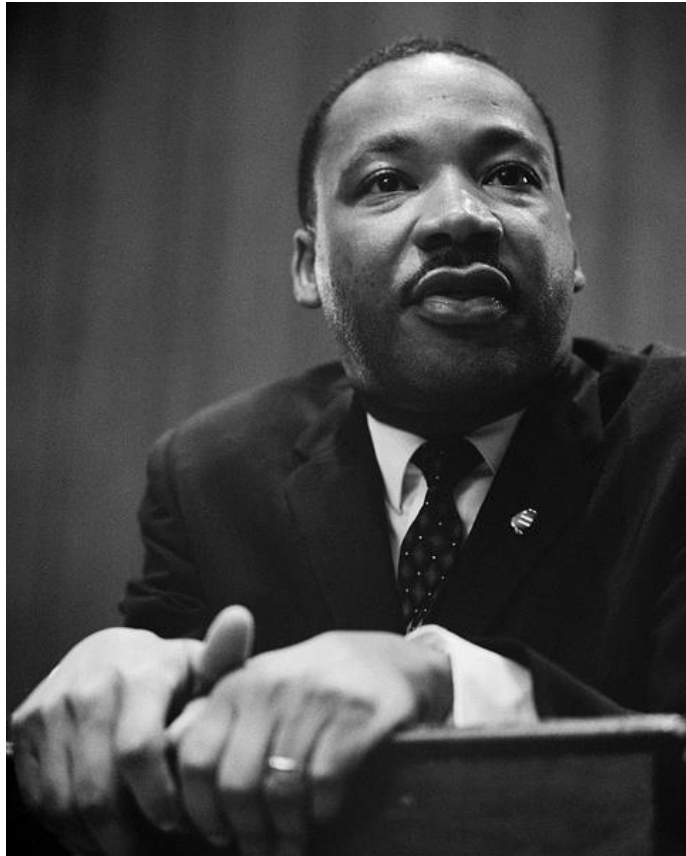


# Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ

**Second Sunday After Epiphany: Be Called  
Martin Luther King Jr Day Weekend  
Welcoming of New Members**



**January 15, 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 be a Racial Justice church

Our faith is 2000 years old; our thinking isn't.

*Please inquire with people before assuming they are okay with physical contact.*

# GATHERING

## **Prelude**

If I Can Help Somebody

Alma Bazel Androzzo

*In a sermon that he gave two months before he was assassinated, King stated that he wanted to be primarily remembered for serving others, and he ended his sermon by quoting this song.*

*Many thanks to Will Gunn for offering his musical gifts this morning*

## **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 & mid-June. There are bags in the narthex which the kids may find to enjoy! You may contact office@uccplymouth.org to get more information about programming for any age. And today is new member Sunday as it is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month; please come forward during the 2<sup>nd</sup> hymn if you feel called to join our beloved faith community!*

## **Introit**

God Is in His Holy Temple

\*Those who are able may stand.

## **\*Call to Worship**

Liturgist – Donna Castor

One: We come to behold each other and your love, O Holy One.

**All: Let us see your revelations of love, of awe-inspiring hope.**

One: We want to see your contours, your shape, and the way you are moving in our lives.

**All: Let us see the ways you are being made manifest, day by day.**

One: We want to be transformed by your presence; we come with hearts open for new discoveries.

**All: Let us sense your depth in simple moments as we are joined this morning. Bring us to your divine epiphanies!**

## **\*Hymn**

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

NCH (black) #281

## **\*Passing of the Peace**

*If you are at home, we invite you to send someone a note of peace today.*

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, we come together with gratitude for the ability to join in this space. Thank you. Our hearts have been hurt by the world too many times and we have a sense that your wisdom will change our lives. Sometimes we do not know what we are looking for in this world; center us around Christ-seeking in this time. Let us know that we are beloved and called to your gospel word. We pray all this for Love's sake and in Jesus' name. Amen.

