



**VIRTUAL/ORDER OF WORSHIP
HAMDEN PLAINS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

15 Church Street
Hamden, Connecticut 06514
(203) 248-4654

www.hamdenplainsumc.com

<https://www.facebook.com/HamdenPlainsUMC/>

The YouTube channel address:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxwHc1E3_YK4W1nHICT5iAA

Or <https://tinyurl.com/t9q8gw6>

**13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
COMMUNION SUNDAY
September 4, 2022**

"The mission of the Hamden Plains United Methodist Church is sharing God's love by creating a safe and welcoming community, connecting people's needs with God's power, and reconciling divisions through Christ."

-Mission Statement

**13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
COMMUNION SUNDAY**

September 4, 2022

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE
+ Those able please stand

PRELUDE

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

WELCOME TO THE PARISH

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS-Pastor

CALL TO WORSHIP (FOR LABOR DAY SUNDAY) – Liturgist

Come, all who labor and are weighed down with responsibility, uncertainty, and worry.

We come, because the load we carry is heavier than we can bear alone.

Come, all you who seek to relate work and worship, leisure and service, into a meaningful whole.

We gather for spiritual renewal and practical challenge, for help in making choices and carrying out our commitments.

Come, sinner and saint, with your hatreds and loves, your failures and successes, your sorrows and joys.

We respond to the Spirit's leading and open ourselves to receive God's gracious gifts.

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 18:1-11

OPENING PRAYER - Pastor

God of power and mercy, only with your help can we offer you fitting service and praise. May we live the faith we profess and trust your promise of eternal life. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

+OPENING HYMN

"My Faith Looks Up To Me"

UMH 452

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 (UMH 854)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION -Liturgist

God in Christ, who endured the cross in your own flesh for our sakes, hear us as we confess our sin. We would be your bold disciples, but we fear suffering; we would carry our cross, but it weighs too heavily. We count the cost of following you—as long as there are benefits; but to renounce all we have is a devastating prospect. Forgive the conditions we make when we try to obey, and free us by your grace to forsake all and follow you.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE - Pastor

The scriptures tell us that God's love will find us no matter how far away we are from the Word. Just as Jesus found Zacchaeus hiding in a tree, God will find us and bring us home. It does not matter what we have done wrong, we still belong to God. We have the assurance that God will rescue us. This is the good news of the Gospel!

JOYS AND CONCERNS – Pastor

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Pastor: Please come forward if your backpack is on the altar.

Pastor: Congregation, will you fill the backpacks of these students with your love, prayers, and support?

Congregation: We will.

Pastor: Lord, bless these backpacks and the students who carry them as they begin yet another year of school. Give them peace when they feel nervous, focus when they feel distracted, energy when they feel tired. Open their minds to the lessons they will learn both in and outside the classroom. Help them to make friends that build one another up and be friends to those who need them. Guide them in making good choices as they grow in wisdom and maturity. Be ever-present with them in the classroom, on the school bus, on the playground, and at home, and may they feel your loving care in all they do. Amen

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Philemon 1:1-21- Liturgist

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Leader: The Word of the Lord. People: ***Thanks be to God.***

+Luke 14:25-33—Liturgist

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: ***Praise to you, Lord Christ***

THE SERMON

“Control”

Rev. Jeremiah Paul

SERMONIC SONG

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

UMH 382

PASTORAL PRAYER - “Wrap Us in Your Love”

Lord of the cross, you call us to follow you. We mouth a yes and nod an okay, but do we know what you’ve asked us to do? We’re to love you more than others? Some say that cross is too heavy. Still, you compel us to follow, knowing that this cross is too heavy for us to carry alone. You say, count the cost and consider what discipleship is. Sometimes we squirm and say the cost is too great and the sacrifices too numerous. Still, you compel us to follow. The cross you ask us to carry is not nearly as heavy as the cross you carried for us. Nevertheless, we complain – and you listen. We search for an easier alternative – and you watch us. God, help us to admit when we get frustrated by the enormity of discipleship. Extend grace and mercy toward us. Wrap us inside of your unconditional love. And patiently compel us to follow you again. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

+The Great Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

P: ***And also with you.***

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

(Here the pastor gives thanks to the Lord, concluding)

L: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

P: *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

(The congregation is seated. The institution of the Lord's Supper is recalled.
The pastor concludes :)

L: And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

P: *Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again!*

(The pastor invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and praises the Trinity, concluding :)

L: All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

UMH #895

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*(The individual Communion cups are opened.
We eat and drink in unison with the invitations:*

"The body of Christ, broken for you" and "The blood of Christ, shed for you.")

