



# Becoming!

10:30 AM SUNDAY, JULY 9, 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](http://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](mailto:KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2023  
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*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** . . . . . *Sweet Sweet Spirit* . . . . . Doris Akers  
Dr. Mikhail Johnson

**CALL TO WORSHIP** . . . . . Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

One: Then, I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first  
heaven and the first earth had passed away. God is making  
all things new, Open up our hearts.

**All: God is making all things new, Open up our hearts.**  
*(Circle your hands as you say, "Open up our hearts.")*

One: The Spirit brings us to see God's glory shining from the  
mountain top. God is making all things new, Help us  
do our part.

**All: God is making all things new, Help us do our part.**  
*(Lift your left hand to the sky and bring your right hand across  
your body toward your left as you say "Help us do our part.")*

One: The glory of God is a light to the nations, the people of  
God bring their splendor and sight. God is making all  
things new, Let this be our start.

**All: God is making all things new, Let this be our start.**  
*(Hold your hands together, then put one over the other as if you are  
climbing, as you say, "Let this be our start.")*

One: Come to the river, Gather 'round the Tree, Dance in the  
Grass, Plant a few seeds. The God of abundance is setting  
us free!

**All: God is making all things new.  
Open up our hearts.** *(Movement: rotating hands)*  
**Help us do our part.** *(Movement: lifting hands)*  
**Let this be our start.** *(Movement: climbing hands)*

HYMN . . . . . *Great is Your Faithfulness, vss 1 & 2* . . . . . FAITHFULNESS

1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,

with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.  
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,

You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;  
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness

all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.  
 to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.

*Refrain*

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by  
morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have need-ed your  
hand has pro-vid-ed, Great is your faith-ful-ness, God, un-to me!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION. . . . . June Hayakawa-Fung

One: O Lord, you are our shepherd,

**All: And yet we want.**

One: We lie down when we could act,

**All: We stir the pot when we could offer peace,**

One: We wander tempting paths instead of following you.

**All: We see courage and comfort in earthly things  
rather than in you.**

One: We hate our enemies and refuse to break bread with them,

**All: We see scarcity even when you offer us abundance.**

One: We pray for forgiveness, for your goodness and mercy,

**All: So that we might dwell in You, in your grace,  
forever.**

**ASSURANCE OF GRACE . . . . . Ms. Hayakawa-Fung**

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven, seen, heard and known, and thus freed to love and serve.

**WELCOME . . . . . Rev. Donene Blair**

*Plymouth Church acknowledges the land that we occupy, which was stewarded by the Duwamish people, the first stewards of this land. We 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 others 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 and in the world, and recognize that such a statement is only the beginning of the work to which we are called.*

**SHARING OF PEACE . . . . . “Peace be with you”**

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

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE . . . . . Rev. Blair**

*A Summer Prayer, by Joyce Rupp*

*from her collection, The Circle of Life: the Heart’s Journey through the Seasons*

One: May you breathe in the beauty of summer with its power of transformation.  
May this beauty permeate all that feels un-beautiful in you.

**All: May the God of summer give us beauty.**

One: May you seek and find spaces of repose during these summer months.  
May these moments refresh and restore the tired places within you.

**All: May the God of summer give us rest.**

One: May you be open to times of celebration and recreation that are so much a part of summer.  
May you find happiness in these times of play and leisure

**All: May the God of summer give us joy.**

One: May your eyes see the wonders of summer's colors. May these colors delight you and entice you into contemplation and joy.

**All: May the God of summer give us inner light.**

One: May you feel the energy of summer rains penetrating thirsty gardens, lawns and farmlands. May these rains remind you that your inner thirst needs quenching. May your spirit be refreshed, restored and renewed.

**All: May the God of summer give us what we need for healing.**

One: May you savor the fresh produce that comes to your table and enjoy the fruits of summer's bounty.

**All: May the God of summer give us a sense of satisfaction in the work of our hands.**

One: May you find shelter when the stormy skies of summer threaten your safety.

**All: May the God of summer give us shelter when inner storms threaten our peace of mind and heart.**



One: May you enjoy the unexpected, and find surprises of beauty and happiness as you travel the roads on summer vacation.

**All: May the God of summer lead us to amazing discoveries as we travel the inner roads of our souls as well. Amen.**



*Joyce Rupp is well known for her work as a writer, international retreat leader, and conference speaker. She is a member of the Servites (Servants of Mary) community.*

*John Adams (Father of Katherine Guthrie), Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Mae Bell, Michelle J. Bennett (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Susan Carter (Mother of Heather Banks & Kathleen Bernard), Sue Ellen Daniel (Friend of Barb Laski), John Daniels, Mark & JT Edwards, Skylyr Effler (Nephew of Bill & Marilyn Bumpas), Susan Emerson (Mother of Kate Forrester), JoAnn English (Relative of Lucian Guthrie), Anna Florey, Diane Folkert & Family (Mother-in-law of Ara Lawrence), Marni Good (Friend of Ricky Powell), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Lucian Guthrie, Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), The Keith Family (Friends of Mari Mitchell and Alex), Concetta Lewis (Sister of Jo-Ann Guthrie), Lindsey (Niece of Nan Macy), Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Montecino Family, Paula Orrego, Jim Oswald (Friend of Bing Tso), Anna Partch (Friend of Sari Breznau), Joshua Robinson (Grandson of Patricia Valentine), Jose Robles and Family, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon), Pluma Wright (Friend of Glenda Carper), Ashley (Granddaughter of Betty Eberharter) and the Zorich family*

