



10:30 AM SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2021

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.

The church building is closed for all activities until further notice.

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

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

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

This Sunday we share together Holy Communion in our online interactive worship. 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.

*Through the end of June, gifts marked Pentecost Special Offering will be divided evenly between
Strengthen the Church and Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund.*

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

PRELUDE

Canzonetta BuxWV 225 Dietrich Buxtehude
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organist

INVOCATION Min. Jennifer Castle
Based on Psalm 138, The Message.

Come, let us worship our God with joy and thanksgiving:
Everything in us says

Thank you!

At worship in this sacred place we say it again:

Thank you!

For your love, for your faithfulness;

Thank you!

When earth’s rulers hear what you have to say, O
GOD, They’ll sing of what you’ve done: How great the glory
of GOD! Finish what you started in us, GOD. Your love is
eternal —stay with us, now, that we may say

Thank you!

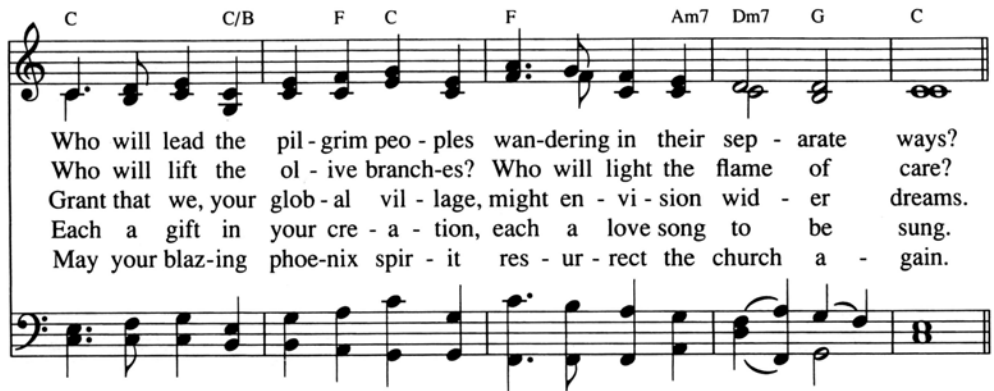
HYMN *In the Midst of New Dimensions* NEW DIMENSIONS
 Jennylynn Vidas, Sari Breznau, Tim Keller, Michael Delos

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,
 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,
 3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,
 4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,
 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



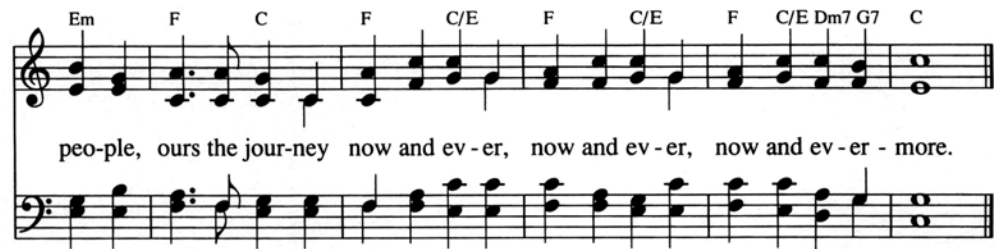
Who will lead the pil-grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?
 Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?
 Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.
 Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.
 May 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.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

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. Rev. Donene Blair

We come together in the act of communion this morning
on this first Sunday of June. We come together on this first
Sunday of Pride Month as we honor and celebrate those in
our midst who identify as LGBTQIA+.

COMMUNION PRAYER Rev. Blair

Toni Arthur, Jennifer Carter, Maria Eclipse (Grandmother of Rogie Eclipse), Carmen Ramsey Ellington (Friend of Karen Clark), Pat Forrester (Sister-in-Law of Kate Forrester), Phil Fredrickson, Ann Fullerton and Family (Sister of Doug Stultz), Floyd Gossett, Joyce Irving (Mother of Rev. Louis Mitchell), Judith (Friend of Glenda Carper), Michael Kaid, Libonati Family, Isabelle Matson and Family, Bob Mitchell, Medora Moburg, Montecino Family, Pris Orr, Mary Margaret Pruitt, Tommy Rivers Puzey (Friend of Karen Clark), Carol Reynolds Kenning, Jose Robles and Family, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Cynthia Watson (Friend of Karen Clark)

(Names will remain on the prayer list for six weeks, unless otherwise requested.)



