

Plymouth Congregational, United Church of Christ

Trinity Sunday, Memorial Day Weekend



May 30, 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

America, the Beautiful

arr. By Gail Smith

The prelude is an invitation to personal preparation for worship.

*Call to Worship

One: We are together today because Christ has claimed us.

We are called to be the body of Christ in today's world.

All: Who are we to make such a claim?

Who would see Jesus Christ when they look at us?

One: It is not our claim that brings us together.

The church is not our private club.

All: We are not here just for ourselves, for our own needs.

We are drawn together by a larger purpose.

One: We have been called by Christ for a mission.

The gathered community is sent out into the world.

All: We are here to be equipped for ministry.

We have been chosen as apostles of good news.

*Hymn

Praise with Joy the World's Creator

NCH #273

1 Praise with joy the world's Cre - a - tor, God of jus - tice,
2 Praise to Christ who feeds the hun - gry, frees the cap - tive,
3 Praise the Spir - it sent a - mong us, lib - er - a - ting
4 Praise the Mak - er, Christ, and Spir - it, one God in Com -

love, and peace, Source and end of hu-man knowl-edge,
finds the lost, Heals the sick, up-sets re-li-gion,
truth from pride, Forg-ing bonds where race or gen-der,
mu-ni-ty, Call-ing Christ-ians to em-bod-y

grace be-stow-ing with-out cease. Cel-e-brate the
fear-less both of fate and cost. Cel-e-brate Christ's
age or na-tion dare di-vide. Cel-e-brate the
one-ness and di-ver-si-ty. Thus the world shall

Ma-ker's glo-ry, power to res-cue and re-lease.
con-stant pres-ence— Friend and Strang-er, Guest and Host.
Spir-it's trea-sure— fool-ish-ness none dare de-ride.
yet be-lieve when shown Christ's vi-brant un-i-ty.

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

Watch over us, Holy God, as we take time to pray and to meditate on the continuing impact Your Spirit has in our lives. Jesus offered us a path of service, of giving; Jesus showed us a Way. He represents to us Your gift of love and eternal Life. We are resurrection people no longer bound by fear of death but freed to become witnesses to Love. Nourish us to become like trees, planted beside streams of water which flourish and bear much fruit because of your constant attention. You offer abundant provision for our needs. Be known to us here in this hour. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: There is so much we do not understand; we come as we are, this hour, seeking a deeper understanding. We seek wisdom. We pray that we might move into a mysterious sort of understanding this hour; let Spirit be with our thoughts.

All: Holy God, we often seek facts and forget faith. Let us lean into Your Spirit this hour and aim for righteousness, for it may be ours. We do believe: 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

Psalm 29

John 3: 1-17

One: Holy One, may the meditations of our hearts and minds be acceptable to You, for You are our rock and redeemer. We pray that You move between words and hearing.

All: Amen.

Message

“Understanding Sounds and Spirit”

Rev. Sara M. Holland

*Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy

NCH (black) #277

Descant

4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God the Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Saints a - dore you tru - ly,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though we know but dim - ly,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God the Al - might - y!

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing we praise your maj - es - ty.
 Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 Though the eyes of hum - an - kind your glo - ry may not see,
 All your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim bow be - fore you on - ly,
 You a - lone are ho - ly, you a - lone are wor - thy,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 From the be - gin - ning, God e - ter - nal - ly.
 Per - fect in power, in love and pur - i - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - 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.

Remembering Those Who Have Served

Offertory

Cantabile

Simon Clark

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: Here, O God, is some of the abundance you have allowed us to manage for you while we are on Your earth. May it be enough to draw us closer to You and to all whom we seek to help. May our hearts follow our

treasure into growing devotion to Your truth and expanded commitment to the unity in love that Jesus sought for all your children. Bless this offering and increase our joy in giving. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

PH (red) #440, Verses 1-3

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, For am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, Whose stern, im - pas - sioned stress
 3 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved In lib - er - at - ing strife,
 4 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream That sees be - yond the years

For pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties A - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 A thor - ough - fare for free - dom beat A - cross the wil - der - ness!
 Who more than self their coun - try loved, And mer - cy more than life!
 Thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, Un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,

And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea.
 Con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law.
 Till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, And ev - ery gain di - vine.
 And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea. A - men.

***Benediction**

Postlude Komm, Heiliger Geist, Herre Gott George Philipp Telemann

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:

Robert Heal & family, Brother-in-law of Marlin Collingwood
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	Trinity Sunday, Remembering Memorial Day
	10.00 AM	Church School via zoom
	6:30 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv (this week’s TV view will be from May 23rd, 2021)
Monday		Memorial Day – All Staff Rests
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Staff meeting
	4:00 PM	Prayer time and devotion (via zoom)
Saturday		Trip to Black Heritage Trail

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 has been mailed. We ask that you prayerfully consider your financial support and return your pledge, if 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.

We have returned for some in person worship! Masks will be required and all in attendance will practice care for neighbor by practicing physical distancing in faithful covenant for one another. 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>
(Registration will only carry through June, we think)

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 and hang out with my 2 curious cats Pepper and Dahlia. I also have 2 lovely children and 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 and 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

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.
Robert Heal & family, Brother in law of Marlin Collingwood.

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.

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.

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:
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.

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

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: Bill Heron 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