



10:30 AM SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025

WELCOME!

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*“Whether you are a seeker, skeptic, believer
or somewhere in between on life’s journey, you are welcome here.
We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate
in worship and service of Plymouth Church.*

PLYMOUTH UCC PURPOSE

Growing people of faith who participate in God’s work in the world.

PLYMOUTH UCC VISION

Plymouth Church UCC is a Christian Community open to the transforming Spirit of God.



Thank you for worshipping online with us today. Please like and send us a greeting on
Facebook and Instagram.



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Facebook and Instagram.

The church office is open during limited hours.

Contact Info@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

All pastoral care will be via telephone or other electronic means.

If you have personal concerns, you may contact a minister or member of the Pastoral Care Team
via e-mails below, or call the pastoral care line, **206.639.7739**, checked daily.

KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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For administrative needs, or other non-pastoral care questions, please email:

DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

*When you enter Plymouth Church UCC,
may you feel the peace, intimacy, belonging,
acceptance and refuge of Sanctuary.*

PRELUDE *PRELUDIO*

Evensong Liza Lehmann
Peter Nelson-King, piano

WELCOME *BIENVENIDA*

Happy birthday to you;
Anniversary, too!
We are so excited to share them with you.
May God bless and keep you in all that you do.
Happy birthday! (And anniversary!)
Happy birthday! (And anniversary!)
Happy birthday to you!

CALL TO WORSHIP

LLAMADO A ADORAR

One: Come, people of God, let us go up to the
mountain of the Lord.

**Many: That we may learn God's ways and walk in
God's paths.**

One: From Zion shall go forth instruction, and the
word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

**Many: God shall judge between the nations and
mediate for many peoples.**

One: They shall beat their swords into plowshares and
their spears into pruning hooks.

**Many: Nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.**

One: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

**Many: We come, ready to learn, ready to love, and
ready to hope.**

OPENING HYMN *HIMNO DE APERTURA*

God of Grace and God of Glory (NCH #436) CWM RHONDDA

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that
 5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
 Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—
 your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,
 they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,
 we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
 in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ORACIÓN DE CONFESIÓN

Gracious and Loving God,

We confess that we have not fully embraced your vision of peace. We cling to conflict, nurture grudges, and fail to pursue reconciliation. Forgive us for the times we have chosen fear over faith, division over unity, and apathy over action.

You call us to beat our swords into plowshares, but we remain too often focused on self-interest and power. You invite us to walk in your light, yet we stumble in the shadows of greed, prejudice, and despair.

Restore us, O God, to your ways of justice and love. Transform our hearts, so we may seek your paths of peace, And guide us to be instruments of your hope in this broken world. In your mercy, hear our prayer.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

SEGURIDAD DE GRACIA

Beloved of God, hear the good news: In Christ, God has declared that you are no longer captives to the past. All that you have carried, the Holy One has lifted. The eternal love of God, made known in Jesus Christ, has anointed you anew. You are forgiven and invited to join in the joy of God's great vision for your life. Thanks be to God who has fulfilled this in your hearing. **Amen and Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ORACIONES DEL PUEBLO

Afghan Family (Siblings of Plymouth), Ahmed Black (Nephew of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Wendy Carpenter (Friend of Jocelyn Coit-Durland), William Chapman Nyaho, Gevan Woodke (Friend of Karen Clark), Diane Folkert (Mother and Mother-in-Law of Alex & Ara Lawrence), Louis Ford (Friend of Karen Clark), Elvis Gordon (Brother of Michael and Elizabeth Gordon), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Kay Heekin (Mother-in-Law of Kate Forrester), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Julie (Friend of Karen Clark), Shaniece (Friend of Karen Clark), Jaime Rubio Sulficio

We grieve with the Weller family on the one year anniversary of the passing of Donna Weller.



PRAYER OF JESUS *ORACIÓN DE JESÚS*

**Our parent, who is among us, blessed be your Creation.
May your loving presence be a reality here on earth.
May we become more interested in building your kingdom
here and now than in waiting for it to come down from above.
Let us share our bread with those who hunger.
Let us learn to forgive as well as to receive forgiveness.
Help us through the time of temptation, delivering us from all evil.
For ours are the eternal blessings that you pour upon the earth. Amen.**

CALL TO OFFERING & SHARING PEACE

LLAMADO A LA OFERTA Y COMPARTIENDO LA PAZ

At work in life is a holy generosity that begins and ends in
God. This “yes” of God is the source of everlasting joy. Now,
we are invited to this enduring delight. May our hearts and
minds be opened anew as we bring our gifts to God with
thanksgiving and praise.

