

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Fifth Sunday in Lent: Communion Sunday, Something New



April 3, 2022

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 become a racial justice church

Our faith is 2000 years old; our thinking isn't.

*We request that you are respectful when making decisions about masking; for example, **mask while singing and when you are near small children.** If you have a tickle in your throat or you feel a bit under the weather, please wear a mask. Please inquire to people before assuming they are okay with physical contact.*

GATHERING

Prelude

Let Thy Holy Spirit Guide

Kevin G. Pace

The prelude is an invitation to personal preparation for worship.

Welcome & Announcements

Please, if you are new to our community and want to be more involved, leave your email address on our sign in sheet in the narthex / entrance of the building or email us at office@uccplymouth.org. We are delighted to get to know you! On 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays we have Church School. You may contact faithformation@uccplymouth.org to get more information about programming for children and families. This Easter we will have services at 6 am & 9:30 am – please join us!

Introit

I Will Rise! Aaron

David Miller

*Those who are able may stand.

***Call to Worship** – *compline anitphon, restated*

Liturgist – Carol Stewart

One: God saves us while waking and defends us while resting.

All: When we wake we may watch with Christ.

One: When we rest, we are in God's peace. Let us find peace this hour.

All: Having rested, being awake now, let us rediscover the gospel.

One: Let the grace of God free us, the love of God heal us,

All: and may Holy Spirit empower us.

One: We place our hope in your holy word; our hearts may feel dissonant but our voices are unified:

*Hymn

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

NCH (black) #403

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' love and
2 When shad - ows veil my Sav-ior's face, I rest up - on un -
3 Christ's oath and cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me in the
4 When Christ shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in

righ-teous-ness; I dare not trust this earth - ly frame, but
chang-ing grace; In ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
ris - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, Christ
Love be found, Dressed in God's righ - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

Refrain
whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name,
an-chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand;
then is all my hope and stay,
less to stand be - fore the throne.

all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.

Passing of the Peace

We invite you to text or email someone a note of peace today. A hand-written note will work too!

Leader: God be with you

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Unison Gathering Prayer

Gracious God, gentle in your power and strong in your tenderness, you have brought us forth from the womb of your being and breathed into us the breath of life. We know that we do not live by bread alone but by every word that comes from you. Feed our deep hungers with the living bread. May Jesus' promise: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them," be fulfilled in us. Make us a joyful company of your people so that with the faithful in every place and time we may praise and honor you, God Most High. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: The grace and promise of our friend and savior moves in our midst. We have each found ourselves as poor in spirit at some point – let us find wealth in God's holy meal.

All: Spirit of Life, you grant us a mysterious wealth. Let us find ourselves as the ones who are in need – let us name the ways we may benefit from your love and grace. Seeking connection, we sing together:

Response Savior, When in Tears and Dust NCH (black) #185

Savior, when in tears and dust, low we bow to you in trust, When repentant, to the skies scarce we lift our weeping eyes, Mindful

how you suffered pain that God’s love in us might reign – Help us claim what we would be, hear our solemn litany.

We often will have a Children’s Message during this time; today we invite children and youth to help us welcome new church family before heading to Sunday School. Again, we invite children and families to get connected to our programming by emailing faithformation@uccplymouth.org.

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Psalm 126

John 12: 1-8

One: God, we proclaim that we are justified by faith. We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray Your Spirit moves between words and hearing.

