

RESIST!

10:30 AM SUNDAY, JUNE 22, 2025

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 with us today. Please like and send us a greeting
on Facebook and Instagram.



Help support the mission and ministries of Plymouth Church UCC.

Make a donation under the “Give” tab at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org,
or scan the code below:



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 22, 2025
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

PRELUDE *PRELUDIO*

Adagio from the Oboe Concerto in D Minor Marcello/Bach, BWV 974
Dr. Stephen Price, organ

WELCOME *BIENVENIDA* 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!

SHARING PEACE *COMPARTIENDO LA PAZ*

CALL TO WORSHIP June Hayakawa-Fung

LLAMADO A ADORAR

(Inspired by Psalms 42 and 43)

One: As a deer longs for flowing streams, so we long for
you, O God. As the plants turn toward the sun, so
we turn to you, O God. As the tide ebbs and flows,
so we move with you, O God.

**Many: Hope in God! Again, we worship the Holy One,
our help and our God.**

One: When tears are our constant companion, when
our souls become weary, when we feel forgotten or
alone, we may ask the question, “Where is God?”

**Many: Trust in God! Again, we honor the Present One,
our strength and our God.**

One: Deep calls to deep. The steadfast love of God surrounds
us. The Spirit of Truth leads us to everlasting joy.

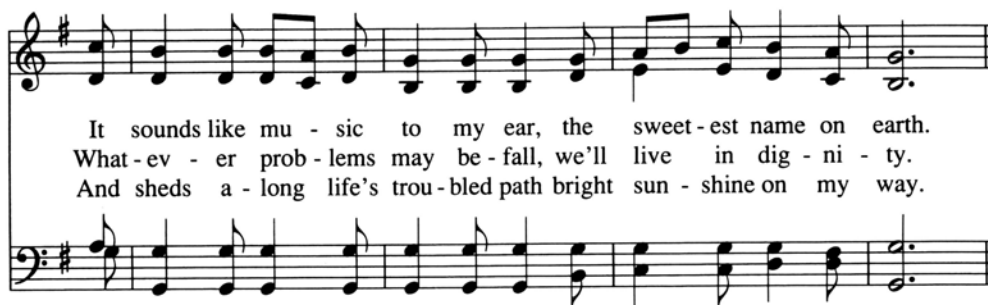
**All: Rejoice in God. Again, we praise the Living One,
our source and our God.**

OPENING HYMN *HIMNO DE APERTURA*

"There Is a Name I Love to Hear (NCH #52). O How I Love JESUS




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,

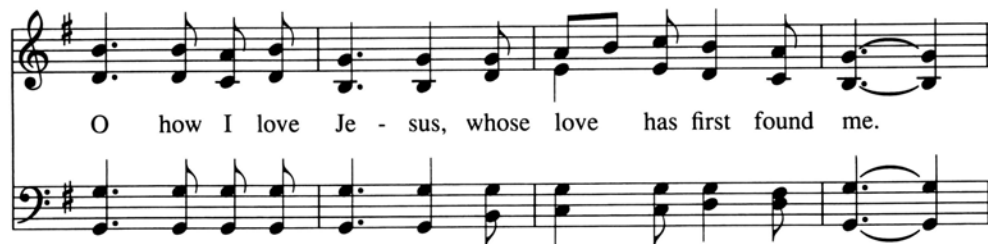


It sounds like mu - sic to my ear, the sweet - est name on earth.
What - ev - er prob - lems may be - fall, we'll live in dig - ni - ty.
And sheds a - long life's trou - bled path bright sun - shine on my way.

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION. Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

ORACIÓN DE CONFESIÓN

One: Holy One, as we experience difficult moments, we so often fail to recognize your abiding presence.

Many: We question if you exist or if you are with us when things do not go our way or when it seems that you have not kept promises we've manufactured from our wishes and dreams—and that you've never pledged to keep.

One: Help us to turn to you in trust even when the present troubles us and the future seems bleak.

All: Guide us into a prophetic imagination that realizes that your covenant is everlasting. Sustain us by faith for transformation and new life.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

SEGURIDAD DE GRACIA

Beloved, the grace of God meets us even when we question, “Where is our God?” God is near, with us, behind us, and before us. Sometimes, the answers we seek come slowly in silence. Sometimes, God charges us to become the solution we need for one another. Whatever and however God replies to our cries, we may be assured that God’s peace, justice, and righteousness are central to the response. Receive the gift of new and renewing life in Christ. **Amen.**



(Service continues next page)

