

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost:
Summer Fruit



July 17, 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. Please inquire to people before assuming they are okay with physical contact.

GATHERING

Welcome & Announcements

Please, if you are new to our community and want to be more involved, leave your email address in the attendance pad or email us at office@ucplymouth.org. We are delighted to get to know you! We have Sunday School between mid-September & mid-June; this morning we invite children to remain in worship. There are cute bags in the narthex which the kids may enjoy! You may contact office@ucplymouth.org to get more information about programming for any age.

Prelude

To God Be the Glory

Birchwood

*Those who are able may stand.

*Call to Worship

Liturgist – Alison Thatcher

One: Jesus came to be with us, so that we might become our best selves and praise God throughout our lives.

All: Here we are God, we come humbly.

One: Jesus came to us to offer a path, one granting salvation.

All: Here we are God, we dwell on your path.

One: Jesus' call may offer us peace, no matter the principalities of the world.

All: Here we are God, we sing your praise!

*Hymn

Jesus, I Live to You

NCH (black) #457

1 Je - sus, I live to you, the love - li - est and best;
2 Je - sus, I die to you, when - ev - er death shall come;
3 Wheth - er to live or die, I know not which is best;
4 Liv - ing or dy - ing, Lord, I ask to be your own;



Passing of the Peace

*If you are at home, we invite you to text or email someone a note of peace today.
A hand-written note will work too!*

One: God be with you

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Unison Gathering Prayer

Gracious God, the fruit of our lives is wonderful, sweet, and gives us energy. We thank you for these gifts – friends, family, community, food to eat, space for worship, and simple moments of joy. There are times when we do not tend to the seasonal fruit well and so we return to your word, hoping for guidance. Let us hear your challenging call to care for and share the fruits of the Spirit. Grant us open ears, minds, and hearts in this hour. Amen.

Moments for Confession

NCH # 836, by Ruth Duck

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: God of new beginnings, you hear our confessions, and you know those thoughts we cannot describe. Hold our wounded hearts made heavy by sorrow. We have heard your promises from ancient days:

All: There is nothing here, nothing anywhere that will separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus, it is for this Spirit that we sing:

Response Let Justice Flow like Streams NCH (black) #588

**So may God's plumbline, straight, define our measure true,
And justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.**

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!

NCH (black) #528:

***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 Readings Colossians 1: 15-23 (adapted) Amos 8: 1-12

One: Blessed Redeemer, we pray that the meditations of our hearts and minds be acceptable to you, for you are our rock and redeemer. Move in the space between words and hearing that your love might be made known to those most in need.

All: Amen

Message "Attend to the Fruit" Rev. Sara M. Holland

*Hymn

When Peace, Like a River

NCH (black) #438

1 When peace, like a riv - er, up - holds me each day, when
 2 Though e - vil should tempt me, though tri - als should come, let
 3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my
 4 O God, speed the day that is filled with your light, when

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, What - ev - er my lot, you have
 this blessed as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ has re - gard - ed my
 sin— not in part, but the whole— Is nailed to the cross and I
 clouds are rolled back as a scroll; The trum - pet shall sound and the

Refrain

taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."
 help - less es - tate, and has paid life and blood for my soul: It is
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall ap - pear, "e - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 It is well with my soul.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

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

Response: 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.

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

Offertory

Materna

Arr. Calvin Hampton

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: Holy God, you call us to prayerful thanksgiving, united in the Spirit of Christ. Embody within us your holy word of wisdom that our lives and your world may be shaped for compassion, and all creation may know the joy of your love. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn

Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed

NCH (black) #537

1 Chris - tian, rise and act your creed; let your
2 Hearts a - round you sink with care; you can
3 Of - fer oth - ers hope and joy, and God's
4 Come then, law di - vine, and reign: faith that

prayer be in your deed; Seek the right, per - form the
help their load to bear; You can bring in - spir - ing
wor - ship your em - ploy; Giv - ing thanks in hum - ble
doubt as - sails in vain, Per - fect love be - reft of

true, raise your work and life a - new.
light, strength - en them to do the right.
zeal, learn - ing all God's will to feel.
fear, born in heaven and ra - diant here.

