.org
Ashley Rose, Organist/Pianist	organist@uccplymouth.org
Gale Adams-Davis, Co-Director of Faith Formation	windygl2@yahoo.com
Julie Kelsey, Co-Director of Faith Formation	faithformation@uccplymouth.org
Larry Spencer, Treasurer	treasurer@uccplymouth.org
Liturgist: Linda LaPrad Flautist: Peggy Martin	
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 April and May in our Community:

May 1 Weston Hyde, Kristi Zwald

May 2 Jim Preston

May 4 Jessica Berman

May 5 Richard Caron

May 9 Troy Tedeschi

May 12 Eric Kelsey

May 13 Micaela Brand

May 20 Robbin Adams

May 22 Tessa Nicole Kelsey

May 23 Elizabeth Fallon

May 24 Kevan Steiner

May 29 Paul Brand

June 6 Anna Boyer

June 8 Alice Avery

June 10 Kimberly Berman

June 22 Murray Swindell

June 23 Jay Buckley

June 25 Mary Bohn Reynolds

June 25 David Castor

June 29 Mona Hoefs

June 30 Rebecca Larson

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