

10:30 AM SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023

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 will be closed during concerns about the coronavirus.

Check PlymouthChurchSeattle.org for updates.

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

JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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

DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

10:30 AM SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023

PENTECOST SUNDAY

*When you enter Plymouth Church UCC,
may you feel the peace, intimacy, belonging,
acceptance & 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 *How Great Thou Art* Carl Boberg
Jeff Walker, trombone; Sari Breznau, trumpet

CALL TO WORSHIP June Hayakawa-Fung

One: Living and faithful Spirit,
the God in whom we live and move and have our being,
the God who is made known in Christ Jesus,

Many: bless us one and all as we wait on you this day.


One: Please remove from our minds and hearts
whatever impediments hinder worship or dampen our joy.

**Many: Increase within us holy longing for closeness
which can open our lives
to fuller delight and to a deeper commitment.**



One: May our hymns and prayers,
our searching thoughts, and our hearing of the Scriptures,
be an exercise in the making of sacred life.

**All: By you, with you and for you, may our lives publish
your praise.**


HYMN *There Is A Name I Love to Hear*
Frederick Whitfield (1855, alt.)




1 There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;
2 It tells my Sav - ior's love for all; Christ died to set us free;
3 It bids me serve a - mid the wrath God's peo - ple face each day,





It sounds like mu - sic to my ear, the sweet - est name on earth.
What - ev - er prob - lems may be - fall, we'll live in dig - ni - ty.
And sheds a - long life's trou - bled path bright sun - shine on my way.




Refrain



O how I love Je - sus, O how I love Je - sus,



O how I love Je - sus, whose love has first found me.



HONORING ASIAN PASIFIKA HERITAGE MONTH

WELCOME. Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

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!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE. Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

A Litany for Those not Ready for Healing

adapted from a prayer by Dr. Yolanda Pierce

Let us not rush to the language of healing, before
understanding the fullness of the injury and the depth
of the wound.

Let us not rush to offer a bandaid, when the gaping wound
requires surgery and complete reconstruction.

Let us not offer false equivalencies, thereby diminishing the
particular pain being felt in a particular circumstance in a
particular historical moment.

Let us not speak of reconciliation without speaking of
reparations and restoration, or how we can repair the breach
and how we can restore the loss.

Let us not rush past the terror of anti-Asian violence
and death.

Let us not value property over people; let us not protect
material objects while human lives hang in the balance.

Let us not value a false peace over a righteous justice.

Let us not be afraid to sit with the ugliness, the messiness, and
the pain that is life in community together.

Let us not offer clichés to the grieving, those hopeless and
impacted, whose hearts are being torn asunder.

Instead...

Let us mourn all the dead who died by violent hands.

Let us amplify the stories of those who get lost in the shuffle of news cycles and political culture wars of people unconcerned with their pain.

Let us weep at a criminal justice system, which is neither blind nor just.

Let us call for the mourning and the wailing the faithful, those willing to rend their garments of privilege and ease, and sit in the ashes of this nation's original sin.

Let us be humble and listen to the pain, rage, and grief pouring from the lips of our neighbors and friends.

Let us decrease, so that our siblings who live on the underside of history may increase.

Let us pray with our eyes open and our feet firmly planted on the ground

Let us listen to the shattering glass of protest, and let us smell the purifying fires, for it is the language of the unheard.

God, in your mercy...

Show me my own complicity in injustice.

Convict me for my indifference.

Forgive me when I have remained silent.

Equip me with a zeal for righteousness.



Never let me grow accustomed or acclimated to unrighteousness.

Mark & JT Edwards, Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Susan Carter (Mother of Heather Banks & Kathleen Bernard), Sue Ellen Daniel (Friend of Barb Laski), John Daniels, Skylyr Effler (Nephew of Bill & Marilyn Bumpas), Susan Emerson (Mother of Kate Forrester), JoAnn English (Relative of Lucian Guthrie), Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Anna Florey, Marni Good (Friend of Ricky Powell), Floyd Gossett, Michelle J. Bennett (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Irma Johnson (Friend of Toni Arthur), Concetta Lewis (Sister of Jo-Ann Guthrie), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Montecino Family, Paula Orrego, Jim Oswald (Friend of Bing Tso), Anna Partch (Friend of Sari Breznau), Jerome Robinson, Joshua Robinson (Grandson of Patricia Valentine), Jose Robles and Family, Doug Ryan (Brother of Mary Ryan), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon), Pluma Wright (Friend of Glenda Carper)

We grieve with the family and friends of Anthony (Tony) Brown who died May 22, 2023. Tony was a beloved soloist and choir member with Plymouth from ~ 1983-2000. He will be dearly missed.

Our hearts are with the family and friends of Stan Orr on the one-year anniversary of his passing.

This Memorial Day we remember those who sacrificed their lives in military service to this country and the immeasurable loss to their families, friends, and communities.)

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.

SHARING OF PEACE “Peace be with you”

Those online are invited to put greetings in the chat on the website or on YouTube.

RITUAL Burning of Medical Debt Dr. Brown

“Fire is the voice of god, speaking in tongues. Fire is the liberator of water, slipping the earthly bonds. Fire is the memory of stone, being released to the heavens. Fire is the mother of the Earth, born of desire. Fire is the seducer of wind, dancing in abandon for its beloved. Fire is the illuminator, the protector, the destroyer, and the giver of all life.” —*Thomas Lloyd Qualls*

CALL TO OFFERINGDr. Brown

God’s wisdom turns the wisdom of the world upside down.
God calls us to unexpected and extravagant opportunities
to grow in our gifts and in our faith. Holding things close
in fear distracts us from the path of discipleship, but trusting
in God and in God’s future leads us to great generosity and
joy. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in
gratitude and praise.

