



10:30 AM SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 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.

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:

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024

THIRD 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.*

This Sunday we share together Holy Communion in our worship. For those with us online, before the time of the service you will want to prepare some bread and juice of some sort. Remember this is a meal of grace, so whatever “bread” or “juice” you choose will more than suffice. Set these elements in the sacred place where you experience worship. Thank you for your preparation.

PRELUDE *Waltz* Ivan Laskovsky
Joe Williams, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Kevin Bechtold

One: Let us fill our hearts and minds with hope as we hear the
Words of Jesus Christ.

All: “Peace be with you.”

One: When peace and justice seem uncertain, let us hear anew
the Words of Jesus Christ.

**All: “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in
your minds?”**

One: Let us be comforted by the presence of Christ, whose
love, and light dwells within us.

All: Let our lives be witnesses of these things.

One: Help us to be instruments of Christ’s peace to all in need
of God’s healing love.

HYMN*In Christ, There Is No East or West*

In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find.
His service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

Join hands, then, people of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are joined as one
throughout the whole wide earth.

WELCOME. Rev. 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.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown and Rev. Bechtold



Everyone is welcome at our table to share the bread and the cup, whether you are a believer, a seeker, a skeptic, doubter or somewhere in between.

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

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, Kay Heekin (Mother-in-Law of Kate Forrester), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), 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), Elizabeth Thoreson (Sister of Anne Kiemle, sister-in-law of Kael Sherrard), Irene Wall (Friend of Ruth Williamson)

Our hearts are with the Anne Kiemle, Kael Sherrard, and family on the one year anniversary of the passing of Ruth Kiemle.

 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

**Holy One, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name
Thy Kindom 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.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kindom, the power, and the glory for ever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION HYMN *Let Us Break Bread Together*

Ibidunni Ojikutu, soprano

Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
My God, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
My God, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
My God, have mercy on me.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of Persistence, though you have been betrayed many times, you still do not give up on love. Evil is relentless but so, too, is your belief in us. In our ability to be transformed. To turn from dominance. To mend and repair where harm has been done. May we, too, believe in our potential for co-creating with you a future of flourishing for all life. We give thanks for this meal, a reminder of your unending grace and abiding companionship. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING & SHARING OF PEACE Rev. Donene Blair

One: All are invited to give joyously to the church that bears witness to Christ's love.

All: Let us give with a joyful heart.

One: God's loving generous love has given us every good and gracious gift.

All: We offer our gratitude for God's abundant blessings in our lives.

One: Now, let us be a blessing to others in the ways that God has faithfully and generously blessed us.

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

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

**Let us remember that weeping may endure for a night, but
joy comes early in the morning. May these gifts of blessing
be a sign of the love, light, and glory of our redeeming
God who has created a world of abundance with all that
we need. May we remain thankful witnesses to your
generosity, O God, as we dedicate these offerings to you
and your beloved creation.**

SONG OF RESPOSE

Psalm 117 (Praise the Lord) by Cedric Rouson

Resounding Love Interfaith Gospel Choir
Marshan Moultry, Artistic Director

Praise the Lord, all ye nations
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord
Praise the Lord, all ye people
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord
For God's merciful kindness is great toward us
And the truth of the Lord endureth forever
We were made to praise the Lord
We will praise the Lord, praise the Lord
With my whole heart I will bless You
With my spirit I will praise You
With my soul I will say
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord

CONTEMPORARY VOICE by Wendell Berry



Wendell Berry is an American novelist, poet, essayist, environmental activist, cultural critic, and farmer.

The concept of health is rooted in the concept of wholeness. To be healthy is to be whole. The word health belongs to a family of words, a listing of which will suggest how far the consideration of health must carry us: heal, whole, wholesome, hale, hallow, holy. And so it is possible to give a definition to health that is positive and far more elaborate than that given to it by most medical doctors and the officers of public health. . . .

It is therefore absurd to approach the subject of health piecemeal with a departmentalized band of specialists. A medical doctor uninterested in nutrition, in agriculture, in the wholesomeness of mind and spirit is as absurd as a farmer who is uninterested in health. Our fragmentation of this subject cannot be our cure, because it is our disease. The body cannot be whole alone. Persons cannot be whole alone. It is wrong to think that bodily health is compatible with spiritual confusion or cultural disorder, or with polluted air and water or impoverished soil. Intellectually, we know that these patterns of interdependence exist; we understand them better now perhaps than we ever have before; yet modern social and cultural patterns contradict them and make it difficult or impossible to honor them in practice.

To try to heal the body alone is to collaborate in the destruction of the body. Healing is impossible in loneliness; it is the opposite of loneliness. Conviviality is healing. To be healed we must come with all the other creatures to the feast of Creation. . . .

READING FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE Acts 5:12-16
(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation)

Now, many signs and wonders were done among the people through the apostles; they were all together in the Portico of Solomon. None of the others dared to join them, but the people extolled them. Yet more believers were added to Christ, a multitude of both women and men. So much so that they even carried the sick into the streets, and laid them on cots and mats, so that Peter's shadow might overshadow some of them as he passed. 16 Multitudes would also gather from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all made well.

ANTHEM. *Waymaker*. Osinachi Okoro
Resounding Love Interfaith Gospel Choir
Marshan Moultry, Artistic Director

You are here, moving in our midst
 I worship You
 You are here, working in this place
 I worship You
 Waymaker, miracle worker, promise keeper
 Light in the darkness
 My God, that is who You are
 You are here, touching every heart
 I worship You
 You are here, healing every heart
 I worship You
 You are here, turning lives around
 I worship You
 You are here, healing every heart
 I worship You
 Even when I don't see it, You're working
 Even when I don't feel it, You're working
 You never stop, You never stop working
 That's who You are
 Waymaker, miracle worker, promise keeper
 Light in the darkness
 My God, that is who You are

MESSAGE *Healing by Proximity* Dr. Brown

HYMN *Joy* Pat Barrett & Glen Brown
 Resounding Love Interfaith Gospel Choir
 Marshan Moultry, Artistic Director

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Dr. Brown

POSTLUDE
Gospel Blues from *Lyric Suite* by Robert L. Morris
 Ibidunni Ojikutu, soprano
 Joe Williams, piano



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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 **tonight**, 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.

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.

Conference Annual Meeting Plymouth is hosting this year's Pacific Northwest Conference UCC Annual Meeting. April 26-28. Please join us in welcoming Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia A. Thompson as our keynote speaker. Volunteer help needed. Please visit Pncucc.org to learn more.

Prayers for Peace Learn about and participate in the People's Prayers for Peace initiative, an open invitation to read — and write — prayers, which will be posted daily on the UCC website. Read more and share your prayers at UCC.org/Peoples-Prayers-For-Peace.

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.

Faith Action Network Spring Summits Two Sundays this spring: 3-4:30 pm May 5 and June 9. Your voices matter to us! Read more and register at FanWa.org.

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.