

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

24th Sunday After Pentecost, Ordinary Time
The Installation of Rev. Sara M. Holland
Considering Family



November 7, 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.

Masks are REQUIRED in our community at this time. Masks should be worn for the entire service over both mouth and nose. If you need a mask break, please take a step outside of the building.

Order of Worship

Prelude

Out of It All

Helen Jane Long

The prelude is an invitation to personal preparation for worship.

Welcome & Announcements

Please, if you are new or relatively new to our community and want to be involved, share your email address or phone with a greeter in the narthex. We are delighted to get to know you!

This morning we have Sunday School on the lowest level of the church building.

Children are always welcome to experience worship. In addition to Sunday School, there is a nursery space on the lower level if it is needed and bags with activities in the narthex too.

Moment of Silence and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Introit

NCH (black hymnal) #742

Johnny Gall

*those who are able and willing may stand

*Call to Worship

One: God has turned to us, once again. We are call to this place.

All: We are here to acknowledge God's transcendence and immanence.

One: God is surely among us, we may shine Christ's divinity and receive it as well.

All: Thanks be to God for the beauty in each being, for the beauty of the earth.

One: God's Spirit of love has often been made real to us in the neighbor we least expect, let us not forget.


All: On this day we turn to word, once again. We acknowledge the call of each person, just as they are. We gather as one people, for Love's sake.

***Hymn**

Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

NCH #4

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
2 All your works with joy sur - round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
3 You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,
4 Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 Bound - less love is reign - ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flower - y mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;
 Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife,

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, teach us what our praise should be.
 Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

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

Holy Spirit, on this day of installation – rest on Sara. Give her the words to make God's love known to all she meets. Let her step be even more sure than her word. Be with us as we recognize Your great spirit moving through ordained Christian ministry. Your spirit is everywhere, and in all things. Guide our words, our deeds, and our service, so that all may come to more fully know you and your divine presence in our messy world. We pray all this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: On this short autumn day, grant us all deep wisdom which understands the importance of family and how God always holds us. Let us recall the ways that we may move closer to your presence by letting go and seeking your truth:

All: God's holy meal may offer us restoration and peace. With our neighbors, all neighbors, we seek unity. 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 Love

NCH (black) #58

Though we have frayed the fabric of Your making,
Tearing away from all that You intend,
Yet, to be whole, humanity is aching –
Come, work with us, and weave us into one.

*If children began in the worship space we invite them to be dismissed to Church School at this time.
(They may also stay if they like – we cherish little ones!)*

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Psalm 146

Ruth 1: 5-16

One: Come, Holy Spirit, come, offer us space for transformation and restoration as we listen and reflect. We pray You move in the meditations of our hearts and minds, for You are our rock and redeemer.

All: Amen.

Message

Rev. Daryn Bunce Stylianopoulos

Piano Meditation

Out of It All

Helen Jane Long

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Offertory Anthem

O For A Closer Walk With God

We invite you to join us in our effort to show God's love to all the world.

*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: Gracious God, you sustain us for our vocations in the world. May these gifts freely support the church which we pray reflects Love. We who have been given such abundance pray that we may bring both comfort and challenge to the church and to the world. We pray all this for Love's sake. Amen.

The Ritual of Installation

Congregational Response:

We, the members of the Plymouth Congregational, United Church of Christ, have received Sara M. Holland as our pastor and teacher, and we promise to continue to labor with her in the ministry of the gospel and to give her due honor and support. We gather with her and with the United Church of Christ as a sign of our on-going mutual ministry in Christ's name.

Association Response:

We, the members of the Merrimack Association of the United Church of Christ, gather with you, the people and the Pastor and Teacher of Plymouth Congregational, United Church of Christ, as a sign of our covenant and in celebration of our mutual ministry in Christ's name.

Invitation to Holy Communion

One: We are scattered God: in apartments, houses, condos; on counters, at dinner tables, on our couch and stretching on the floor; and some of us are here in Church. As we join in this historic ritual, let us know that this holy meal may strengthen us. Let us find renewal in this great Communion.

All: We are prepared God. Our tables and makeshift tables may be messy, but they are set. 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: God of truth, we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands the bread of life. Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for You, for each other and for all of creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together, saying:

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.

SENDING

*Hymn

Be Now My Vision

NCH (black) # 451

Unison

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are as follows:

1 Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart;
2 Be now my wis - dom, and be my true word;
3 Rich - es I need not, nor life's emp - ty praise,
4 Sov - ereign of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

noth - ing sur - pass - es the love you im - part—
ev - er with - in me, my soul is as - sured;
you, my in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

You my best thought, by day or by night,
Moth - er and Fa - ther, you are both to me,
You and you on - ly are first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



*Pastoral Benediction

Choral Benediction

Postlude

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

PREPARE COMMUNION BEFORE WORSHIP

Today's worship service will include the celebration of the Lord's Supper. We encourage you to participate in the sacrament and to prepare bread and cup before the service begins. Here is a suggested preparation. Before the time of the service, you will want to prepare some bread, a slice or a small loaf of any kind of bread.

In some parts of the world tortilla, rice cake or cassava are used as this element which is defined not as a wheat product, but as the most common food of the people. Let it be something you alone or you with others in your house may break and share.

Prepare a cup or cups of juice — perhaps grape or cranberry — or wine, with or without alcohol. Set these elements in the living room or kitchen where you experience worship electronically with our faith community.