*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.*

OFFERING MUSIC

鹊踏枝 (*Magpie on the Branch*)
from *Three Dunhuang Poems*, by Jing Jing Luo

DOXOLOGY

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATIONMs. Hayakawa-Fung

**Help us who have received so freely from you
to give as freely in our turn,
and so have the pleasure of giving
as well as the happiness of receiving. Amen.**

CONTEMPORARY VOICE

“An individual has not started living until [they] can rise above the narrow confines of [their] individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.” —*Martin Luther King*

“The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.” —*Coretta Scott King*

READING FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE Acts 2:1-18
(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation) read by Stephen Smith

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in the same place. And there came suddenly from heaven a sound like the sweeping of a mighty wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Then there appeared among them divided tongues, as of fire, and one rested on each of them. And all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and they began to speak in other tongues just as the Spirit gave them to speak.

Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem devout Jews from every nation under heaven. Now at this sound the crowd gathered and was confused because each heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astounded, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how do we hear, each in our own native language? Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and those who live in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjacent to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs, we hear them speaking in our own tongues about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and questioning to one another saying, "What does this mean?" But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Judeans and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you all, and attend to my speech: For, these persons are not drunk as you suppose; it is only the third hour [nine o'clock] in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

"In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your daughters and your sons shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your elders shall dream dreams.
Even upon my slaves, both women and men,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy."

ANTHEM

Let's Stay Together by Al Green, as sung by Tina Turner
Joe Williams, piano

MESSAGE *Let's Stay Together.* Dr. Brown

HYMN *In The Midst of New Dimensions, vs. 1, 3, 5* . . . NEW DIMENSIONS

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G7sus4 G7

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,

3 As we stand a world di-vid-ed by our own self-seek-ing schemes,

5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with-draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C

Who will lead the pil-grim peo-ples wan-dering in their sep-arate ways?

Grant that we, your glob-al vil-lage, might en-vi-sion wid-er dreams.

May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir-it res-ur-rect the church a-gain.

Refrain
Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier-y pil-lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C

peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev-er, now and ev-er, now and ev-er - more.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTIONDr. Brown

POSTLUDE.*Lake Mirror*, from *Snapshots*Florence Price
Joe Williams, piano



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Study Sip & Chew Event Please join us for Bible study and fun at Station 18 Drinks & Eats in Ballard on Thursday, June 1 from 4–6 pm. Participants are responsible for their own food and drink. RSVP to Toni Arthur (TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) by May 29.

Big Hats & Bow Ties A radically inclusive celebration of parents of every identity! Wear your biggest hat and most stellar bow tie, and come for a Sunday music brunch in Hildebrand Hall as we honor parents of every sort, 12 noon Sunday, June 4. See news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org for link to RSVP.

Dates to Note: **Sunday, June 4:** Big Hats & Bow Ties Brunch; **Sunday, June 18:** Juneteenth Celebration; **Sunday, June 25:** Plymouth’s 30th Anniversary of being an Open & Affirming Church and Pride Parade; **Sunday, July 16–20:** All-Church Camp at N-Sid-Sen in Idaho.

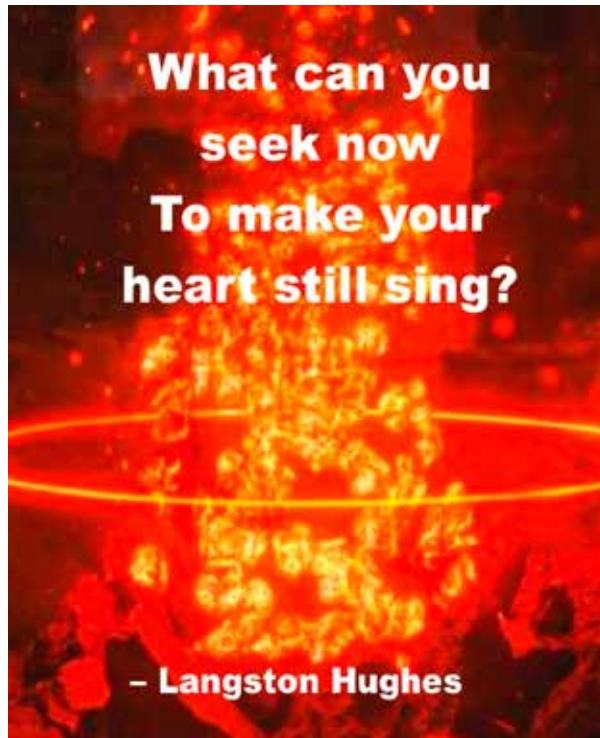
Pentecost Special Offering Today and throughout the month of June, gifts earmarked Pentecost Special Offering will be divided evenly between UCC Strengthen the Church and Scholarships for Plymouth members to take the Undoing Institutional Racism training.

Sound Medicine Meditation Join Tory Trujillo for transformative healing and meditation 11:45 am–1 pm in Hildebrand Hall June 11. Be prepared to receive a profound experience. Read more in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Undoing Institutional Racism Workshops are designed to educate, challenge and empower people to “undo” the racist structures that hinder effective social change. Next workshop is **June 14–16**. See full schedule and details PinwSeattle.org.

Connect with Congregational Council Members of the Plymouth community are invited to meet with Council members online via Zoom 7–8 pm the second Wednesday of each month. Next opportunity is June 14. Email Diane Jacobsen, (DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org), by 5 pm the day of the meeting for the Zoom link.

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.



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.