All: Amen

Message

“Keep Something”

Rev. Sara M. Holland

***Hymn**

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

NCH (black) #224

1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross,
2 For - bid it, then, that I should boast,
3 From sa - cred head, from hands, and feet,
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine,
on which the Christ of glo - ry died,
save in the death of Christ, my God;
sor - row and love flow min - gled down!
that were a pres - ent far too small;

My rich - est gain I count but loss,
 All the vain things that charm me most
 Did e'er such love and sor - row meet,
 Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,

and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 I sac - ri - fice them to Christ's blood.
 or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Offertory Anthem Oh, Send Out Thy Light Healey Willan
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: We bring to Christ's table a portion of our own; in addition to bread and juice for our holy meal, we present humble financial offerings. Our sacred word tells us we may live for service, that through our words and deeds God's love may be known. And so we pray that in these offerings, Christ will be made known. Holy One, we dedicate these gifts to you – let them be sanctified, that no person will be forgotten and each thought of gratitude will be raised in love. We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Invitation to Holy Communion

Liturgist – Carol Stewart

One: Jesus said – I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst. The evangelists and early Christ followers wrote of our risen Savior, who at the table with disciples took bread

and blessed and broke it, sharing graciously. Their eyes were opened, and they recognized something special. However, they would not truly understand until later. . .

We aim to come with authenticity, God – some of us at home, on the road and many of us grateful to be physically present in worship today. As we join in this historic ritual, let us know that this holy meal may strengthen us.

All: We are prepared God. A table is set in your honor – no matter how tidy or messy. Make yourself known in this meal, God. 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.

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 & Lord’s 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. Let us find ourselves as deeply connected to you, with shouts of joy *even* when we sow in tears. Send us forth to be your people in the world. Grant us strength to persevere in resisting evil and to proclaim in all we say and do the good news in Christ Jesus our Savior, who taught us to pray:

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

Nearer, My God, to You

NCH (black) #606

1 Near - er, my God, to you, near - er to you. I'll bear the
2 When I am wan - der - ing as Ja - cob did, and in the
3 Let Ja - cob's lad - der fill the sky a - bove, and an - gels
4 Then, wak - ing from the night to morn - ing air by Beth - el's

cross as Christ calls me to do and pray each day a - new:
deep - est night the path is hid, my dreams will bring me, too,
car - ry down the faith and love to keep this goal in view:
stone, I'll know you heard my prayer, and how my yearn - ing grew:

1-4 Near - er my God, to you, near - er my God, to you, near - er to you.

The musical score consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

*Pastoral Benediction

Postlude

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Pamela M. Robinson

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

Keeping in Prayer:

Prayers for friends the family and friends of Luke Bisson, who passed recently
Condolences to the family & friends of Marine Corps Colonel Robert Thomas Forte, who
recently passed

Prayers for healing Roberta Mandeville, sister of Eileen Torrey
Keep in your thoughts the family of Carol Gellert, who recently passed

Prayers for the people of Ukraine

Thoughts and prayers for Fran Lewis

Prayers for healing for Valerie, a dear friend of Sally Jensen

Prayers for Alice Avery

Prayers for Kathy Henning's nephew, Colin Slocomb
 Prayers for Sage Pirnie and her family, granddaughter of Diane Arsenault and Pete Pirnie
 Prayers for Healing for Brian Paine
 Prayers & Healing for Ruth Munroe and her son Andrew
 Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's mother-in-law
 Annie Rice, Bev Tedeschi's mother
 Prayers for the Masvingo UCCZ, our partner church in Zimbabwe
 Prayers for Rev. Sam Lovett
If we have removed a name or listing in error, please let us know.

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

April 7 th	7:00 PM	Choir practice (open to all!)
April 9 th	3:00 PM	Bakers Valley Band Mud Season Concert
April 11 th		Deadline to order Easter Flowers
April 24 th	9:30 AM	Rev. Ruth Martz preaching
May 15 th	9:30 AM	Rev. Renee' Rouse pulpit exchange with Rev. Holland Merrimack Association meeting
June 4 th	1:00 PM	Church 'Spiffy' Day
June 12 th	10:45 AM	Special musical offering by TJ Wheeler
June 12 th	afternoon	Merrimack Association confirmation ritual

We will have another new member Sunday in May or June – if you are interested in becoming a part of our church family, please email Pastor Sara at plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org.