 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.**

**CALL TO OFFERING** . . . . . Ms. Hayakawa-Fung  
Jesus felt tender compassion for the suffering people he met. He realized that many workers would be needed for a great harvest of mercy and love. This day you and I are called to a sweet labor of generosity, healing, and peace. 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](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) or  
CashApp your donation to \$PlymouthUCCSeattle.  
We give thanks for your generosity.*

## OFFERING MUSIC

*For the Fruit of All Creation . . . . . AR HYD Y NOS*  
Dr. Mikhail Johnson

## 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

**As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may  
they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace,  
of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and  
presence in their lives. Amen.**

## CONTEMPORARY VOICE

*Only Speak the Word*, by Jan Richardson

You might not have guessed  
how far this blessing  
can travel.

But it is worth believing  
that it is built  
for crossing distances  
for stretching itself  
for making its way  
without hesitation  
to the place  
where it is needed most.



*Jan Richardson is  
an artist, writer, and  
ordained minister in  
the United Methodist  
Church.*

Only believe—  
or, failing this,  
latch onto someone  
who will believe  
for you,  
who will ask  
on your behalf,  
who will plead  
for this blessing  
to come.

Trust one who knows  
with a certainty  
fierce as fire  
that this blessing  
will find its way  
to you,  
that it will treat  
miles and time  
as nothing,  
that it will push through  
each boundary,  
cross every border,  
pass through  
all obstacles  
to reach you.

Trust that these words  
know the path  
into your anguish,  
that in your ache  
they will become balm  
and in your pain  
they will become soothing.  
Trust that they will be for you  
a sweet  
and stunning  
peace.

**READING FROM HEBREW SCRIPTURE . . . . . Psalm 23:1-6**  
(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation) read by Rev. Blair

The Leading God is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
The Holy One makes me lie down in green pastures;  
The Divine leads me beside still waters;  
God restores my soul.  
The Blessing One leads me in right paths  
for God's name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Eternal One  
my whole life long.

**ANTHEM. . . . . *Be Still My Soul* . . . . . FINLANDIA**  
Dr. Mikhail Johnson

**MESSAGE . . . . . Rev. Stevi Hamill**

**HYMN . . . . . *Great is Your Faithfulness, vs 3* . . . . . FAITHFULNESS**

Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,  
your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.  
Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed your hand has provided,  
Great is your faithfulness, God unto me!

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION . . . . . Rev. Hamill

POSTLUDE . . . . . *The Lord is My Shepherd*

Dr. Mikhail Johnson



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Car Needed*** for the Afghan family Plymouth is supporting. If you would consider donating or selling your reliable car at a reduced price, or know someone who would, please contact Info@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org or Carol Mooney.

***Lend a Helping Hand*** Plymouth is now a proud sponsor of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound. You can help by dropping off gently used clothing and shoes of any size at the church in the grey bin by the elevator on the 1st floor. Contact Toni Arthur, TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org with questions.

***Licks of Fire*** Join us as we end medical debt for the most impacted in the Pacific Northwest, the South, and in places where the crisis of medical debt looms. Read how you can get involved in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

***Sign Up Now*** for Camp at N-Sid-Sen in Idaho, July 16–20. Enjoy woodland and waterfront activities, faith-based immersion experiences, and meaningful connections. Details and link to register in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Scholarships are available.

***Who To Go To For What*** A link to a guide for who on staff to contact with your needs or questions is posted on our “Meet The Staff” page under the “About” tab at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. The guide includes areas of responsibility and contact information.

***Sound Medicine Meditation*** Tory Trujillo offers a deeply healing Sound Medicine Meditation. A Sound Medicine Meditation is sometimes also referred to as a sound bath. Plan to join us in Hildebrand Hall at 12:30 pm **Sunday, July 16**. Suggested Donation \$20.

***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.

***Did You Know...*** You can view past services on our website, PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Under the “Worship” tab, click “Recent Services.” You can also view past services, musical performances and special events on our Vimeo channel, Plymouth Church UCC.



I CHOOSE LOVE.  
I CHOOSE INCLUSION.  
I CHOOSE EMPATHY  
COMPASSION.  
EQUALITY. DIGNITY. DIVERSITY.  
I CHOOSE COMMUNITY.  
KINDNESS. INTEGRITY.  
HONESTY. RESPECT. I CHOOSE JUSTICE.  
I CHOOSE FACTS. PEACE. THE PLANET.  
I CHOOSE HUMANITY.  
I CHOOSE LOVE.

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.