WALK PROUDLY WITH PLYMOUTH

Plymouth UCC is again joining the Pacific Northwest Conference for the Seattle Pride Parade on Sunday June 29. Bring signs and friends for a day of celebrating and supporting our LGBTQ+ siblings. **Worship on June 29 will begin at 10 am** to leave time to assemble for the parade. Be prepared for traffic delays that Sunday: the parade route will close 4th Ave between Pike St and Denny Way. We welcome all to march in solidarity and celebration.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLEDr. Brown
ORACIONES DEL PUEBLO

All who live in fear of expedited removal, detention, or deportation., Ahmed Black (Nephew of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Wendy Carpenter (Friend of Jocelyn Coit-Durland), Lin Davis (Wife of Mo Longworth), JT Edwards, Diane Folkert (Mother and Mother-in-Law of Alex & Ara Lawrence), Louis Ford (Friend of Karen Clark), Elvis Gordon (Brother of Michael and Elizabeth Gordon), Artrice Gordon (Brother of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Jo-Ann Guthrie, Julie (Friend of Karen Clark), Robert Malae, William Chapman Nyaho, Richard Paul (Dad of Beth Paul-Russell), Colleen Rood (Aunt of Kathy Rood), Dale and Jinny Sewell, Shaniece (Friend of Karen Clark), Sue Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Diana Solomon (Friend of Anne Kiemle), Patricia Valentine, Gevan Woodke (Friend of Karen Clark)

 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 ORACIÓN DE JESÚS

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.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE INTERLUDIO MUSICAL

Improvisation on *O, How I Love Jesus*
Dr. Stephen Price, organ

CONTEMPORARY VOICE *VOZ CONTEMPORÁNEA*

Shrinking Women, by Lilly Myers

Across from me at the kitchen table, my mother smiles over red wine that she drinks out of a measuring glass. She says she doesn't deprive herself, but I've learned to find nuance in every movement of her float, in every crinkle in her brow as she offers me the uneaten pieces on her plate.

I've realized she only eats dinner when I suggest it. I wonder what she does when I'm not there to do so.

Maybe this is why my house feels bigger each time I return; it's proportional. As she shrinks the space around her seems increasingly vast. She wanes while my father waxes. It was the same with his parents; I wonder if my lineage is one of women shrinking.

I have been taught accommodation. My brother never thinks before he speaks. "How can anyone have a relationship to food?" he asks, laughing, as I eat the black bean soup I chose for its lack of carbs.

I want to say: we come from difference, Jonas; you have been taught to grow out; I have been taught to grow in; you learned from our father how to emit, how to produce; I took lessons from our mother in creating space around myself.

I never meant to replicate her, but spend enough time sitting across from someone and you pick up their habits. That's why women in my family have been shrinking for decades. We all learned it from each other, each generation taught the next.

I walk through this ever-growing house, skin itching, picking up all the habits my mother has unwittingly dropped like bits of crumpled paper from her pocket on her countless trips from bedroom to kitchen to bedroom again. I hear her creep down to eat plain yogurt in the dark, a fugitive stealing calories to which she does not feel entitled, deciding how many bites is too many, how much space she deserves to occupy.

Watching the struggle I either mimic or hate her, and I don't want to do either anymore. An obsession I never wanted but inheritance is accidental, still staring at me with wine-stained lips from across the kitchen table.



*Lily Myers is an author,
poet, tarot reader, &
witch scholar.*

On Stripping Bark from Myself, by Alice Walker
from *Her Blue Body Everything We Know: Earthling Poems 1965-1990 Complete*

(for Jane, who said trees die from it)

Because women are expected to keep silent about
their close escapes I will not keep silent
and if I am destroyed (naked tree!) someone will
please
mark the spot
where I fall and know I could not live
silent in my own lies
hearing their 'how nice she is!'
whose adoration of the retouched image
I so despise.

No. I am finished with living
for what my mother believes
for what my brother and father defend
for what my lover elevates
for what my sister, blushing, denies or rushes
to embrace.

I find my own
small person
a standing self
against the world
an equality of wills
I finally understand.

Besides:

My struggle was always against
an inner darkness: I carry within myself
the only known keys
to my death – to unlock life, or close it shut
forever. A woman who loves wood grains, the color
yellow
and the sun, I am happy to fight
all outside murderers
as I see I must.”



Alice Walker is an American novelist, short story writer, poet, and social activist. She became the first African-American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, for her novel The Color Purple.