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



LORD'S PRAYER

**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 kin-dom 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.**

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WORDS OF INSTITUTION. Rev. Blair

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Etude 10 Aaron Kiem
Plymouth Ukulele Club

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING. Rev. Blair
Nourishing One, your gifts renew us in body, spirit, and mind. Through this taste of love, may the Spirit send us with a faith tht is brave. Let no institution or narrow thinking hold us back; make us people who boldly pursue collective justice and tend gently to the world’s pain. Amen.

SHARING PEACE Rev. Blair
Peace be with you

MOMENT OF LOVE IN ACTIONMike Pierson

CONTEMPORARY VOICE Read by Min. Castle
Excerpts from Abraham Lincoln’s *House Divided* Speech (June 16, 1858)

“Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Convention.

If we could first know where we are and whither we are tending, we could then better judge what to do, and how to do it.

We are now far into the fifth year, since a policy was initiated, with the avowed object, and confident promise, of putting an end to slavery agitation.

Under the operation of that policy, that agitation has not only, not ceased, but has constantly augmented.

In my opinion, it will not cease, until a crisis shall have been reached, and passed.

“A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free.

I do not expect the Union to be dissolved — I do not expect the house to fall — but I do expect it will cease to be divided.

It will become all one thing or all the other.

Either the opponents of slavery, will arrest the further spread of it, and place it where the public mind shall rest in the belief that it is in the course of the ultimate extinction; or its advocates will push it forward, till it shall become alike lawful in all the states, old as well as new — North as well as South.”

“The result is not doubtful. We shall not fail — if we stand firm, we shall not fail. Wise councils may accelerate or mistakes delay it, but, sooner or later the victory is sure to come.”

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK Mark 3:20-35
(NRSV translation) read by Rev. Kevin Bechtold

Jesus redraws the lines of family and belonging, saying that those who do God's will are siblings and parents to him. In that culture, in which identity and responsibility were bound in kinship structures, Jesus' pronouncement of a new family was shocking. The reign of God Jesus keeps talking about is certainly not going to be about maintaining business as usual.

Then Jesus went home; and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for his people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

"Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin" — for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!" Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

ANTHEM. Keon Price
God Has Done Great Things for Me by Jessy Dixon,
recorded by Sari Breznau

MESSAGE Rev. Bechtold

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Rev. Bechtold

POSTLUDE

The God of Abraham Praise Setting by Michael Burkhardt
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

PRACTICAL QUEER THEOLOGY SERIES BEGINS TODAY!

Gather after worship for coffee hour as usual (same link and passcode as our usual coffee hour — contact Jennifer Castle at jcastle@plymouthchurchseattle.org if you do not have the password.) Rev. Thomas joins us at 11:45 am to start the program. Learn the concepts of queer theology in a way that makes it practical for faithful reflection on the principles of being “welcoming and affirming” as a congregation, and on the intrinsic value and belovedness of LGBT, queer, and same gender loving people of faith. The sessions are approximately 60% lecture presentation, 40% discussion. This series is for all people, and we especially welcome those identifying as Queer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Plymouth is Proud! While we are all missing the parade, Virtual Pride is our opportunity to commemorate the past, celebrate new wins for equality, and get encouragement for the work yet to come...and have a lot of fun. All are welcome to the free online celebration June 26 & 27, 11 am to 5 pm PT. Find link to free registration at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (*in the news feed, click on article “Plymouth is Proud!”*).

Faith Action Summit Today Sign up now for Faith Action Network's annual Spring Summit 2-4 pm today. Gather virtually with advocates in your region and by issue interest group, and consider what steps we might take together in the year ahead. This event is open to advocates across the state. Register at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (*in the news feed, click on article “Faith Action Spring Summits”*).

Anti-Racist Giving Workshop Thursday, June 24 5:30-8 pm PST. In this workshop we will answer the following questions: How do we decide when, where and how much to give? How do our social and racial identities shape our relationships with money and giving? What does it look like to center the giving of money as part of our anti-racist practice? SJF (Social Justice Fund) and CARW (Coalition of Anti-Racist Whites) have teamed up to present this interactive workshop where we will dig into these questions and build our personal social justice giving plans. Link to register at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (*in the news feed, click on article “Anti-racist Giving”*).

New Website in the Works We plan to “Go Live” with Phase 1 of our new Plymouth Church website in advance of next Sunday's worship. There will be additions to the site as we continue to develop specific areas. Please know in advance, what is presented at first will NOT be “perfect,” nor the final version. We will be making many updates as we go, training staff and helping all of us receive the information in ways that help us improve our connections. Look for more information to be shared soon.



LGBTQ

A rainbow
can only
exist where there
is light.

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

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.