DOXOLOGY *DOXOLOGÍA*. LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

ORACIÓN DE DEDICACIÓN

**We thank you, God, for loving us into the freedom of
a generous life. Bless these gifts we bring in response
to the blessing you have already given us with the
gift of life. Form our lives anew into living offerings,
sharing Your love with a grace that frees others.
Amen.**

OFFERING MUSIC OFRECIENDO MUSICA

Ave Verum Corpus W.A. Mozart, arr. Franz Liszt
Peter Nelson-King, piano

SCRIPTURE READING LECTURA DE LAS ESCRITURAS Isaiah 2:1-5
(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation)

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz envisioned about Judah and Jerusalem:
And it will be in coming days,
the mountain of God's home
shall be the highest of the mountains,
and shall be elevated beyond the hills,
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say,
"Let us go and ascend the mountain of the HOLY ONE OF SINAI,
to the home of the God of Jacob [of the line of Rebekah];
that God may teach us God's ways
and that we may walk in God's paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the HOLY ONE from Jerusalem.
God shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide justly for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.
O house of Jacob [of the line of Rebekah]
come, let us walk
in the light of the HOLY ONE OF OLD!

CONTEMPORARY VOICE *VOZ CONTEMPORÁNEA*

A World Where Weapons of War Become Tools of Life

by Rev. Dr. Mark Smutny

Listen to the prophet Isaiah's imagery: swords transformed into plowshares, spears into pruning hooks. Its simplicity and power strike us still. In today's world, it might be tanks becoming tractors, missiles dismantled to build irrigation systems, and drones repurposed to deliver medicine and aid. Can we dare to imagine such a world? What would it mean for the tools of death to be reshaped into instruments that nurture life?

For those whose lands bear the scars of war—bomb craters in their fields, homes reduced to rubble—this transformation is more than a dream. It is restoration. It is the miracle of fertile fields replacing battlefields, harvests overcoming hunger, and communities rising from destruction. The energy and resources once poured into conflict redirected toward healing—healing the earth, healing its people.

Imagine this: the vast wealth spent on war shifted instead to end poverty, to combat climate change, to open the door of education to every child. Isaiah calls us not only to dream but to act. His vision is not just a distant hope; it is a challenge to reimagine what is possible and to work for what is necessary—for the flourishing of all humanity.

May we, as followers of Christ, embrace this vision and take the first steps toward it in our lives and in our world. Amen.

ANTHEM *EL HIMNO*

Eatnemen Vuelie Frode Fjellheim, arr. Emily Crocker
Plymouth Choir; Eliza Woodyard, Director

SERMON *SERMÓN* . . . *We Act Our Way into Hope* . . . Rev. Dr. Mark Smutny

A PRAYER FOR PEACE (unison)

Lord of Peace,

**We stand in the ruins of war, longing for the day
when swords are beaten into plowshares and nations
no longer learn the ways of violence. Teach us to walk
in Your light, to build bridges where there are walls,
and to choose love over hate. May we be instruments
of Your peace, turning conflict into collaboration
and despair into hope. Guide us toward Your holy
mountain, where all people will dwell together in
harmony. In Your name, we pray. Amen.**

HYMN OF COMMITMENT *HIMNO DE COMPROMISO*

Let There Be Peace on Earth. WORLD PEACE

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with
me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was
meant to be. With God our cre - a - tor,
chil - dren all are we. Let us
walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.
Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the mo - ment
now. With ev - ery step I take, let
this be my sol - emn vow: to take each mo - ment and
live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.

BENEDICTION *BENDICIÓN* Dr. Smutny

POSTLUDE *POSTLUDIO*

Giga. Antonin Kammel

Peter Nelson-King, piano



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- American Mosaic*** Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Immersion Workshop Series continues every Sunday through February 2, 12–1:30 pm in Hildebrand Hall. Please join us.
- Advocate for Justice*** Faith Action Network’s Interfaith Advocacy Day brings voices of compassion and justice to our elected leaders. Meet with your legislators and put your faith into action. 9 am–3 pm Thursday, February 20 in Olympia. **Register by February 3** at Fanwa.org.
- Plan to Attend*** Plymouth’s 155th Annual Meeting Sunday, February 16, after worship in Hildebrand Hall and live online. Light lunch provided. The Annual Report will be reviewed, and your vote is needed to install lay leadership and approve the 2025 budget for our church family.
- Help Provide Comfort*** The Community & Care Board requests your help to provide items for comfort bags to be distributed to visitors in need. Please bring gloves, socks, tissues, hand sanitizer and shelf-stable snacks. Items can be left in the bin by the Welcome Table in the Lounge on Sundays.
- Study the Bible with Plymouth*** Wednesdays at 9 am or Thursdays at 7 pm. The Zoom link in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org will be the same every week for both Wednesday morning and Thursday evening studies.
- Members and Visitors*** can access Plymouth Guest wi-fi network using password: peaceonearth.

Believing that God’s love transcends all human distinctions,
Plymouth welcomes people of all races and cultures,
of varied social and economic conditions
and regardless of sexual orientation.
We are open and affirming of all people,
and we call all people to the cost and joy of Christian discipleship.