Perhaps you want to put them on a lovely cloth or fabric that reminds you of a special time or a person deeply connected with you in the communion of saints. Perhaps you will light a candle, place a flower/plant or the photograph of someone you wish to bring into the circle of faith beside the bread and the cup. Thank you for your preparation.

Keeping in Prayer:

Love and Sympathy to Alice Avery and the family of Margaret Avery
Prayers for Kathy Henning's nephew, Colin Slocomb
Susan Wei
Love and Sympathy for the family of Tommy Hadley who passed away recently, a close friend of the Kelsey's
Love and Sympathy for Janice, Jeff, Christopher and Maresa Nielson, the family of Joe Pedrin who passed away recently
Bill Larsen's recovery and for his family
Dianne Anderson, sister of Donna Castor
Love and sympathy for the family of Sid Lovett
Prayers for Sage Pirnie and her family
Lynda & Len Swenson, parents of Megan Magrath
Aaron, Jess and all who struggle with addiction
Charlie & Wendy Scouras
Prayers for Healing for Valerie, a dear friend of Sally Jensen
Prayers for Healing for Brian Paine
Thoughts & Prayers for Terry Cote
Prayers & Healing for Ruth Monroe
Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's mother-in-law
Bob, Georgene Fabian's brother and his wife, Joan
Marjorie Glidden and family
Dick & Paulette Brace
Alice & Margaret Avery
Annie Rice, Bev Tedeschi's mother
Sue Switaj

Prayers for those administering and receiving COVID-19 vaccines and boosters.
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

Today	9:30 AM	24 th Sunday after Pentecost, The Installation of Rev. Sara M. Holland as our Pastor and Teacher
	7:00 PM	Worship service airs on PBTv
Nov. 8 th	10:00 AM	Book Group
Nov. 10 th	9:30 AM	Lectio Divina Bible Study
	11:30 AM	Staff Meeting
Nov. 11 th	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Nov. 14 th	9:30 AM	New Member Sunday
Nov. 23 rd	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Service

Learn more about our guest preacher – The Rev. Daryn Bunce Stylianopoulos

Daryn Stylianopoulos is the Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church in Needham. Daryn believes in fostering the welcoming, healing and creative spirit of Jesus's good news wherever her ministry leads. Daryn is an award-winning preacher and we are honored she is here with us this morning.

Johnny Gall is a graduate of NYU and BU School of Theology and currently works with the homeless. Some have called him jolly and he has no objections to this.

We'd like to thank the following guests, family members and friends of our church in addition to Johnny and Daryn: Rev. Gordon Rankin, Debbie Edmundson, Denna Holland & Rev. Arthur Holland, Rev. Gayle Murphy, Rev. Ruth Martz, and Libby Coley.

Turkey Vouchers - If you or anyone you may know needs help to purchase a turkey for thanksgiving, we have some \$15 vouchers to give. Please email: office@uccplymouth.org or call the office at 603-536-2626. Please leave a voicemail if we do not answer.

Good News From Mission & Social Outreach: We are happy to report that everything is going well for the refugee family Gale Adams-Davis is hosting. Six-year-old Kimberly is doing great in school, acclimating well and making lots of friends. She has an hour each day of ESL at school giving her some extra help. Mateo will begin Head Start in January when he turns three. And Chris begins her once-a-week ESL classes in Plymouth on Monday, October 4th. If you are interested in helping there are several ways including transportation, babysitting, and providing friendship and activities. Let Linda LaPrad know if you can help.

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 and 3rd Sundays of the month. Volunteers are always welcome, please contact Jennifer or Julie 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, Linda 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 or Linda 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 summer we purchased food for people, assisted families who needed back to school supplies, assisted folks with rental expenses as well as utilities. When we assisted families in preparation for school, we actually were able to meet a few of the children impacted; they were immensely grateful. We have deep gratitude for all of those who have contributed money and time related to the Hope Fund.*

Racial Justice Exploration: We are continuing these explorations this fall. 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. This group is currently involved in taking Harvard University's Implicit Bias test online; we encourage you to consider doing so!

Book Group: The next book group will be on November 8th at 10 AM. All are welcome! Any questions please contact Peggy Martin at pmartin03223@yahoo.com or Kathy Henning at henkat52@gmail.com

Please continue to be aware of COVID-related concerns when on site. Please do not assume old friends are okay with physical contact - always ask out of respect for the other person and be empathetic to anxieties anyone might have on the basis of the pandemic (or otherwise).

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.

We will offer the option of meeting digitally indefinitely (Facebook). You may also catch our services (one week delayed) on Sunday nights on PBTv at 7:00 pm. (Local channel 1302.) Please check for Constant Contact and the Facebook page for ongoing updates. **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! Please consider care for creation and reducing greenhouse emissions when scheduling in person meetings.**

Office Hours

Tuesday - 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday - 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Thursday - 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday - 8:30 AM – 2:30 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.

The Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor

Courtney Crosato, Office Administrator

David A. Williams, Director of Music

Ashley Rose, Organist/Pianist

Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation

Ann Thurston, Treasurer

plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org

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Liturgist: Carol Stewart

Acolyte: Leif Magrauth

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

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Celebrating Birthdays in October & November in our Community:

November 1 Ivan Bass
November 2 Leif Magrauth
November 5 Nick Zwald
November 11 Michael Conklin
November 13 John Shaw
November 18 Georgene Fabian
November 20 Margaret Avery
November 21 Cameron Brand

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