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING-Liturgist

*Please mail or drop off your tithes and offerings to:
15 Church Street, Hamden, CT 06514.*

Noisy Offering (coins given for missions) may be dropped off at the church.

ANTHEM

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

UMH 110

+RESPONSE

"The Doxology"

UMH #95

+OFFERTORY PRAYER - Pastor

Holy and righteous God, through your Son, you have called us to follow. The gifts we offer this day are only a small token of affirmation that we accept that call. If we embraced the full meaning of that call, we would give our whole being to the offering. In many cases, we've allowed ourselves to believe that a few dollars and an hour on Sunday is the cost of discipleship. Help us to stop fooling ourselves, and consider the full cost of a discipleship that means something, that is capable of transforming the world. By your grace and with the help of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

GOING FORTH

+CLOSING HYMN

"What a Friend We Have In Jesus"

UMH 526

+ BENEDICTION - Pastor

Lord, please look on us with grace; watch over us with love; and surround us with peace. **Amen.**

The Postlude

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

August 21: ATTENDANCE: In-person: 22 Zoom: 0 Program Views: 0

OFFERING: \$246

TODAY AT HAMDEN PLAINS

GREETINGS TO ALL worshipping with us on-line or by program view today.

PLEASE JOIN US for Fellowship Time in the Narthex with our host, Randi Harrell.

MASK POLICY: Masks are optional. This is following the Bishop's recommendations.

WORSHIP TIME CHANGE: **NEXT SUNDAY** worship will begin at 10:15 a.m.

PASTOR OFFICE HOURS: Pastor J office hours are Wed. & Thurs.'s, 10:15 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. If you need a meeting with him please contact the office at 203.248.4654.

FELLOWSHIP TIME: Looking for hosts to serve coffee and a light snack. To sign up, see Krystal Ritchie or contact her at 203.587.0406 or kritchier424@yahoo.com. She will also guide new hosts through the process.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE for materials for the weekly bulletin is Wednesday at noon to secretary.hpumc@gmail.com.

SPECIFIC PRAYER REQUESTS for Wednesday Prayer Team may be made by contacting Holly O'Brien. These requests remain confidential to the Prayer Team. **PRAYERS AS PRINTED IN THE SUNDAY NOTICES**, are assumed to be public information and should be called or e-mailed to Nancy Estes at 203.248.4654 or secretary.hpumc@gmail.com.

MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK:

CONNECTIONAL BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP, RESUMES TUESDAY SEPT. 6th
Tuesdays 6:30–7:30 p.m., via Zoom

PRAYER TEAM, each Wednesday, in Prayer Room.

CHOIR REHEARSAL, RESUMES WEDNESDAY SEPT. 7th
Wednesday's 7:00 p.m.

WORSHIP TEAM, Thursday, June 2, 6:30 p.m., IN PERSON –Prayer Room

LEADERSHIP TEAM, Thursday, June 2, 7:30 p.m., IN PERSON –Prayer Room

"DINNER FOR A DOLLAR" serves each Saturday, 6 – 7 p.m.

"DINNER FOR A DOLLAR" Missions seeks cooks and serving hosts. Cook teams work 3 – 5:30 p.m. and serving teams serve 5:30 – 8 p.m. To sign up, go to <https://signup.com/go/LpLESWA> or contact Marty Hartog: 203.506.9788 or hartogm1@southernct.edu or Charlotte Sroka: 203.530.2860(text) or charcar321flavor@gmail.com HPUMC members and friends serve 2nd and 4th Saturdays; community partners host 1st, 3rd and 5th Saturdays.

Anyone may eat at Dinner for a Dollar. A suggested donation is \$1 per meal, but no one is turned away based on ability to pay. Meals are available each Saturday, 6 – 7 p.m., take-out only through the Church Street doors. May God continue to bless this important ministry.

CONNECTIONAL BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP: resumes **THIS Tuesday September 6th at 6:30 p.m.** Please watch for the link that will be emailed on Tuesday afternoon. Contact Pastor J for more information at 475.331.1122.

CHOIR REHEARSAL: RESUMES THIS WEDNESDAY SEPT. 7th. 7:00 p.m.

