



# PLYMOUTH

United Church of Christ

**10:30 AM SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 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](mailto: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](mailto:KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2024  
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*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.*

**PRELUDE *PRELUDIO***

*Prelude No 1 in C major, Op. 87 . . . . . Dmitri Shostakovich*  
Joe Williams, piano

**CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . June Hayakawa-Fung**  
***LLAMADO A ADORAR***

*(Inspired by Psalm 111)*

One: Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God in  
the congregation.

**Many: God's works delight us, inspire us,  
challenge us, and uphold us.**

One: Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God in  
the congregation.

**Many: Righteousness endures forever. The  
covenant is everlasting.**


One: Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God in  
the congregation.

**All: Honoring God leads to wisdom. Let us  
praise the Holy One forever!**

## OPENING HYMN *HIMNO DE APERTURA*

*Sweet, Sweet Spirit* . . . . . SWEET SWEET SPIRIT

*Slowly*



1 There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I  
2 There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you



know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are  
know that Spir - it's full - ness and be - lieve; you're the



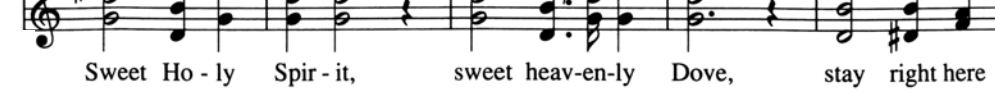
sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I  
one to prof - it when you say, "I am

*to Refrain*



know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.  
going to stay with Je - sus all the way."

*Refrain*



Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, sweet heav-en-ly Dove, stay right here



with us, fill-ing us with your love; And for these bless-ings we



lift our hearts in praise. With-out a doubt we'll know that we have  
been re - vived when we shall leave this place.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION.** . . . . . Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

One: Holy God, we find wisdom in your word, in your presence, and in your way.

**Many: Help us to follow the path of love, community, and sharing.**

One: Open our awareness to the unmet needs in our community and the ways we may meet them.

**Many: Open our compassion to notice those who too often go without being acknowledged.**

One: Open our schedules to be present to your Spirit, our neighbors, and ourselves.

**All: Fill us with wisdom, peace, and hope to move boldly toward new life and the fullness of joy.**

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

Beloved, God honors our request for wisdom. Individually and, most importantly, collectively, we have the wisdom, discernment, and understanding necessary to meet the challenges of the day, to live a life pleasing to the Holy One, and to participate in the coming of God's kingdom.

**WELCOME BIENVENIDA** . . . . . Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

**LAND & LABOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**RECONOCIMIENTO DE TIERRA Y TRABAJO**

*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.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE . . . . . Rev. Kevin Bechtold**  
**ORACIONES DEL PUEBLO**

*Afghan Family (Siblings of Plymouth), Susan and David Anderson (Cousins of Jeanette Hagen), Christian and Kim Arvin (Son and Daughter-in-Law of Donene Blair), Michelle J. Bennett (Sister of Dawn Bennett), Ahmed Black (Nephew of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), 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), Larry Fung (Husband of June Hayakawa-Fung), 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), Julie (Friend of Karen Clark), Concetta Lewis (Sister of Jo-Ann Guthrie), Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), David, Mary, Patrick & Amanda McGee, Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Dr. Maxine Mimms, Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Jaime Rubio Sulficio*

*We grieve with the family and friends of Ann Sandstrom on the one year anniversary of her passing.*

*We grieve with the family and friends of Greg Harris one the one year anniversary of his passing..*

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.**

**CALL TO OFFERING & SHARING PEACE . . . . . Rev. Bechtold**  
**LLAMADO A LA OFERTA Y COMPARTIENDO LA PAZ**

Ephesians 5 encourages us to “Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise...giving thanks to God at all times and for everything in the name of Jesus Christ.” (vv. 15, 20) We give thanks by trusting God with our resources. We give thanks by using the gifts of God for the kingdom of God. We give thanks by sharing our abundance for the mutual benefit of our community. Give thanks with everything we have.

**DOXOLOGY DOXOLOGÍA**

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 . . . . . Rev. Bechtold**  
**ORACIÓN DE DEDICACIÓN**

**Generous and Wise God, you give freely and we receive freely. Sow in us discernment, understanding, and wisdom to be good stewards of the bounty we receive and the resources we have earned. Let us treat them all as gifts to be shared so that none will be in want or need to live full and abundant lives.**

**SOUND MEDICINE MEDITATION *MÚSICA DE MEDITACIÓN Y MEDICINA***

Tory Trujillo, singing bowls and voice

*(Service continues next page)*

**SOUND MEDICINE MEDITATION**

Tory Trujillo offers a deeply healing Sound Medicine Meditation, sometimes also referred to as a sound bath. Tory will center the group with breath work and embodiment practices to relax, heal, and help anchor and amplify intentions. Participants are encouraged to bring yoga mats, blankets, pillows and other items of comfort. Some yoga mats and blankets will be available to borrow. Sessions last between 60 and 75 minutes.

Fall sessions are scheduled for Sundays, September 22, October 20 and November 17, at 11:45 am in Hildebrand Hall. *(Note: start time is subject to change, determined by the length of Sunday service.)* Suggested Donation \$20.

