

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: Communion Sunday



August 7, 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@uccplymouth.org. We are delighted to get to know you! We have Sunday School between mid-September & June; this morning we invite children to remain in worship. You may contact office@uccplymouth.org to get more information about programming for any age.

Meditation

*Openness of hand, tenderness of embrace,
spaciousness of heart, graciousness of home,
blessedness of earth, vastness of sky:
for all the spaces that bid us welcome
we give you thanks, O God. ~ Jan Richardson*

Prelude

With great thanks this morning for organist, Noah Blocker-Glynn.

*Those who are able may stand.

*Call to Worship

Liturgist – Carol Stewart

One: A robin singing,

All: Waves glistening,

One: A cool breeze,

All: Sweet blueberries,

One: Orange daylilies,

All: Graceful butterflies,

One: The kindness of a neighbor,

All: The laughter of children,

One: The beginning of a new day,

All: The joy of community:


One: For all these gifts of the Spirit, and more,

All: We praise and thank you, God!

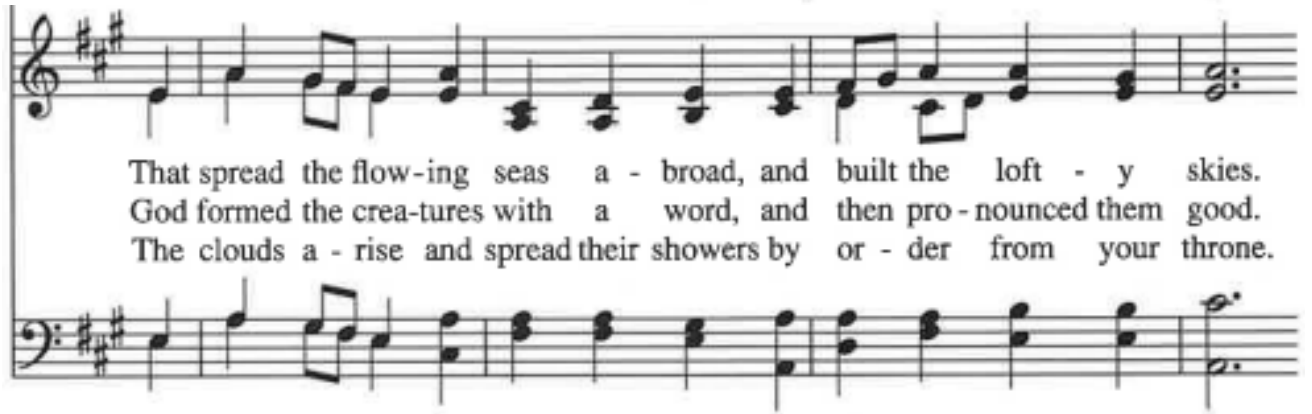
***Hymn**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

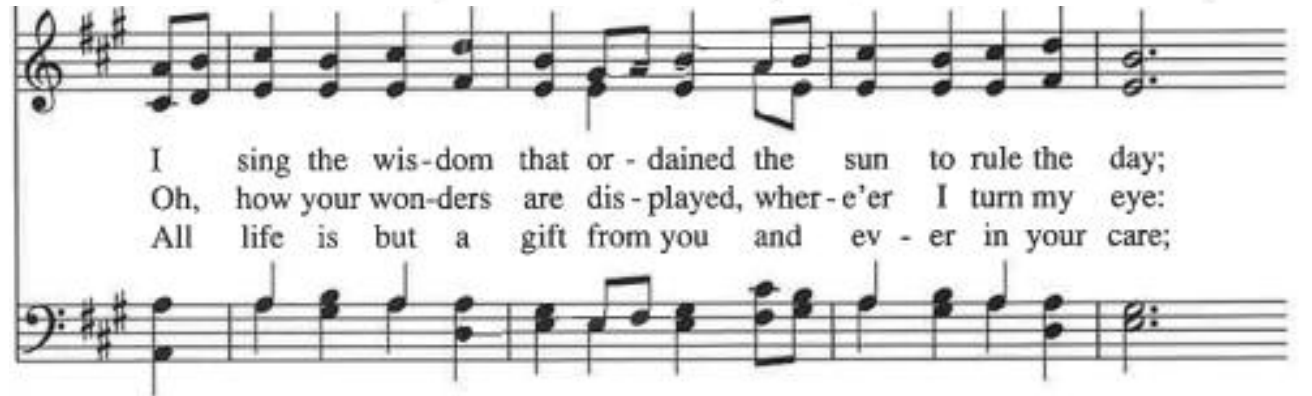
NCH (black) #12



1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;
3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.



That spread the flow-ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.
God formed the crea-tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.
The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.



I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
Oh, how your won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye:
All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;



The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
If I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
Wher - ev - er peo-ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres-ent there.

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!*

Unison Gathering Prayer

Gracious God, as we worship together, our hearts are filled with gratitude, for your Spirit is always with us. Some of us come with worries and some feel at peace; some are discouraged and others, joyful. We know that you receive us as we are, and as we are striving to become. By your powerful Spirit, turn our fear to courage and our confusion to confidence. Speak to us through your Word; send us forth renewed and inspired. In Jesus' name we pray: Amen.