*Pastoral Benediction

Postlude

“And God said, Let there be light: and there was light”

(Jesus, the Light of the World, Here Comes the Sun, This Little Light of Mine)

Arr. MW Swift

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

Keeping in Prayer:

Condolences and prayers for the family and friends of David Huff,
who recently passed away
Condolences and prayers for Al Mather and the family of Dorothy Smith,
who recently passed away
Prayers for Sarah, wife of John Anderson, who is recovering from surgery
Prayers for Ellen who struggles with cancer,
family member of Ruth & Dale Mosher
Prayers of healing for Sue Switaj
Prayers for continued healing for Valerie, a dear friend of Sally Jensen
Prayers for Alice Avery
Prayers for Sage Pirnie and her family,
granddaughter of Diane Arsenault and Pete Pirnie
Prayers for Polly Bartlett, who struggles with cancer
Prayers for healing for Andrew Munroe
Prayers for Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's mother-in-law
Prayers for an end to gun violence, in the spirit of Isaiah 2:4
Prayers for communities affected by war and for all immigrants
Prayers for the Masvingo UCCZ, our partner church in Zimbabwe

If you have a prayer request that you would like Rev. Sara to include in Sunday
Worship, please email her at plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org or fill out a
yellow prayer card, which can be found in the pews, and place it in the offering
plate.

This Week and More at PCUCC

July 17	Organ Recital
July 19	New Hampshire Music Festival Chamber Concert
July 21	5:00-6:00 Meals for Many
July 22	7:30 AA Meeting
July 23	Sunday Niters on Saturday for Racial Justice

Summer Organ Recital Series

July 2022

Sundays at 5:00 PM

July 17 Kristjon Imperio

Dir. of Programs & Community Engagement, Pakachoag Music School of Greater Worcester (MA)

Organist and Handbell Director, Wellesley Village Church, Wellesley, MA

July 24 Laura Belanger

Organist, Sanbornton Congregational Church

Collaborative Pianist, Pemigewasset Choral Society

July 31 Bruce Adami

Organist, Christ Episcopal Church, Exeter, New Hampshire

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.

Our HOPE Fund Food Pantry: Our pantry needs restocking. Please bring donations of food and place in basket at sanctuary door. Needed: Meals in a can like beef stew, tuna fish, canned fruit, cereal, snack bars. Cans with snap up tops preferred. Many thanks!

Stewardship Update: As we look to A Future with Hope, we are pleased to update that we are almost to our 2022-23 Stewardship Campaign goal of \$180,000. As of July 12th, we have received 49 pledges totaling \$166,892. Thank you to all who have pledged their financial support.

If you have not yet pledged, please prayerfully consider doing so by returning a pledge card to PCUCC at PO Box 86, Plymouth, dropping it in the collection plate on Sunday, or emailing your commitment to the treasurer at treasurer@uccplymouth.org. **Please indicate in the memo of your check whether it is for the 2021-2022 or 2022-2023 fiscal year. If you do not indicate, it will go towards the 2022-2023 fiscal year.** If you have any questions, please contact Linda LaPrad or Ann Thurston. THANK YOU!

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. Sunday School will resume in September. 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!

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.

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
Alison Thatcher, 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

Special Music: Margot Swift

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
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Celebrating Birthdays in June and July in our Community

Justice Merrithew-Stone	July 6 th
Marilyn Wixson	July 6 th
Tammy Lawler	July 7 th
Sally Jean Jensen	July 8 th
Lorelei Paine	July 8 th
Johanna Bentwood	July 17 th
Alfie Kerr	July 18 th
John Anderson	July 21 st
Rose Shimberg	July 24 th
Bev Newton	July 26 th
Bill Torrey	July 31 st

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