## CONTEMPORARY VOICE *VOZ CONTEMPORÁNEA*

*Still I Rise*, by Maya Angelou

You may write me down in history  
With your bitter, twisted lies,  
You may trod me in the very dirt  
But still, like dust, I'll rise.

Does my sassiness upset you?  
Why are you beset with gloom?  
'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells  
Pumping in my living room.

Just like moons and like suns,  
With the certainty of tides,  
Just like hopes springing high,  
Still I'll rise.

Did you want to see me broken?  
Bowed head and lowered eyes?  
Shoulders falling down like teardrops,  
Weakened by my soulful cries?

Does my haughtiness offend you?  
Don't you take it awful hard  
'Cause I laugh like I've got gold mines  
Diggin' in my own backyard.

You may shoot me with your words,  
You may cut me with your eyes,  
You may kill me with your hatefulness,  
But still, like air, I'll rise.

Does my sexiness upset you?  
Does it come as a surprise  
That I dance like I've got diamonds  
At the meeting of my thighs?

Out of the huts of history's shame  
I rise

Up from a past that's rooted in pain  
I rise

I'm a black ocean, leaping and wide,  
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.



*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.*



Leaving behind nights of terror and fear  
I rise  
Into a daybreak that's wondrously clear  
I rise  
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,  
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.  
I rise  
I rise  
I rise.

**SCRIPTURE READING *LECTURA DE LAS ESCRITURAS* . . . . . Ruth 3:1–18**

(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation)

read by Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

Naomi, Ruth's mother-in-law, said to her, "My daughter, am I not seeking respite for you, that will be good for you? Now is not Boaz our kin, with whose girls you have been? Look! He is winnowing barley on the threshing floor tonight. Now bathe and anoint yourself and put on your [best] clothes and go down to the threshing floor; do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, note the place where he lies, and go and uncover his thighs and lie down, and he will tell you what you should do." Ruth said to Naomi, "All that you tell me I will do."

Then Ruth went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law commanded her. Now Boaz had eaten and drunk and his heart was content, and he went to lie down at the end of the heap [of grain]. Then Ruth came in secret and uncovered his thighs and lay down. At midnight the man trembled and turned and right there a woman was lying at his thighs! Then Boaz said, "Who are you?" And she said, "I am Ruth, your slave-woman; spread your cloak over your slave-woman, for you are a kin redeemer." And he said, "May you be blessed by the MOST HIGH, my daughter; your most recent act of fidelity is greater than the first; you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. And now, my daughter, fear not; all that you have spoken, I will do for you, for all the assembly of my people know you are a warrior-hearted woman. And now, it is true that I am a kin redeemer, there is a kin redeemer closer than I. Spend the night tonight and when morning comes, if he will redeem you as kin, good; let him redeem you. If he does not want to redeem you as kin, then, as the AGELESS GOD lives, I will redeem you as kin myself. Lie down until the morning."

So Ruth lay at his thighs until morning, but got up before one person could recognize a neighbor for Boaz said [to himself], "Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." Then he said, "Bring the cloak you are wearing and hold it out." So she held it and Boaz measured out six helpings of barley, and put it on her back; then he went into the city. 16 And Ruth came to her mother-in-law and Naomi asked, "Who are you, my daughter?" And she told her all that the man had done for her. 17 Ruth explained, "He gave these six helpings of barley to me, for he said, 'Do not go back to your mother-in-law empty-handed.'" 18 She replied, "Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter will shake out, for the man will not rest, but will conclude the matter today."

## ANTHEM *EL HIMNO*

SERMON *SERMÓN* . . . . *At the Meeting of Our Lives* . . . . . Dr. Brown

## HYMN OF COMMITMENT *HIMNO DE COMPROMISO*

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand* . . . . . PRECIOUS LORD



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
2 When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,  
3 When the shad - ows ap - pear and the night draws near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
when my life is al - most gone,  
and the day is past and gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:  
Hear me cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I fall:  
At the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:



Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

BENEDICTION *BENDICIÓN* . . . . . Dr. Brown

## POSTLUDE *POSTLUDIO*

*Amazing Grace*. . . . . arr. Shawn Okpebholo

Joe Williams, piano



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Homecoming Sunday*** Plan now to attend worship 10:30 am Sunday, September 8, as we begin our church program year. Enjoy a celebratory luncheon after the service. Let us move forward together to see what the Spirit has in store!

***Make Summer Comfort Bags*** The Community Care Board asks for donations to pack summer comfort bags for our neighbors. Please bring toiletries and non-perishable snacks and leave them in the bin at the welcome desk. Help assemble bags during worship on Sundays.

***Night of Hope*** Register now to attend a special evening of philanthropy and community at Plymouth Healing Communities' annual fundraising event, Night of Hope, 5:30-8:30 pm Thursday, September 12 at 415 Westlake Ave N. Seattle 98109. More info and early-bird ticket discount at [Plyhc.org](http://Plyhc.org).

***Pathway to Thriving*** Join Plymouth Housing's signature luncheon Wednesday, September 25, bringing our region's forward-thinking community together to take steps toward ending homelessness. Noon-1:30 pm Wednesday, September 25, at the Seattle Westin. Details and registration at [PlymouthHousing.org](http://PlymouthHousing.org).

***They Will 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.

***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](http://UCC.org/Peoples-Prayers-For-Peace).

***Members and Visitors*** can access Plymouth Guest wi-fi network using password: [peaceonearth](http://peaceonearth).

***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.