



**10:30 AM SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024**

# 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, Twitter and Instagram.



The church office is open during limited hours.

Contact [Info@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto: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](mailto:KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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

[DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

*Worship with Plymouth Church UCC begins with meditation.  
The quiet of this place is meant to encourage and deepen your own inner work.  
Thank you for entering this place, this hour, by honoring the spirit of worship.*

**PRELUDE** . . . . . Dr. Lee Peterson, piano

**CALL TO WORSHIP** . . . . . June Hayakawa-Fung

One: As we join in worship this day, we might feel like the  
disciples, overwhelmed by grief. After all, the state of the  
world is so uncertain now.

**Many: But our resurrected Christ comes to us, saying,  
“Peace be with you.”**

One: We might feel like Thomas, looking for physical signs that  
the unbelievable could be true. After all, nothing like this  
has ever happened before.

**Many: But our resurrected Christ comes to us, saying,  
“Here are the marks on my body.”**

One: Can we really believe that Jesus is here again?

**Many: Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on us. Christ’s peace  
is with us. We don’t need to be afraid.**

One: Our resurrected Christ calls us to worship, and we receive  
the peace of Christ.

**Many: Let us worship with joy! Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION . . . . . Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

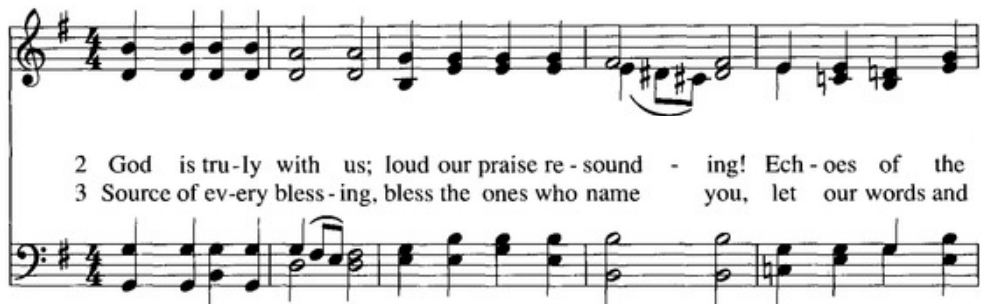
God, we confess that we too might be like Thomas.  
As we are overwhelmed by the world's grief, it's  
natural for us to be cynical. It's hard to believe that  
hope is possible when hope is hard to find. But when  
we stop believing in hope, we also stop believing  
liberation can be possible. When we stop working to  
tear down injustice and discrimination, we stop others  
from experiencing the peace we have found in you.  
Forgive our unbelief, calm our fears, and help us be  
instruments of your peace.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE . . . . . Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

One: Beloved, Jesus comes to us with grace, telling us  
we can believe. Because we believe, we can also  
be empowered to do the work of justice. Yes, the  
world is heavy. No, the work will never be done.  
But because we know Christ's peace, we can share  
it with others.

Many: **We believe in the grace and peace of Christ.  
We are forgiven. Alleluia!**

HYMN . . . . . *God Is Truly With Us, vss 2,3 . . .* WUNDERBARER KONIG



2 God is tru-ly with us; loud our praise re - sound - ing! Ech - oes of the  
3 Source of ev-ery bless - ing, bless the ones who name you, let our words and



saints sur-round - ing! "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," hear the hymn as -  
deeds pro-claim you. Like the saints and an - gels prais-ing you in

cend - ing, an - gels, saints, their voic - es blend - ing! Bow your ear  
glo - ry, may your ser - vants sing your sto - ry. And in all,

to us here; hear, O Christ, the prais - es that your Church now rais - es.  
great and small, may we do most near - ly what you love most dear - ly.

