

Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

Pentecost and Communion Sunday: Honoring and Celebrating Children & Youth



June 5, 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. **AT THIS TIME, WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE MASKS.** 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 “Fantasia on Nettleton” arr. by Jim Engebretson
With great thanks this morning for the Flute Trio: Jan Bass, Peggy Martin, Ashley Rose

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 typically have Sunday School; this morning we invite children to remain in worship! You may contact faithformation@uccplymouth.org to get more information about programming for children and families.

Introit “Those Who Love Me Will Keep My Word. Alleluia!” Aaron David Miller

*Those who are able may stand.

***Call to Worship**

Liturgists – Tucker & Rohan MaGrauth

One: Many voices and many names, we gather this hour:

All: To celebrate Spirit, to celebrate church, to dare to love!

One: Many birds and creatures join in our celebration.

All: A celebration of youth, of unity, of peace!

One: The morning is sweet and so is our coming together;

All: We raise our voices to celebrate love

One: Hear our songs, O Holy Spirit!

In unison

1 Morn-ing has bro - ken Like the first morn - ing, Black-bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall Sun - lit from heav - en, Like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing Born of the

spo - ken Like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing!
dew - fall On the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion,

Praise for the morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing Fresh from the Word!
Of the wet gar - den, Sprung in com-plete - ness Where his feet pass.
Praise ev - ery morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion Of the new day!

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

Dear God, we thank you for the Holy Spirit, for the birthday of our church. We think of our faith family in far away lands, also celebrating your love. Help us to learn about your Spirit today. God help us know that your Spirit will strengthen and guide us each morning and each night, all of our days. Let us learn from one another, no matter our age. Amen.

Silence for Personal Reflection

God's Promise of New Life

One: Holy Spirit, you promise to always be present for us, even when we do not realize you are around. Let us find your presence in scripture, song and your sacred meal today.

All: God, let us be sure that your Spirit is moving in our church and in our lives. Let us hear each other, no matter how old or young. You have promised that your wisdom will be revealed, in all ages. As we sing, we seek your wisdom:

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 often will have a Children's Message during this time; today we invite children and youth to remain in worship. Our scripture readings and sermon will be short and will incorporate guitar and questions. The communion liturgy will also be shorter than what is typical today. Again, we invite children and families to get connected to our programming by emailing faithformation@ucplymouth.org.

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Readings

Mark 10: 13-16

Acts 2: 1-4

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

“Close Our Eyes”

Rev. Sara M. Holland

Including parts of Joshua Radin's “We Are Okay”

*Hymn

Let Every Christian Pray

NCH (black) #261

1 Let ev - ery Chris - tian pray, this day and ev - ery day,
2 The Spir - it brought to birth the church of Christ on earth
3 On - ly the Spir - it's power can fit us for this hour:

come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! Was not the church we love
to seek and save the lost: God nev - er has with - drawn,
come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come! U - nite, in - struct, in - spire

com - mis - sioned from a - bove? Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come!
 since that tre - men - dous dawn, the gifts of Pen - te - cost.
 and fill us with your fire: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come!

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Offertory Anthem “Shout for Joy!” Sally K. Albrecht & Jay Althouse
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: Morning Star, we give you thanks for all good things which bless us. We give you thanks for the gift of selfhood, for hearts and minds to see your miracles, and for relationships through which we are challenged to growth and new life. Amen.

Invitation to Holy Communion Communion Steward: 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 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

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: Loving God, you have made us one in Christ and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Let us find ourselves brave enough to rest in your love. Send us forth to be your people in the world. Grant us strength to resist 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

***Closing Song**

Lean on Me

Bill Withers

Sometimes in our lives
We all have pain
We all have sorrow

But if we are wise
We know that there's always tomorrow

Lean on me
When you're not strong
And I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on...

For it won't be long
Till I'm gonna need somebody to lean on

Please swallow your pride
If I have things you need to borrow

For no one can fill
Those of your needs that you won't let show

Lean on me
When you're not strong
And I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on...

For it won't be long
Till I'm gonna need somebody to lean on

***Pastoral Benediction**

Postlude

This Little Light of Mine

arr. by Gregory Theisen

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

Keeping in Prayer:

Prayers for Sarah, wife of John Anderson, who is facing surgery

For an end to gun violence, in the spirit of Isaiah 2:4

Prayers for Ellen who struggles with cancer, family member of Ruth & Dale Mosher

Condolences & prayers to Bev Tedeschi and the family of Annie Rice

Condolences & prayers to family of Ruth Munroe

Prayers of healing for Sue Switaj

Condolences & prayers for his children, stepchildren, and relatives of Jonathan Gellert, son
of Carol Gellert

Condolences & prayers for family members and friends Fran Lewis

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

Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's mother-in-law

Prayers for the people of Ukraine

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

June 5 th	9:30 AM	Children's Sunday
June 7 th	7:00 PM	Racial Justice Meeting
June 12 th	9:30 AM	Choir Sunday
		Pride Sunday
	10:45 AM	Special musical offering by TJ Wheeler
	1:30 PM	Merrimack Confirmation Ritual
	2:30 PM	Merrimack Association Meeting
June 19 th	9:30 AM	New Member Sunday
	10:30 AM	<u>Annual Congregational Meeting</u>

Annual Reports due ASAP- All committee chairs should turn in their reports as soon as possible.

Please join us in welcoming Alison Thatcher to our staff as Office Administrator! We are very excited that Alison has started this week and we hope

you will continue to be patient with us as our office has been in transition for a number of months now. Thank you Alison!

OUR 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 more than halfway to our 2022-23 Stewardship Campaign goal of \$180,000. As of May 24th, we have received 40 pledges totaling \$115,442. 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. If you have any questions, please contact Linda LaPrad or Ann Thurston. THANK YOU!

By-Law amendment to be voted on at annual meeting June 19, 2022.

Text: By-law 'n' under Article V111, Church Council; A. The Council; 2: Duties of the Council are to (changes in red) n.provide for and **audit/review** by an independent, qualified **auditor/CPA/accountant** secured and deemed appropriate by the Council every five (5) years or whenever the Treasurer leaves that position before the end of a five (5) year interval.

We will have another new member Sunday on June 19 – if you are interested in becoming a part of our church family, please email Pastor Sara at plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org.

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 almost every Sunday! Volunteers are always welcome, please contact Jennifer Byam or Julie Kelsey for more information at faithformation@uccplymouth.org.

Graduation Congratulations to Julie Kelsey for receiving her Master's Degree, Troy Tedeschi and Kurt Maiser (John Anderson's son) for receiving their Bachelor's degree.

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.

Book Group: The group is currently reading *Always a Guest: Speaking of Faith Far from Home!* Any questions please contact Peggy Martin at pmartin03223@yahoo.com or Kathy Henning at henkat52@gmail.com. The last meeting before the summer break will be on June 13th 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
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 Musicians: Jan Bass and 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 June in our Community

Anna Boyer	June 6 th
Alice Avery	June 8 th
Kimberly Berman	June 10 th
Abigail Ball	June 13 th
Murry Swindell	June 22 nd
Jay Buckley	June 23 rd
Eleanor Spencer	June 24 th
Mary Bohn Reynolds	June 25 th
Wesley Ball	June 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