If you would like more information about joining choir or being a song leader, please contact Pastor J (475.331.1122 pastorj.hpumc@gmail.com) or Dunn Pearson (dunnpearson@gmail.com) for more information. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

OUR HAMDEN FOOD BANK COLLECTION: Please bring in any items you feel can be used as inventory is very low. Please place all donations in the collection basket in the Narthex during office hours (Tuesday – Friday, 9 a.m. – Noon) or leave by the back door. Thanks to the many who have donated!

YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT MEANS MUCH! Please mail gifts to HPUMC, 15 Church Street, Hamden, CT 06514 or drop them off during office hours, Tues - Fri., 9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

WE HAVE A NEW WAY of contributing your tithes and offerings.

You can now give right through an app on your phone by scanning the QR code or going to www.venmo.com/HamdenPlains-UMC.

Any questions please call the office.



PUMPKIN PATCH: Yes. This event, the 2nd half of October, is a signature event for HPUMC - some in the community know us as “The Pumpkin Church” - but to make it happen we need great support from the whole congregation. Depending on how many people commit, we’ll decide by end of August to proceed, or not. So if you value the Pumpkin Patch, and/or are willing to be a worker the last 2.5 weeks in October, sign-up on the Pumpkin Board in the Narthex or contact Nancy Estes in the office at 203.248.4654.

WEEK: 14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST. Scriptures Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14 (umh746); 1Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10. Liturgist: Holly O’Brien. Song Leader: TBA. Fellowship Time Hosts: Church Picnic in the yard

THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY remains open year-round. Check it out in front of the church on Dixwell Avenue. To donate books (children’s books as well as adult) of any genre or language, or Bibles, contact Kersten Moore at disturbedteacher@gmail.com/203.935.6855 or Lisa Collins at collins11902@yahoo.com/203.913.7961.

OUR INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLE PROGRAM Please bring your used cartridges for recycling in during office hours, Tues. – Fri., 9:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.; You can also bring them to church on Sunday or leave them in a bag outside the parking lot door at your convenience. Many thanks!

TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS please contact Nancy Estes at 203.248.4654 or Melissa Paul at mrsmasp@gmail.com.

OTHER WAYS TO BE IN MINISTRY AND MISSION DURING THE PANDEMIC:

- Bring your “*Cans for the Congo*” during office hours or on Sundays.
- Drop off food for the Hamden Food Bank.
- Stay abreast of developments by reading your e-mail or checking the website.
- Read the upcoming Sunday scriptures as an act of spiritual formation.
- Pray for our church and governmental leaders.
- Serve at “*Dinner for a Dollar*” (take-out only). Sign up at signup.com/go/LpLESwa or contact Marty Hartog at 203.506.9788 or hartogm1@southernct.edu
- Check in by phone or send a note to someone home-bound or elderly.
- Continue to mail in your tithes and offerings.



Hamden Plains Homecoming Picnic

NEXT SUNDAY, September 11, 2022

Following the church service in the parking lot.

Until 5 p.m.

Bounce house, popcorn, basketball and more.

Hot dogs and Hamburgers on the grill.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Contact Krystal Ritchie at: kritchie424@yahoo.com or 203.587.0406
for more information

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY - HPUMC will be hosting on world communion **Sunday October 2, 2022 at 11am.** We will be joined by our fellow Shoreline Parrish Churches and our DS will give the sermon for morning worship. Lay leaders, Song leaders, choir members, fellowship hour and attendance clerks will need to be on post. Let us plan to be present and at our very best. Worship will begin at 11am as opposed to our regular 10:15 am start. This will serve as our Sunday Morning service. Let's Have Church!!! Grace and Peace, Pastor J

RECORDED PROGRAM WORSHIP at www.hamdenplainsumc.com or https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxwHc1E3_YK4W1nHICT5iAA. Learn more about us at www.hamdenplainsumc.com.

MISSION VOLUNTEER - we are currently looking for a mission volunteers/chair-person to handle our recycling bottles and food pantry. The service will require one day a week commitment to emptying our bins. Please contact the office at 203.248.4654 for more information.



Sunday School News:

The Blessing of the Backpacks will take place on September 4, 2022, during the 9:30am worship service. Students of any and all ages are asked to bring their backpacks to the altar rail to be blessed by Pastor Jeremiah.