**WELCOME.** . . . . . Rev. Kevin Bechtold

*Plymouth Church acknowledges that we occupy the unceded land of its first stewards, the Duwamish of the Coast Salish people. We vow our solidarity with the Duwamish in their honorable quest to become a federally recognized tribe.*

*Plymouth Church also offer a labor acknowledgement for the African American enslaved upon whose backs this country gained much of its wealth, as well as the work and lives of other minoritized peoples who emigrated to this country. In our journey to become more fully the church, we honor our social location of power and privilege, and our position to do justice within our church and in the world, and recognize that such a statement is only the beginning of the work to which we are called.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE . . . . .Rev. Donene Blair**

*Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Michelle J. Bennett (Sister of Dawn Bennett), Walter Bethel (Friend of Karen Clark), Wendy Carpenter (Friend of Jocelyn Coit-Durland), Bruce Chittick & family (Friend of Karen Clark), Mike Correy (Friend of Karen Clark), Sue Ellen Daniel (Friend of Barb Laski), Mark & JT Edwards, Diane Folkert (Mother-in-law of Ara Lawrence), Sally Galliher (Cousin of Doug Stultz), Marni Good (Friend of Ricky Powell), Elvis Gordon (Brother of Michael and Elizabeth Gordon), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Katherine Guthrie, Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Vance McDill, James McDowell (Cousin of Jerry Rice), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Dr. Maxine Mimms, Ian Nelson (Son of Diane Nelson), Paula Orrego, Nancy Parker, Jean and Richard Paul (Parents of Beth Paul-Russell), Mary Margaret Pruitt, Jose Robles and Family, Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Elizabeth Thoreson (Sister of Anne Kiemle, sister-in-law of Kael Sherrard), Irene Wall (Friend of Ruth Williamson)*

*Our hearts are with Heather Banks and Kathleen Bernard and family on the loss of their mother Susan Carter.*

*We are with Anne Mohundro on the one-year anniversary of the passing of her friend Abby Scott.*



A variety of faithful addresses for God (Creator, Mother, Holy One, Father) are welcome at Plymouth UCC, including in the Lord's Prayer.



**PRAYER OF JESUS**

**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 OF PEACE . . . . .Rev. Blair**

Jesus has empowered us with the Holy Spirit. We have life because of his presence with us. Let us join in God's abundance, giving what we can to offer peace to a hurting world..

*To set up a one time or recurring donation to Plymouth Church  
click on the “Give” link on [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) or  
CashApp your donation to \$PlymouthUCCSeattle.  
We give thanks for your generosity.*

**OFFERING MUSIC . . . . .** *Hear my cry, O God. . . . .* César Franck  
Amy Van Mechelen, soprano  
Dr. Lee Peterson, piano

**DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen!

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION . . . . .** Rev. Blair  
**God of the Resurrection, help us use these gifts to offer  
hope where there is sorrow, peace where there is chaos  
and love where there is fear. We can do incredible things  
because your Spirit lives within us. Amen.**

**CONTEMPORARY VOICE**

*Ground Me in Your Grace, from Guerrillas of Grace, by Ted Loder*

Eternal One,  
Silence  
From whom my words come;  
Questioner  
From whom my questions arise;  
Lover  
Of whom all my loves are hints;  
Disturber  
In whom alone I find my rest;  
Mystery  
In whose depths I find healing and myself;  
Enfold me now in your presence;  
Restore me to your peace;  
Renew me through your power;  
And ground me in your grace.



*Reverend Dr. Theodore  
Loder led First United  
Methodist Church of  
Germantown from  
1962 to 2000 in acts of  
social justice through a  
ministry that challenged  
the mainstream.*

**READING FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE . . . . . 2 Corinthians 9:6-10**  
(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation) read by Rev. Bechtold

Now hear this: The one who sows sparingly, sparingly will also reap, and the one who sows in abundance, in abundance will also reap. Each one must give as decided in your heart, not out of reluctance or under pressure, for “God loves a cheerful giver.” And the power of God is able to grant you all every gift abundantly, so that always having enough of everything, you all may abound in every good work. As it is written,

“God scatters generously, and gives to the poor;  
God’s righteousness endures forever.”