HOLY WEEK SERVICES
PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| April 10 – 9:30 a.m. | - Palm Sunday – Parade of palms |
| April 14 – 7:00 p.m. | - Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service of Shadows in the Church sanctuary |
| April 15 – 7:00 p.m. | Good Friday - Scriptures and music in sanctuary |
| April 17 – 6:00 a.m. | Sunrise Service held on front steps/walkway of our church
Coffee to follow |
| 9:30 a.m. | - Celebration of Easter Worship. Service in-person in sanctuary & live streamed on Facebook & PCUCC website. |



Be in touch with Rev Sara if you would want to help with fellowship hour. Many hands make light work!

Welcome to church families! Activity bags are hanging in the Narthex and toys are made available, please ask an usher if you cannot find them. If your child needs more space during worship, please feel free to use the parlor on the sanctuary level or downstairs in our nursery and fellowship area. We have Sunday school in person, with masks on, the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays of the month. Volunteers are always welcome, please contact Jennifer Byam or Julie Kelsey for more information at faithformation@uccplymouth.org.

AmazonSMILE - By choosing our church as your favorite charity, Amazon will make a donation to the charity you designate at no cost to you. Please let Ann Thurston, Linda LaPrad or the office know if you need help setting PCUCC up as your favorite charity on AmazonSMILE.

PREPAID HANNAFORD CARDS - For every card purchased from the Finance Committee, the church receives 5% without any additional cost to you. Denominations of \$100, \$250 and \$500 are available by contacting Ann Thurston or Linda LaPrad after services on Sunday, by phone or email. 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. If you know of someone who is in need, please put them in touch with the church office or Pastor Sara.

The Hope Fund of our church continues to touch the lives of people in the Lakes Region. This winter, we have supported a number of people who were in need of housing support or assistance with utility bills. This is a part of our Christian witness; we have deep gratitude for all of those who have contributed money and time related to the Hope Fund.

Racial Justice Exploration: We welcome new attendees, and we pray you'll reach out to Alison Thatcher at Baker.AlisonT@gmail.com or Pastor Sara if you are considering ways to get involved in these important efforts. Next meeting is on April 5th at 7 PM

Book Group: The group is currently reading a riveting piece about the Roosevelts! Any questions please contact Peggy Martin at pmartin03223@yahoo.com or Kathy Henning at henkat52@gmail.com. Next meeting is April 4th at 10 AM

Please continue to be aware of COVID-related concerns when on site. We want to encourage all community members (who are able) to get a COVID-19 vaccine and boosters. We hope that this will ensure the health and well-being of our most vulnerable community members.

We will offer the option of meeting digitally indefinitely. You may also catch our services (one week delayed) on Sunday nights on PBTv at 7:00 pm. (Local channel 1302.) Please check Constant Contact and the Facebook page for ongoing updates.

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 is generally at the church for office hours Monday – Wednesday 10:30 AM – 3:30 PM; please reach out to make an appointment. She keeps sabbath on Friday. 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.

Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor	plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org
Aidan Boisvert, Interim Office Administrator	office@uccplymouth.org
David A. Williams, Director of Music	musicdirector@uccplymouth.org
Ashley Rose, Organist/Pianist	organist@uccplymouth.org
Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation	faithformation@uccplymouth.org
Ann Thurston, Treasurer	treasurer@uccplymouth.org

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
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Celebrating Birthdays in March in our Community:

Eliza McKinnon	March 4 th
Jean Swindell	March 8 th
Winnie Oustecky	March 21 st
Shoe Shoemaker	March 21 st
Fran Lewis	March 25 th
Caleb Sweedler	March 26 th
Megan Magrauth	March 30 th
Julie Kelsey	March 30 th
Wayne Martin	April 1 st
Sue Switaj	April 5 th
Benjamin Adams	April 12 th
Sabrina Tedeschi	April 17 th
Michael Carrier	April 25 th
Kurt Maiser Anderson	April 28 th

If you have a birthday or anniversary this month or next month that you would like listed, please email to: office@uccplymouth.org