Randi Harrell and Megan Malanson are the new Christian Education Co-Chairs for this year. We are excited to have some fun while learning about God, the Bible and even each other. We are planning a Youth Group style of Sunday School. Some fun activities this year will include Bible Story Pumpkins, First Annual Bible Bowl, Bible Verse Jenga and more! **Sunday School will be on the FIRST, THIRD AND FIFTH SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH at 9:00am starting on September 19, 2022.** A letter will be sent out to our Sunday School Youth and families.

And we can't forget about our Adult Sunday School class! If you are interested in attending the Adult Sunday School Class, please let Megan know at megmalanson@yahoo.com or (203) 535-5569 so we can prepare and plan for your class.

Randi Harrell and Megan Malanson
Christian Education Co-Chairs

PLEASE CONSIDER SENDING A NOTE to any of the folks below who either live alone, have care needs or both. **This is the current list.** Megan Malanson is tracking these contacts. If you make one and would like to report that to Megan, please reach her at megmalanson@yahoo.com. If there is someone you think should be contacted by the pastor, please notify the office.

ADDRESSES FOR PEOPLE LIVING ALONE OR WITH CARE NEEDS:

(Some opted not to be on this list.)

Bales, Mary, 33 Woodruff Street, #113, Hamden, 06518

Gursky, John, 1492 Dixwell Avenue, Hamden, 06514

Hartsoe, Lois, 7310 Ashlar Village, Wallingford, 06492

Leno, Pat, 850 Mix Avenue, Hamden, 06514

Mayo, Elizabeth, 200 Leeder Hill Drive, Apt. 213, Hamden, 06517

Morrison, Claudette and Jimmy, 112 East Gate Lane, Hamden, 06514

Raccio, Jean and Carmine, 15 Sunrise Cove Road, Branford, 06405

Reynolds, Marianne, 656 Center Street, Apt. D208, Wallingford, 06492

Shaw, Rosemary, 345 Fountain Street, Apt. 202, New Haven, 06515

Teodosio, Frank, 330 Amity Rd., Woodbridge, 06525

Williams, Trudy, 41 West Helen Street, Hamden, 06514

Wycoff, Denise and Pieter, 135 Grandview Avenue, Hamden, 06514

BIRTHDAYS: Kirby Stafford 9/1, Kayleigh Kirchoff 9/3, Riannah Keller 9/3, Jennifer Wise 9/4, Laura Williams 9/5, Carmine Raccio 9/6, Trudy Williams 9/6, Aliya Cameron 9/8, Meaghan Cameron 9/8, Patrick Pagano 9/9, Helen Donaldson 9/10, Stacey Riccardi 9/10 Jean Koepke 9/11

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

All our Church Families that have tested positive and recovering from COVID:

Continuing care:

John Kenney, Husband of Pat Jacobs, kidney failure
Lavonda Paul, resting at home
Holly Wesman, partner of Karen Sroka, cancer
Enkela's 2yr old Luca, seeing a Pulmonologist (Randi Harrell's co-worker)
Bernadette, breast cancer (Margret Turner's niece)
Charlene Welch
Alan, recovering from cardiac surgery (Brenda Pineau)
Cassondra, cancer (The Pineau's)
Paul, Bob, Lori, cancer (The Pineau's)
Sarah and James Galloway, Carol's parents, for on-going medical issues
Jason Calabrese (brother of Stacey Riccardi)
Stephanie, health issues, daughter of Ed & Brenda Pineau
Ralph Pausig, Derrick Pommills brother in law, Health Issues

In Rehab facilities:

Marianne Reynolds Frank Teodosio

Worship Assistants

| | TODAY September 4th | Next Week, September 11th |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Liturgist | Krystal Ritchie | Bill Welch |
| Song Leader | Ed Zorian | TBA |
| Ushers | Randi Harrell | Megan Malanson |
| Attendance Clerk | Melissa Paul | Holly O'Brien |
| Fellowship Time | Nancy Estes | Church Picnic |
| Counters | Krystal Ritchie Kersten Moore | Lynn Brantley Perjah Delgado |
| Broadcast Ministry | TBA | TBA |

Program view of worship at 10:15 a.m. Sundays

Minister: All Congregation Members

Rev. Jeremiah J. Paul, Pastor, pastorjj.hpumc@gmail.com

Dunn Pearson, Musician Ministry, dunnpearson@gmail.com

Nancy Estes, Parish Secretary, secretary.hpumc@gmail.com

Derrick Pommills, Property Manager, pommillsfacilityservices@gmail.com