



10:30 AM SUNDAY, MAY 5, 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

DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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

DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024

SIXTH 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

No. 3 from 7 *Sketches of My Love* . . . The Honourable Elizabeth A. Baker
Joe Williams, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP June Hayakawa-Fung

One: Christ gives us a new commandment:

Many: “Love one another as I have loved you.”

One: When we love one another as Christ has loved us,
we will live lives full of joy.

Many: We will live with God’s love deep in our hearts.

One: Let us worship the one who shows us how to love.

Many: Let us worship with joy! Alleluia!

HYMN *All People That on Earth Do Dwell* . . . OLD HUNDRETH

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing
 2 Know that there is one God, in - deed, who
 3 En - ter the sa - cred gates with praise, with
 4 Pro - claim a - gain that God is good, whose

out your faith with cheer - ful voice; De - light in God whose
 fash - ions us with - out our aid, Who claims us, gives us
 joy ap - proach the tem - ple walls. Ex - tol and bless our
 mer - cy is for - ev - er sure, Whose truth at all times

praise you tell, whose pres - ence calls you to re - joice.
 all we need, whose ten - der care will nev - er fade.
 God al - ways as peo - ple whom the Spir - it calls.
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

WELCOME. Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

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

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

Written and inspired by The Rev. Dr. Grace Ji-Sun Kim

Gracious God,
we confess that we have failed our
Asian American and Pacifika, and Desi siblings.
We have bought into the
“model minority” and “honorary white” myth
while treating our siblings as perpetual foreigners.
We fail to learn about the
many different peoples, cultures, and nations
you have created and you love.
We fail to seek out and tell
the stories of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
in our schools, colleges, seminaries, and churches,
Or to admit our colonizing missteps we called “mission”.
Forgive us, God.
Forgive our neglect and indifference.
Forgive our stereotyping, prejudice, and racism.
Forgive us for making our
Asian American, Pacifika, and Desi siblings
invisible.
Inspire us to turn around,
to build connections,
to stop “othering” our siblings,
to embrace one another in love,
and to make your all beloved
children visible.
We pray in Jesus’ name.
Amen.

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), Kay Heekin (Mother-in-Law of Kate Forrester), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Tom Lemly (Father of Hayden McManus), Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), James McDowell (Cousin of Jerry Rice), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Dr. Maxine Mimms, Ian Nelson (Son of Diane Nelson), Paula Orrego, 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, Irene Wall (Friend of Ruth Williamson)

Our hearts are with the Hildebrand Family on the passing of David Hildebrand.



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

Air (Let Us Break Bread Together) from Cantata John Carter

Amy Van Mechelen, soprano

Joe Williams, piano

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING.Rev. Donene Blair

God, we give you thanks for this meal that nourishes us, body and soul. May it sustain us as we confront evil that keeps us from living the lives you intended for us and for all your creatures and creations. Until every life can be lived abundantly, be our guide, be our hope, be our comforter. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING & SHARING OF PEACE. Rev. Blair

Jesus has appointed us to bear fruit that will last. Fruit that will bring love and justice. Joy and hope. Bring what you can; together, the gifts we offer can transform lives.

*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 Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

Loving God, we remember that one of Christ’s most important commandments is loving one another. With these gifts, help us show this love in our words and actions, caring for the vulnerable and offering hope in times of despair. Amen.

MUSIC OF RESPONSE

Lullaby for Matthew Gillian Whitehead
In recognition of Asian American and Pacific Islander Month
Joe Williams, piano

CONTEMPORARY VOICE

When Great Trees Fall, by Maya Angelou



Maya Angelou was an American memoirist, poet, and civil rights activist. She published essays, several books of poetry, and is credited with a list of plays, movies, and television shows spanning over 50 years.

When great trees fall,
rocks on distant hills shudder,
lions hunker down
in tall grasses,
and even elephants
lumber after safety.

When great trees fall
in forests,
small things recoil into silence,
their senses
eroded beyond fear.

When great souls die,
the air around us becomes
light, rare, sterile.

We breathe, briefly.

Our eyes, briefly,
see with
a hurtful clarity.

Our memory, suddenly sharpened,
examines,
gnaws on kind words
unsaid,
promised walks
never taken.

Great souls die and
our reality, bound to
them, takes leave of us.

Our souls,
dependent upon their
nurture,
now shrink, wizened.
Our minds, formed
and informed by their
radiance, fall away.

We are not so much maddened
as reduced to the unutterable ignorance of
dark, cold
caves.

And when great souls die,
after a period peace blooms,
slowly and always
irregularly. Spaces fill
with a kind of
soothing electric vibration.
Our senses, restored, never
to be the same, whisper to us.
They existed. They existed.
We can be. Be and be
better. For they existed.

READING FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE Acts 9:36-42
(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation) read by Rev. Blair

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha—which translated into Greek is Dorcas; she was abundant in good works and benevolent giving. And it happened at that time she became ill and died and they washed her and laid her in a room upstairs. Now Lydda was near Joppa so the disciples who heard that Peter was there, sent two people to him urging, “Without delay, come to us.” Then Peter got up and went with them; when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. And standing beside him were all the widows, weeping and displaying the tunics and other clothing that Dorcas made while she was with them. Then Peter put all of them outside, and got on his knees and prayed, and he turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. Then he gave her his hand and raised her up and calling the saints and widows, he presented her alive. Now this became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Messiah.

ANTHEM

Sweet Chance, that Led my Steps Abroad Michael Head
Amy Van Mechelen, soprano
Joe Williams, piano

MESSAGE *Presented Alive* Dr. Brown

HYMN *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* AZMON

1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Sav-ior and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
3 Je-sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor-rows cease
4 Glo-ry to God, and love and praise be ev-er, ev-er given

The glo-ries ev-er ech-o-ing the tri-umphs of God's grace!
To spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
Is mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
By all the saints in ev-ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Dr. Brown

POSTLUDE. *Widmung* Robert Schumann

Amy Van Mechelen, soprano
Joe Williams, piano

CELEBRATE PANAMANIAN BLACK CULTURE



Celebrate Panamanian Black culture and history at Plymouth UCC 1-4 pm Saturday, May 11, with honored guest Chef Leticia Levy. Enjoy music, performances, delicious food and beautiful gifts, all surrounded by the rich tapestry of Afro-Panamanian culture. Admission \$40.

Panama Folklore is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote, celebrate & cultivate Panamanian traditions & customs in the Pacific Northwest. Questions? Contact: Panama.Folklore.Seattle1@gmail.com.

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. Please send all postal correspondence to our new mailing address: Plymouth Church UCC / PO Box 21368 / Seattle WA 98111.

Faith Action Network Spring Summits 3 pm **today** and Sunday, June 9. Your voices matter to us! Read more and register at Fanwa.org.

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.

Help Lead Worship The Plymouth Worship Team welcomes lay leaders to help with worship, both in person and online. If you feel called to serve, please contact Rev. Kevin Bechtold: KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Plymouth Cooks Share your favorite recipes with us and be a part of the new Plymouth cookbook! Be sure to include list of ingredients and instructions. Please let us know something about the dish — what makes it special to you. Send to Robert Turner: RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Be The Church You are invited to volunteer at Plymouth Church! Remember that covenant giving also includes your time and using your gifts. There are many tasks that you can do. Training provided if needed. Contact Toni Arthur: TArthur@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.