



Becoming!

10:30 AM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 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 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

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

DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023
FOURTEENTH 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*Aria from the Goldberg Variations* J. S. Bach
Dr. Ricardo de la Torre

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Working, Resting God, we ask your special
blessing on all people who labor.

**Many: We pray for those who have been told they
have no value and cannot eat unless they work.**

One: We pray for those whose inadequate pay causes
their lives to be less full.

Many: Help us to build a new world:

One: A world where all workers are valued; where
exploitation is no more.


**Many: A world where those who clean and build
houses are also able to buy houses of their own.**

One: A world where those who grow food can also
afford to eat their harvest.


**Masny: A world where those who serve and care for
others are, themselves, also cared for and served.**

One: We pray for the coming of a world where all
workers everywhere share in the abundance that
you have given us.


HYMN *There is a Name I Love to Hear* Frederick Whitfield



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.



WELCOME. Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Psalm 25:4–12

Make known to me your ways, AGELESS GOD;
teach me your paths.

Guide me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.⁶ Remember your maternal love,
O WOMB OF LIFE,
and your faithful love,
for they have been from of old.

The sins of my youth and my transgressions remember not;
according to your faithful love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, GRACIOUS ONE.

Good and upright is the FOUNT OF WISDOM,
therefore she instructs sinners in the way.

She guides the humble in what is just,
and teaches the humble her way.

All the paths of the WISDOM OF THE AGES are faithful
and true
for those who keep her covenant and her decrees.

For your Name's sake, LOVING GOD,
pardon my guilt, for it is great.

Who are they that fear the HOLY ONE OF OLD?
She will teach them the way that they should choose.

Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Michelle J. Bennett (Sister of Dawn Bennett), Merryn Bentley (Granddaughter of Al & Judy Bentley), Walter Bethel (Friend of Karen Clark), Susan Carter (Mother of Heather Banks & Kathleen Bernard), Bruce Chittick & family (Friend of Karen Clark), Mike Correy (Friend of Karen Clark), Sue Ellen Daniel (Friend of Barb Laski), Mark & JT Edwards, JoAnn English (Relative of Lucian Guthrie), 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), Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Paula Orrego, Jim Oswald (Friend of Bing Tso), Anna Partch (Friend of Sari Breznau), Joshua Robinson (Grandson of Patricia Valentine), Jose Robles and Family, Rachel Sebastian (Friend of Jeanette Hagen), Kyna Shilling, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon), Pluma Wright (Friend of Glenda Carper), Judy Young (Friend of Glenda Carper), Ashley and the Zorich Family (Granddaughter of Betty Eberharter)
Our hearts are with the family and friends of Ann Frothingham, on the one-year anniversary of the passing of her husband Don.

We grieve with the family and friends of Drucilla Briggs who passed away August 8.

We grieve with Linda Harris and family on the passing of her husband Greg on August 9. There will be a celebration of his life on Saturday, October 21, 1 pm-3 pm at the Hyatt Regency Seattle.



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.

SHARING OF PEACE “Peace be with you”

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

CONTEMPORARY VOICE



Walter Wink was an American Biblical scholar, theologian, and activist who was an important figure in Progressive Christianity.

“The myth of redemptive violence is, in short, nationalism become absolute. This myth speaks for God; it does not listen for God to speak. It invokes the sovereignty of God as its own; it does not entertain the prophetic possibility of radical judgment by God. It misappropriates the language, symbols, and scriptures of Christianity. It does not seek God in order to change; it embraces God in order to prevent change. Its God is not the impartial ruler of all nations but a tribal god worshiped as an idol. Its metaphor is not the journey but the fortress. Its symbol is not the cross but the crosshairs of a gun. Its offer is not forgiveness but victory. Its good news is not the unconditional love of enemies but their final elimination. Its salvation is not a new heart but a successful foreign policy. Its usurps the revelation of God’s purposes for humanity in Jesus. It is blasphemous. It is idolatrous.”

—Walter Wink, *The Powers That Be: Theology for a New Millennium*

CALL TO OFFERING

God tells us over and over in the Bible not to be afraid. Our gifts this morning are one way that we trust God even in a world that keeps manufacturing fear. We are not alone, and we can live each day in graceful dependence on God. 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 or
CashApp your donation to \$PlymouthUCCSeattle.
We give thanks for your generosity.*

OFFERING MUSIC

Give Me Jesus (Spiritual) arr. Faye López
Dr. Ricardo de la Torre, piano

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

Honoring God, you love all people, especially those who are poor and vulnerable. You have demonstrated your great compassion, and call on us to actively show compassion and uphold justice. Use our gifts and offerings to journey with our neighbors in need of justice. Amen.

CONTEMPORARY VOICE

“...Jesus did not advocate nonviolence merely as a technique for outwitting the enemy, but as a just means of opposing the enemy in such a way as to hold open the possibility of the enemy’s becoming just as well. Both sides must win. We are summoned to pray for our enemies’ transformation, and to respond to ill-treatment with a love that not only is godly but also, I am convinced, can only be found in God.”

—Walter Wink, *Jesus and Nonviolence: A Third Way*

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEWMatthew 5:38-42 (Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation)

[Jesus said,] “You all have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye’ and ‘a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say to you: Do not set yourself against the wicked. But when someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other to them also. And when someone wants you to be judged and take your coat, let your other clothing go as well. And when someone forces you to go one mile, go the second mile too. Give to those who ask from you, and those who want to borrow from you, do not refuse.”

ANTHEM*What a Friend We Have in Jesus* Dr. Ricardo de la Torre

MESSAGE*The Other Cheek*Dr. Brown

HYMN OF COMMITMENT

CHARGE AND BENEDICTIONDr. Brown

POSTLUDE.*Intermezzo No. 1*Manuel Ponce Dr. Ricardo de la Torre

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Plan Now to attend worship Sunday, September 10, as we begin our church program year. Let us move forward together to see what the Spirit has in store! Horizon House residents can ride the bus September 10.

School Supplies Needed The Community and Care Board will collect donations of school supplies on Homecoming Sunday, September 10. Please bring what you can: notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons, backpacks, rulers, glue sticks, etc. All donations are appreciated and will be put to good use.

Night of Hope Join Plymouth Healing Communities for our annual fundraising event, Night of Hope, Thursday, September 21 at Washington Hall (153 14th Ave, Seattle 98122). Special guests include Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown and City of Seattle Deputy Mayor Greg Wong. Read more at Plyhc.org.

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.

Real Rent Duwamish invites you to visit their booth at this year's Farm Fest, an annual celebration of urban agriculture and the South Seattle community, 10 am–3 pm Saturday September 16. Read more in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Undoing Institutionalized Racism Workshops are designed to educate, challenge and empower people to “undo” the racist structures that hinder effective social change. Next opportunity is September 14–16. Plymouth scholarships available. Find full schedule and link to register at PinwSeattle.org.

Bring Clothing and Shoes Plymouth is 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.

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.

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.





All people are
created in
God's image
and are holy
and beloved.

**That includes
you.**

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.