SCRIPTURE READING *LECTURA DE LAS ESCRITURAS* Luke 9:38-48

(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation)

Now suddenly a person from the crowd shouted, “Teacher, I beg you to examine my child; this is my only child. And see here, a spirit seizes the child and immediately, there is shrieking and it shakes the child with foaming [at the mouth], and it will scarcely leave the child, torturing the child. Now I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they were not able.” Then Jesus responded saying, “You faithless and twisted generation, how much longer must I be with you and put up with you all? Bring your child here.” While the child was coming, the demon threw the child to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and returned the child to the parent. And all were amazed at the greatness of God. While everyone marveled at everything Jesus was doing, Jesus said to his disciples:

“Let sink into your ears these words: Indeed, the Son of Woman is going to be betrayed into woman-born hands.” But they did not understand this word and its meaning was concealed from them so that they could not perceive it; and they feared to ask him about this word.

Now there arose a debate among them, which one of them was the greatest. But Jesus knowing the debate in their hearts, took a little child and put the child next to him. And Jesus said to them, “Whoever welcomes this child in my name welcomes me and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me; for the least among of you all is the greatest.”

ANTHEM *EL HIMNO*

Somewhere, from West Side Story Leonard Bernstein

Dr. Brown, soprano



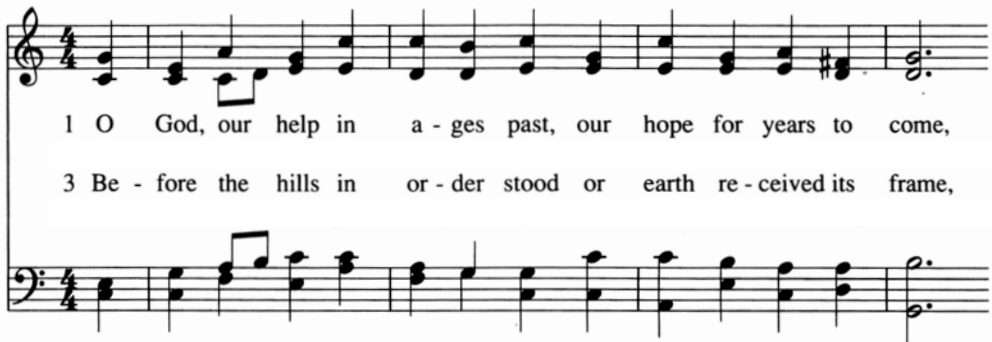
Leonard Bernstein was one of the most celebrated composers of the 20th century. Like many gay men of his generation, Bernstein married a woman and presented himself as a devoted husband and father while hiding his homosexuality from the public. His sexuality was a complex aspect of his life, influenced by the social norms of the time, which included homophobia and limited understanding of homosexuality. At one point, Bernstein reportedly consulted Aaron Copland, who was one of few openly gay American musicians, about how to live as an openly gay man.

CONVERSATION *CONVERSACIÓN* *Intersectional Liberation*

Rev. Erica Williams and Dr. Brown

HYMN OF COMMITMENT *HIMNO DE COMPROMISO*

O God, Our Help in Ages Past, vss 1,3,6 (NCH #25) ST. ANNE



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,



Our shel - ter from the storm-y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
From ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.

6 O God, our help in a-ges past,
our hope for years to come,
Still be our God while trou-bles last,
and our e-ter-nal home!

BENEDICTION *BENDICIÓN* Dr. Brown

POSTLUDE *POSTLUDIO*

O God, Our Help in Ages Past arr. David Cherwien
Dr. Stephen Price, organ



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pride in the Pews Liberation UCC presents “Pride in the Pews,” a Gospel Drag Brunch, 12 pm **today**, in Hildebrand Hall. Tickets are \$20.

Taking Time Communication from Plymouth will be abbreviated in the month of July while staff are on vacation and most programs (including Bible Study) are on pause. Look for periodic email updates and stay current at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Walk with Pride Plymouth UCC joins the Pacific Northwest Conference for the Seattle Pride Parade Sunday, June 29. Bring signs and friends for a day of celebrating and supporting our LGBTQ+ siblings. **Worship on June 29 begins at 10 am.** Fourth Ave will be closed from Denny way to Pike Street: plan for traffic delays.

Discover Vanport Join Plymouth UCC and Museum Without Walls August 15-16 for a powerful journey to Portland to uncover the history of Vanport, once Oregon’s second-largest city, wiped out in a flood in 1948. Registration will open mid-June. Approximate cost \$395. More in the news story at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Northwest Boychoir Concert at Plymouth 7:30 pm Wednesday, July 3. Enjoy the Grammy-nominated Northwest Boychoir on their 2025 California Concert Tour. Tickets and info at nwboychoir.org. Proceeds benefit the Tour Fund.

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

Please Remember Plymouth now receives mail at a PO Box instead of our street address. Send all postal correspondence to: Plymouth Church UCC / PO Box 21368 / Seattle WA 98111.

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.