



10:30 AM SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 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

KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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

WBlight@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

10:30 AM SUNDAY, AUGUST 22, 2021
THIRTEENTH 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.*

PRELUDE *Aria* Dale Wood
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

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!

INVOCATION Rev. Kevin Bechtold
God of our ancestors,
We are living under the empire of landlessness
and exclusion.
We pray that under the power of the spirit
and our lives together,
We push back the evil of colonial land grabbing,
and include others
in the list of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,
so that all of humanity can have life,
and life in abundance.
Next line in the name of our God, our Liberator.
Amen.



*Cláudio Carvalhaes
is Associate Professor
of Worship at Union
Theological Seminary
in New York.*

—from Liturgies from Below, edited by Claudio Carvalhaes

HYMN *Guide My Feet, Vss 1-3.* . . . African-American Spiritual
 Miriam Gnagy, Emily Kurlinski, Tim Keller, Michael Delos

1 Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet
 2 Hold my hand while I run this race, hold my hand
 3 I'm your child while I run this race, I'm your child

Yes, my God.

while I run this race, guide my feet while I run this race,
 while I run this race, hold my hand while I run this race,
 while I run this race, I'm your child while I run this race,

Yes, my God.

For I don't want to run this race in vain.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Donene Blair

Carmen Ramsey Ellington (Friend of Karen Clark), Pat Forrester (Sister-in-Law of Kate Forrester), Floyd Gossett, Juno Griswold, Michael Kaid, Bob Mitchell, Jo Mitchell, Montecino Family, Pris Orr, Tommy Rivers Puzey (Friend of Karen Clark), Carol Reynolds Kenning, Jose Robles and Family, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Patricia Valentine, Cynthia Watson (Friend of Karen Clark), Ruth, Eppie, and Keddy Williamson

Our hearts are with Ruth, Eppie, and Keddy Williamson on the death of their father and grandfather, Stu Williamson.

We celebrate with Ellie Edelweiss on the birth of her son, Rhodri Edelweiss.

Bold=newly added; 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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SHARING PEACE Rev. Blair

LOVE IN ACTION

GIVING OPTIONS TO SUPPORT PLYMOUTH UCC

Thank you for your faithful support of the mission and ministries of Plymouth United Church of Christ. Listed below are a variety of ways for you to provide offerings and gifts.

ONLINE GIVING THROUGH SIMPLE CHURCH Click on the MAKE A GIFT box at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.. Choose to deduct directly from your bank account or credit/debit card to make a one-time offering, or schedule recurring offerings.

TEXT TO GIVE Simply text to 206.208.1442 and enter a dollar amount. You will receive prompts to complete the transaction. Once set up, you will be able to text offerings with one step.

CASH APP Download the Cash App mobile app from the Apple App Store or Google Play and follow the instructions to set up giving directly from your bank account. Our Cash App ID is \$PlymouthUCCSeattle. Questions? DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

CHECK BY MAIL Mail your offerings to the church: Plymouth Church, UCC / 1217 6th Ave / Seattle WA 98101

A WORD ON AFGHANISTAN AND HAITI Rev. Bechtold

Visit the News Page at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org and click on “Help People of Afghanistan and Haiti” for direct links for information, to donate and get involved.

CONTEMPORARY VOICE read by Deacon Indigo Brown

Freedom by Langston Hughes

Freedom will not come

Today, this year

Nor ever

Through compromise and fear.

I have as much right

As the other fellow has

To stand

On my two feet

And own the land.

I tire so of hearing people say,

Let things take their course.

Tomorrow is another day.

I do not need my freedom when I’m dead.

I cannot live on tomorrow’s bread.

Freedom

Is a strong seed

Planted

In a great need.

I live here, too.

I want my freedom

Just as you.