*Moments for confession including silence for personal reflection*

## God's Promise of New Life

One: We often imagine that we must go to certain places to find God's presence, forgetting that Holy Spirit is always with us. We have sought out God in sanctuaries, in majestic forests, on beaches, and beside waterfalls. . .

All: **But the epiphany of Christ comes also in our neighbor and in our collective greatness. Our path with Christ is a collective one. No matter who we are or what we have done, we are being called towards Love; with this knowledge, we sing together:**

**Response**                      As With Gladness Those of Old                      NCH (black) #159

**As with gladness those of old did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward beaming bright; So, true  
Morning Star, may we evermore your splendor see.**

## 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**      1 Corinthians 1:1-9      John 1:29-42

One: Creator God, we pray that the meditations of our hearts and minds will be acceptable to you, for you are our rock and redeemer. May your Spirit move between words and hearing.

**All: Amen**

**Message**      What Are You Seeking?      Rev. Holland

**\*Hymn**      O Source of All That Is      NCH (black) #513

*Those who wish to join the life and ministry of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ as members may come forward during hymn #513. If you come forward, you may sit on the front pew until the hymn concludes. Please know that all questions you will be asked will include prompted answers and that by joining you do commit to 1-2 simple 'classes' with Pastor Holland.*

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Reception of New Members – see insert*

### 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 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.

### \*Offertory Prayer

All: O Ancient of Days, bring your beauty to these gifts that they may bless those who have been forgotten. We present but a portion of what we have to you financially and we pray it will be multiplied. Let us recall that we must bring your good news to those in need – those who may be financially or spiritually destitute. Let us extend your good word to those who are, by listening, even if ever so slightly.  
We pray all this in Jesus' name. Amen.

## SENDING

\*Hymn                                      Lift Every Voice & Sing                                      NCH (black) #593

### \*Pastoral Benediction

Choral Benediction                      God of Love, Hear Our Prayer                      John Helgen

Postlude                                      Precious Lord                                      Thomas A. Dorsey

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

### Keeping in Prayer:

Prayers for Bill Broadrick and his spouse, Jane  
Prayers for Eileen Torrey  
Prayers for Paulette Brace for a speedy recovery from surgery  
Prayers for Jaime Armstrong, niece of Marlin Collingwood,  
who will be undergoing surgery for breast cancer  
Prayers for Ellen who struggles with cancer,  
family member of Ruth & Dale Mosher

Prayers of healing for Sue Switaj  
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 Mae Larson, Rebecca Larson's mother-in-law  
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 write on the yellow card in the pews and place it in the offering tray, or send an email to [plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org)*

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

Jan 15	3:00 pm Reading of "I Have a Dream" Speech
Jan 17	7:00 pm AA Meeting
Jan 18	9:30 am Lectio Divina
Jan 19	1:00 pm Knitting Group
Jan 19	5:00 pm Meals for Many
Jan 19	7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
Jan 20	8:00 pm AA Meeting
Jan 22	5:30 pm Sunday Evening Service
Jan 23	10:00 am Book Group
Feb 1	6:15 pm Coffee House: "Honoring the African-American Spiritual"

### **CHURCH LIFE**

**Come hear a reading of MLK Jr.'s entire "I have a dream," speech** at 3 pm today on the steps of our church. Besides this reading opportunity, a great way to honor this day is to complete a service project. Visit someone stuck at home, hand some food to someone living outside, pick up some litter, or make a contribution to the ACLU or NAACP.

**The Torreys would appreciate some simple meals delivered to their home** on Owl Brook Rd in Ashland on 1/15, 1/17, 1/19, 1/21, 1/23, 1/25, and 1/27. To sign up for one or more dates and find out specific dietary restrictions, please email the church office.

**We would like to reinstate Coffee Hour, but we need a little help.** Someone who knows the routine will always be on site to lead and guide the helper. We need someone to help prep and someone to clean up or to do both. We need a baked good, a fruit plate, and a savory snack dish. If everyone signs up to do one job twice a year, we can continue this fellowship and enhance our community! Sign up in person this Sunday or email the church office.

