

**The Church of the Pilgrimage
United Church of Christ**

Sunday, August 12, 2018
10:00am



Rev. Dr. Helen Nablo, PASTOR
Lois Post, SUMMER ORGANIST
Jenny Healy, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN ED

Order of Worship

Wherever you are on life's journey, you are
welcome here!

Prelude "Vater unser im Himmelreich"
 -Dietrich Buxtehude 1637-1707

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship *(responsively)*

How lovely is your dwelling place, O God of
hosts!

**My soul longs, yea, faints for your courts;
My heart and flesh sing of joy to the living
God.**

Even the sparrow finds a home,
And the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young at your altars,
O God of hosts, my ruler and God.

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house,
Ever singing your praise.**

Blessed are those whose strength is in you.

*Hymn No. 18 Praise to the Living God

*Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

When we do not accept as our sisters and
brothers in Christ
those who are different from us, forgive us
God.

When we oppose you by opposing those
who disrupt our routines and challenge our
assumptions,
forgive us, God.

When we are not willing to look within, or
to change,
forgive us, God.

God, in your mercy, restore us to newness of life.

Bind all your people together through your Holy Spirit.

Empower us to witness with courage to the transforming presence of Jesus among us.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Take heart:

God's Spirit empowers us to move from the ways of death

to the ways of new life.

Our sins are forgiven.

We are invited to begin again.

Amen.

***The Lord's Prayer** *(unison)*

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

***Gloria Patri** No. 36 *(unison)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Lessons

Proverbs 1:1-5

The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:

For learning about wisdom and instruction,
for understanding words of insight,
for gaining instruction in wise dealing,
righteousness, justice, and equity;
to teach shrewdness to the simple,
knowledge and prudence to the young—
let the wise also hear and gain in learning,
and the discerning acquire skill.

Ephesians 4:11-16

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

1 Corinthians 3:2-8

I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of

the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each.

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each.

1 Corinthians 13:10-12

...but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, [a] but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

2 Peter 1:5-8

For this very reason, you must make every effort to support your faith with goodness, and goodness with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with endurance, and endurance with godliness, and godliness with mutual affection, and mutual affection with love. For if these things are yours and are increasing among you, they keep you from being ineffective and

unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord
Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Maturity

Leave

Pastor Helen Nablo

St. Francis Prayer for Peace (*unison*)

Lord make us instruments of your peace,
 where there is hatred, let us sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
And where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master; grant that we may not so
much seek

 to be consoled , as to console.

To be understood, as to understand.

To be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive.

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

And it is in dying that we are born to
eternal life.

***Hymn**

Lord, I Want to Be a

Christian

Lord, I want to be a Christian, in my heart,
in my heart. Lord I want to be a Christian
in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, Lord
I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Lord, I want to be more loving....

Lord, I want to be more holy....

Lord, I want to be like Jesus....

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

"Voluntary"

-Artemas N. Johnson 1817-1892

***Doxology No. 44**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise
him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father,
Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

We give thanks O God for the pleasures of
this day: Time to gather and praise you,
time to share our joys and our burdens, time
to reflect upon our spiritual lives. We
thank you too for the great pleasure of
offering support for your work in our
community and in our world. Bless these
gifts we pray. Amen.

***Hymn** No. 401 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the
Sound*

Benediction

Postlude "Baroque Trumpet"
-Gordon Young 1919-1998

During the postlude you may remain seated
or rise to greet the pastor by the staircase.

For Today's Service

Deacon of the Day: *Lincoln Passmore*
The flowers are dedicated to our family.
Given by Debby & Jon Porter.

**Thank you to our deacons for their help with
this service, and also with the breakfast
portion of our morning.**

NOTES

Welcome to worship at The Church of the Pilgrimage. If you are a visitor, please sign your name on one of the pew cards and we will send you a copy of the church newsletter.

Please silence your cell phones so we can be fully present to the spirit and to one another.

This morning we have nursery/crib room care with Kristin Moses, our childcare worker. Kristen is with us every Sunday.

Hearing devices and copies of the morning sermon are available on the table at the back by the top of the stairs.

A word on sharing prayer concerns: It is very helpful to have concerns written out ahead of time and presented to the pastor. This way the concern only has to be voiced once and takes less time in our service. Thank you for your consideration.

The Good Samaritan Fund, which assists with such expenses as rent, utility, food and health bills, is received on the second Sunday of the month. If you wish to contribute, there are specially marked envelopes for that purpose.

TODAY following worship there will be another discussion of the document "Reclaiming Jesus". What do you think of this document for the church in these times? How does it speak to *us*? Copies of the document are available on the table by the big window outside the sanctuary.

Wednesday Bible study has one more remaining summer meeting on August 22nd at 10:30 am at Pinewood Lodge.

Food Pantry Requests: There is a great need for canned vegetables, tuna and other canned meat, small and regular size jars of peanut butter, jelly/jam. Thank you in advance for your contributions and be assured of the appreciation and gratitude from those on the other end.

Summer Book Discussion: I'm Proud of You: My Friendship with Fred Rogers by Tim Madigan has been the summer book read for our church. An evening discussion will take place on Wednesday August 29th at the home of Helen Nablo and Mike Dunfee, 7 pm.

Pulpit Flower Opening: There is an opening for pulpit flowers on September 23. Please call Judy Mitchell at 508-746-3959 if you wish to honor or memorialize someone with beautiful flowers in the sanctuary.

Sunday school classes resume on September 16th.

GATHERING SUNDAY

All Church

Worship 10 am

and Picnic at

Stephens Field

Games for Kids

Time to Catch Up!

Sandwiches and



*As an Open and Affirming
Congregation we invite all into
our faith, to fully share in
all church life, including our
work, worship, rites, and sacraments, with the
assurance that we are all created in God's image,
reconciled by Christ, and empowered by the Holy
Spirit.*

**8 TOWN SQUARE
PLYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS 02360
PHONE: 508-746-3026
FAX: 508-746-4362
WEBSITE: WWW.8TOWNSQUARE.ORG
EMAIL: OFFICE@8TOWNSQUARE.ORG
SHELLIE SOUZA, OFFICE MANAGER
BRIAN GILDEA, SEXTON**