

# Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

First Sunday after Pentecost:  
Choir & Pride Sunday



June 12, 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** “Three Duets for Two Flutes: II. Allegro assai” Johann Joachim Quantz

## Welcome & Announcements

*Please, if you are new to our community and want to be more involved, leave your email address or address on an attendance pad or on our sign in sheet in the narthex / entrance of the building. You may also email us at [office@uccplymouth.org](mailto:office@uccplymouth.org). We are delighted to get to know you! On 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays we have Church School. You may contact [faithformation@uccplymouth.org](mailto:faithformation@uccplymouth.org) to get more information about programming for children and families.*

**Introit**                      God’s Glory Fills the Whole Earth                      Aaron David Miller

\*Those who are able may stand.

## \*Call to Worship

Liturgist – Wayne Martin

*Written by the Rev. Mak Kneebone*

One: Those who are thirsty, come to the fount that will not dry up.

**All: We bring our thirst here to be quenched.**

One: Those who are weary, Spirit is a ready refuge.

**All: We bring our weariness that we might find rest.**

One: Those who feel lost, come to the One who knows the way.

**All: Lead us by the hand, by our hearts, and by hope.**

**\*Hymn**    In The Midst of New Dimensions *vs. 1-3, 5*    NCH (black) #391

The image shows a musical score for a hymn in 4/4 time. The score is written on two staves: a treble clef staff for the melody and a bass clef staff for the accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The accompaniment consists of a steady bass line with chords. Above the treble staff, the following chords are indicated: C, C/B, F, C, F, Am7, Dm7, G7sus4, and G7. The lyrics are written below the treble staff and are numbered 1 through 5.

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,  
2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,  
3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,  
4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,  
5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with - draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C



Who will lead the pil-grim peo-ples wan-dering in their sep-arate ways?  
 Who will lift the ol-ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?  
 Grant that we, your glob-al vil-lage, might en-vi-sion wid-er dreams.  
 Each a gift in your cre-a-tion, each a love song to be sung.  
 May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir-it res-ur-rect the church a-gain.

*Refrain*

Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier-y pil-lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C



peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev-er, now and ev-er, now and ev-er - more.

## Passing of the Peace

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

*We apologize for the change, but we will be switching back to virtual passing of the peace for this week and until further notice.*

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

*Written by the Rev. Mak Kneebone*

Holy One of Blessing, eternally we co-create ourselves in your love.  
All companionship orientations; all gender identities and expressions;  
All ways of having family. We celebrate LGBTQ+ peoples everywhere  
knowing that many are still not safe to come out;  
To be free; to live life abundantly. Heal all who are ill in body, mind, heart  
or spirit. Bind up all wounds and provide adequate care.  
Extinguish any stigma people are enduring. We celebrate because  
everyone should be celebrated. We are your body on earth.  
May our love and hope be sent on the wings of this prayer  
To all who need refreshing, affirmation, and love's embrace.  
May it be so. Amen

## *Silence for Personal Reflection*

### God's Promise of New Life

One: Holy One, we have too often let the messages of the mundane world  
become our own – that we are not good enough, that we need to be  
perfect; that grace is not for us. We remember together:

All: **There is nothing – nothing here, nothing anywhere else that will  
separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus; it is for your Spirit  
of hope that we sing:**

**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.**

### 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

Romans 5: 1-5

Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31

One: Creator God, 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

**Anthem** Come, Thou Fount of Ev'ry Blessing *Nettleton* arr. Robert F. Swift

**Message** "Shape & Form" Rev. Sara M. Holland

**\*Hymn** Christian, Rise and Act Thy Creed PH (red) #416

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Christian, Rise and Act Thy Creed". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 Chris-tian, rise and act thy creed; Let thy prayer be in thy deed;  
2 Hearts a-round thee sink with care; Thou canst help their load to bear;  
3 Let thine alms be hope and joy, And thy wor-ship God's em-ploy;

Seek the right, per-form the true, Raise thy work and life a - new.  
Thou canst bring in-spir-ing light, Arm their fal-tering wills to fight.  
Give him thanks in hum-ble zeal, Learn-ing all his will to feel. A-men.

4 Come then, law divine, and reign;  
Frest faith assailed in vain,  
Perfect love bereft of fear,  
Born in heaven and radiant here.

# 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**      How Can I Keep From Singing      Robert Lowry (1825-1899)  
arr. Michael Burkhardt

*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

Lavon Baylor, 2014

**All: For all the great and wondrous things you have done for us, O God, we are grateful. You give us strength to go on when we are troubled and discouraged. You grant newness of life as we share in Christ's resurrection. We want to pass on the good news through this offering and by the way we live each day. Lead us, and guide us with your steadfast love, that we might channel your gifts to all we meet. Amen.**

# SENDING

\*Hymn

For Everyone Born *vs. 1-3, 5*

Shirley Erena Murray



1. For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,  
 2. For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,  
 3. For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,  
 4. For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,  
 5. For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,  
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,  
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
 a - bus - er, a - bus - ed, with need to for - give,  
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,  
 with wis - dom and grace di - vid - ing the pow - er  
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,  
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,  
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,  
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair.  
 for young and for old, the right to be long. And  
 for just and un - just, a new way to live.  
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free.



God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and



joy - - - - - com - pas - sion and peace; yes



God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice, jus - tice and joy.

## **\*Pastoral Benediction**

**Benediction Response**      God Be In My Head      Everett Reed

**Postlude**      Since I've Laid My Burdens Down      Mississippi John Hurt

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

Many thanks to all musicians who have helped us throughout this last Church Year including staff, choir, musicians and guests like TJ. Please return to the sanctuary at 10:45 am to hear and learn more from TJ!

### **Keeping in Prayer:**

Prayers for the family of Terri Lessard, who recently passed away

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](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org)



## **This Week and More at PCUCC**

June 12 <sup>th</sup>	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 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 AM	New Member Sunday
	10:30 AM	<u>Annual Congregational Meeting</u>

## **Summer Organ Recital Series**

July 2022

Sundays at 5:00 PM

### **July 3 Justin Murphy-Mancini**

Artist Faculty in Organ, University of Southern Maine; Director of Church Music, First Religious Society (UU) of Newburyport, MA

### **July 10 Wesley Hall**

Minister of Music and the Arts at the First Baptist Church of Worcester, MA

### **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

**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 June 27<sup>th</sup>, we have received 46 pledges totaling \$160,742. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 13<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org) or on her work cell phone number at 336-485-5618 to set up a meeting.

Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor  
Alison Thatcher, Office Administrator  
David A. Williams, Director of Music  
Ashley Rose, Organist/Pianist  
Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation  
Ann Thurston, Treasurer

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Special Musicians: Jan Bass and Peggy Martin

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### Celebrating Birthdays in June in our Community

Anna Boyer	June 6 <sup>th</sup>
Alice Avery	June 8 <sup>th</sup>
Kimberly Berman	June 10 <sup>th</sup>
Abigail Ball	June 13 <sup>th</sup>
Murry Swindell	June 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Jay Buckley	June 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Eleanor Spencer	June 24 <sup>th</sup>
Mary Bohn Reynolds	June 25 <sup>th</sup>
Wesley Ball	June 29 <sup>th</sup>

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