**Knitting Group** will meet on January 19<sup>th</sup> and continue to meet every other Thursday at 1:00 in the parlor. Come with your knitting, knitting questions, or just for some fellowship! Contact Linda LaPrad for more information: llaprad297@gmail.com.

**Sunday Evening Services:** On January 22<sup>nd</sup> Pastor Holland is launching a Sunday evening service. This service will take place on the lower level at 5:30 pm each week until mid-June (reconvening in September). It will be casual and use some components of the Sunday morning service but be a different setting and atmosphere, and will include a substantial snack/light meal. Come one and all – let's worship together!

**Book Group** will meet at 10:00 on January 23<sup>rd</sup> to further discuss Afterlife by Julia Alvarez. Contact Peggy Martin for more information: pmartin03223@yahoo.com.

**Coffee House on February 1<sup>st</sup>** will feature Plymouth Regional High School Music Director and Pemigewasset Choral Society Conductor, Will Gunn. His talk will focus on research and literature from Black scholars and musicians about the origins and traditions of the African-American Spiritual and how the Fiske Jubilee Singers brought them to the concert hall.

### **FROM MISSION & OUTREACH**

**Our HOPE Fund and Little Food Pantry are in desperate need of your support!**

The HOPE Fund supports families at risk who need assistance paying for rent, heating, electricity, and medications. Right now, with rising fuel, electricity, and rent prices, the need is greater than ever. To give to the HOPE Fund, 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. Our Little Food Pantry in front of the church is always in great need of being filled. You can put items right in the pantry or bring them to the church office. Our Little Food Pantry serves many people in need in our community.

### **FROM FINANCE**

**Support PCUCC with no cost to you!** By choosing our church as your favorite charity through **AmazonSMILE**, Amazon will donate to the charity you designate at no cost to you. Purchase a **Hannaford Gift Card** in the amount of \$100, \$250, or \$500 by contacting Linda LaPrad or Ann Thurston. For every card purchased from the Finance Committee, the church receives 5% with no additional cost to you.

**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 – Friday 9:00-2:00

**Pastor’s Office Hours**

Monday – Wednesday 10:30 AM – 3:30 PM or by appointment.

Pastor Sara keeps sabbath on Friday.

Email: [plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org](mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org)

Work Cell: 336-485-5618

Rev. Sara M. Holland, Pastor	<a href="mailto:plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org">plymouthpastor@uccplymouth.org</a>
Alison Thatcher, Office Administrator	<a href="mailto:office@uccplymouth.org">office@uccplymouth.org</a>
David A. Williams, Director of Music	<a href="mailto:musicdirector@uccplymouth.org">musicdirector@uccplymouth.org</a>
Ashley Rose, Organist, Pianist	<a href="mailto:organist@uccplymouth.org">organist@uccplymouth.org</a>
Jennifer Byam, Director of Faith Formation	<a href="mailto:faithformation@uccplymouth.org">faithformation@uccplymouth.org</a>
Ann Thurston, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@uccplymouth.org">treasurer@uccplymouth.org</a>
Guest Accompanist: Will Gunn	
Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ 4 Post Office Square, P.O. Box 86 Plymouth, NH 03264 (603) 536-2626 - <a href="mailto:office@uccplymouth.org">office@uccplymouth.org</a> - <a href="http://www.uccplymouth.org">www.uccplymouth.org</a>	

**Celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries in January in our Community**

Rohan Magrauth	January 1	Steve Majeski	January 22
Alan Mather	January 1	Jerry Larson	January 23
Nance Ruhm	January 2	Briggs Adey-Merrithew	January 24
Janice Nielson	January 13	Marlin Collingwood	January 24
Hanna Starck	January 15	Rebecca Caron	January 25
Ashley Rose	January 16	Sophie Kelsey	January 26
Butch Castor	January 18	Peggy Martin	January 27
Sandy Larson	January 22		

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