Moments for Confession

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: The apostle Paul calls us to bear fruit through the Spirit, but it is both a challenge and a spiritual discipline to be patient, loving, and kind on a daily basis. God calls us to see people beyond our labels, and assumptions, grudges and prejudices. Jesus reminds us that a good heart bears good fruit. Each day, let us practice faith-filled ways of responding to others and to the struggles in our lives and world.

All: When we awaken each day with gratitude in our hearts, we open to the Spirit of love flowing within us and between us. God invites us to look with wonder and listen with compassion; we are called to reflect divine forgiveness and generosity through our relationships. Let us proclaim the power of the Spirit as we sing together:

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.

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Psalm 104: 1-2, 10-15, 24

Luke 6:43-45

Galatians 5: 22-23, 25

One: Almighty God, let us feel your Spirit during this time and let us be moved to love one another. We pray that your voice moves between words and hearing.

All: Amen

Message

Fruit of the Spirit

Rev. Ruth Martz

*Hymn

For the Fruit of All Creation

NCH (black) #425

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For God's gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are provided below the vocal lines. The first system has three verses, and the second system has three verses.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Offertory Anthem

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.**

Invitation to Holy Communion

One: God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Turn your eyes upon Jesus.

All: **May love and grace be with us all.**

One: Let us lift our hearts up to God.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

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 early Christ followers wrote of our Jesus, who at the table with disciples took bread and blessed and broke it, sharing graciously. The disciples saw something special. However, they would not truly understand until later. . .

We come with our whole selves, God – some of us at home, some on the road and many of us grateful to be physically present in worship today. As we join in this historic and holy meal, may we find strength.

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: God’s love is for all. This table is for those who believe a little or a lot. This table is for those who need community, those who need comfort and solace; this meal is for those who need strength. Let us share.

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

Breaking of the Bread and the Pouring of the Cup

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Closing Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

All: God of increase and bounty, Source of all good things: you give us this bread and fruit of the vine; you offer food and compassion to all in need of physical and spiritual nourishment. May we in turn give of ourselves, and may our giving bring change: change in our perspectives, change in the lives we touch, change in the systems that harm. We give thanks in the name of Christ, who reveals the miracle of generosity.

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

There's a Spirit in the Air

NCH (black) #294

Verses 1-4 and 7

1 There's a spir - it in the air, tell - ing Chris - tians ev - ery - where:
2 Lose your shy - ness, find your tongue; tell the world what God has done:
3 When be - liev - ers break the bread, when a hun - gry child is fed:
4 Still the Spir - it gives us light, see - ing wrong and set - ting right:
5 When a strang - er's not a - lone, where the home - less find a home:

"Praise the love that Christ re - vealed, liv - ing, work - ing in our world."
God in Christ has come to stay. Live to - mor - row's life to - day.
Praise the love that Christ re - vealed, liv - ing, work - ing in our world.
God in Christ has come to stay. Live to - mor - row's life to - day.
Praise the love that Christ re - vealed, liv - ing, work - ing in our world.

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

7 There's a Spir-it in the air,
call-ing peo-ple ev-ery-where:
Praise the love that Christ re-vealed,
liv-ing, work-ing in our world.

*Pastoral Benediction

Postlude

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

Keeping in Prayer:

Prayers for Herb Jensen, Sally Jensen's brother, who is in hospice

Prayers for "Shoe" Shoemaker as he recovers from surgery

Prayers for Jaime Armstrong, niece of Marlin Collingwood, who will be undergoing surgery
for breast cancer

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, you would like Rev. Sara to include in Sunday Worship,
please email her at plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org

This Week and More at PCUCC

Aug 11 5:00 Meals for Many
Aug 12 8:00 AA Meeting
Oct 15 NH Conference UCC Annual Meeting

School Supplies Donations accepted at Whole Village till August 15th. Please consider donating some of the supplies listed below for children from kindergarten to Grade 12. Donations can be dropped off at Whole Village Monday through Friday between 8:00-4:00.

Notebooks	Highlighters	Binders
Pens	Pencil cases	Loose leaf paper
#2 Pencils	Rulers	Lunch boxes
Pencil Sharpeners	Scissors	Backpacks
Crayons/Markers	Calculators	Thumb drives
Colored Pencils	Glue sticks	Gift cards/Cash

Vegetables and Fruit Harvest Sharing and Caring: Do you have an abundance of vegetables and/or fruit in your garden that you would like to share with your church friends? Please bring your extra veggies and fruit to church on Sundays and place on the shelves in the Fellowship Hall. Members and friends will be encouraged to pick them up

and then leave a money donation in the jar to help stock our food pantries for our Plymouth area neighbors in need. This will run through August and September until the harvest is over for this year. Many thanks!!!

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!

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!

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.

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

Guest Preacher: Ruth Martz
Guest Organist: Noah Blocker-Glynn

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ
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Celebrating Birthdays in August in our Community

Jan Bass	August 1 st
Arline Bownes	August 11 th
Dick Brace	August 15 th
Angi Francesco	August 15 th
Georgia Merrithew-Stone	August 17 th
Natalie Amtmann	August 21 st
Colton Hyde	August 22 nd
Maeghan Warburton	August 24 th
Marti Shoemaker	August 29 th

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