Langston Hughes was an American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright and columnist. One of the earliest innovators of the literary art form called jazz poetry, Hughes is best known as a leader of the Harlem Renaissance.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE Luke 13:10-17

(NRSV translation)

read by Rev. Blair

Earlier, Jesus healed a man whose hand had withered. Now, Jesus heals a woman with a crippling back deformity. On both occasions, Luke describes Jesus teaching in a synagogue on the Sabbath and religious leaders taking offense at Jesus’ actions because of their view of what is allowable on the Sabbath. Jesus makes clear he is no Sabbath breaker — he operates within Jewish tradition of the day. But he is not one to allow tradition to exclude people from access to community and the potential for healing.

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.

But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.” But Jesus answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie their ox or their donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?”

When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

ANTHEM *A Change Is Gonna Come* Sam Cooke
Performed by Jimmy James and Dr. Brown

MESSAGE *Managing Freedom* Dr. Brown

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Dr. Brown

POSTLUDE. *Toccata in E Minor* Johann Pachelbel
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

LET THE STRINGS SPEAK



Let The Strings Speak 2021 will be presented as a virtual concert streaming 4 pm (PDT) August 28. There is no charge; donations welcome. Visit LetTheStringsSpeak.com to register for link to the show and to donate.

Inspired by the ancient Egyptian harp as well as the Black fiddler of the rural Southern United States, the listener and observer are welcomed to a musical journey and celebration of African American culture. Sisters and artistic directors Mona Terry and Lesa Terry create new work carved from a historical past, reimagined for modern society.

The ancient harp allows the listener to be fully immersed in a “sound experience” fashioned for the present moment, allowing for an expanded awareness of the interrelationship of all creation. The Black fiddler says, “I am the voice of Africa in the Americas.” The strings vibrate with an ancestral memory of rhythm, of wholeness fortified by the indomitable spirit of continuance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Help People of Afghanistan and Haiti Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services is scrambling to find volunteers to help our Afghan allies as they arrive in the United States. They need things like rides from the airport, food, and apartment set-up help. Please volunteer if you can, or share with others who might be able to help. On August 14, 2021 the people of Ayiti/Haiti experienced another devastating earthquake that has left more than 1,200 dead and hundreds of thousands injured. They deserve not only our prayers and love, but our solidarity. Visit the News Page at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org and click on “*Help People of Afghanistan and Haiti*” for direct links to donate and get involved.

Your Plymouth Care Team is committed to maintaining availability of staff to handle any care concerns that might come our way. Please use the care line phone number to get in touch with the Care Team should anything arise: 206.639.7739. Messages are checked at least once a day and the Care Team makes every attempt to follow up as soon as we are able. Please call and leave a message if there is something you feel the Care Team should be aware of as we endeavor to serve you!

Standing in the Gap You are invited to Standing in the Gap, Recovery Café's educational and fundraising event. Join us Wednesday, September 15 from 7:30–9 am online for a morning to learn about the healing work of Recovery Café, what we're doing to serve our members during the pandemic, and how you can help. Visit RecoveryCafe.org to register or donate.

Help Habitat for Humanity Interfaith Build In response to 9–11, the local Habitat for Humanity chapter began an annual Interfaith Build. If you are interested in participating Saturday, September 18, it would be great to have you. There are volunteer slots at the site, and opportunities to assist in providing lunch for volunteers and staff. If you would like to be involved, please reach out to Caroline Becker (Becker144@comcast.net; 206.679.9782) or Mike Pierson (MikePierson2@gmail.com; 206.604.8673).

Reconcile and Reform Are you eager to gather, learn, and worship again with other Christians from around the country and the world who are working to advance LGBTQ inclusion in the church? Convene in person this fall for our Reconcile and Reform conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Register now. The conference will be held October 28–30 at Crowne Plaza Hotel & Resort in Phoenix. Read more and get tickets at ReformationProject.org/Conference.

Join Online Bible Study Gather online with friends for Wednesday morning Bible study, 9–10:30 am. All are welcome! If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Jennifer at JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. You can also access Bible study directly through the website at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (Under the “Worship” tab, click “Online Events.”) You will need to use the general password for Plymouth Zoom meetings, so please contact Jennifer if you don't have it. We hope to see you Wednesday morning!



**Read about *Thursdays in Black*,
an initiative from
UCC Global Ministries,
at 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.**