The one who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

**RESPONSE.** . . . . . Dr. Lee Peterson, piano

**MESSAGE** . . . . . Laura Shigeta

**HYMN** . . . . *Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant? vss 1,2* . . . . **SERVANT SONG**



1 Won’t you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?  
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;



Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.  
We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** . . . . . Laura Shigeta

**POSTLUDE.** . . . . . Dr. Lee Peterson, piano



*Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown is on study leave this Sunday.*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Members and Visitors** can access Plymouth Guest wi-fi network using password: peaceonearth.

**Sound Medicine Meditation** Tory Trujillo offers deeply healing monthly sessions. Join her in Hildebrand Hall **today** after worship (approx. 11:45 am). Suggested Donation \$20. Read more in news article at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

**Please Note** that Plymouth Church UCC now has a PO Box. Effective immediately, please send all postal correspondence to our new mailing address: Plymouth Church UCC / PO Box 21368 / Seattle WA 98111.

**Mozart and Friends** 7 pm Sunday, April 14 at Benaroya Hall. Enjoy beloved classics by Mozart and two friends who inspired his work. Featuring violinist Eduardo Rios, cellist Nathan Chan, and pianists Joseph Williams and Byron Schenkman. More information and tickets at [SoundSalonMusic.org/Mozart-and-Friends](http://SoundSalonMusic.org/Mozart-and-Friends).

**Melodious Sounds for the Times** Josephine Howell Productions presents a musical extravaganza that will leave you better than when you came. 12:30-2:15 pm Sunday, April 21, at Plymouth. Freewill offering, no charge for this event.

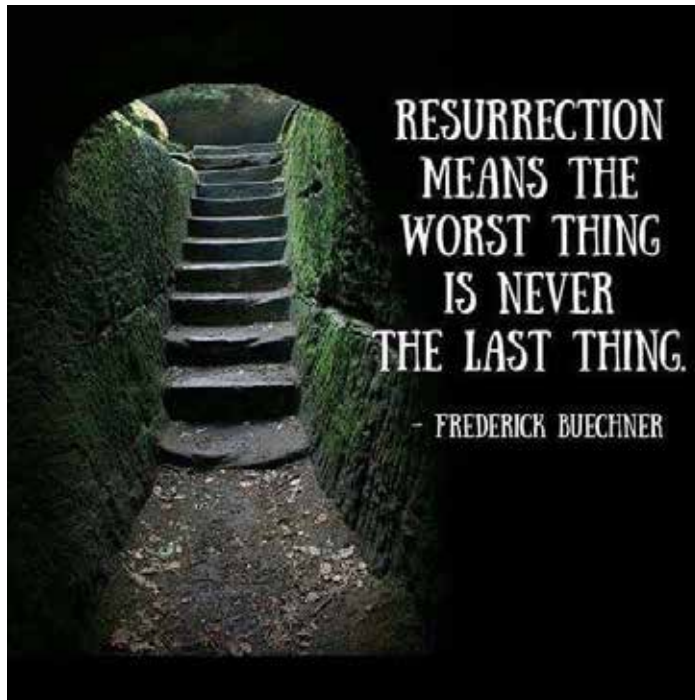
**Dimitriou's Jazz Alley** welcomes the debut of Seattle's own singer/guitarist Stephanie Anne Johnson performing in support of their 2023 release *Jewels*. 7:30 pm April 9 and April 10. More info at [JazzAlley.com](http://JazzAlley.com).

**They'll Know Us By Our Love** The former reader signs outside our building are now pantries filled with food and items for those experiencing homelessness or are under-resourced. Please contribute food and comfort items, or even notes that remind the reader that they are beloved.

**Help Lead Worship** The Plymouth Worship Team welcomes lay leaders to help with worship, both in person and online. Roles include leading litanies, reading Scripture and contemporary voices, and assisting as needed on Sundays. If you feel called to serve Plymouth and deepen your spiritual life by assisting in worship leadership, please contact Rev. Kevin Bechtold: [KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

**Plymouth Cooks** Share your favorite recipes with us and be a part of the new Plymouth cookbook! Be sure to include the list of ingredients and instructions. Send to Robert Turner: [RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

**The Plymouth Church Library** is open before and after worship every Sunday morning.



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.