



PLYMOUTH
United Church of Christ

10:30 AM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 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.

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

JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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

DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

10:30 AM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024
SEVENTEENTH 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*

Fugue in A Major Johann G. Walther
Martha Freitag, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP *LLAMADO A ADORAR*

(Inspired by Psalm 116)

One: Call upon the Holy One, who is gracious and
merciful.

**Many: We love the Holy One, who has heard
our cry, responds to our prayers, and abides
with us through our distress.**

One: Call upon the Holy One, who is gracious and
merciful.

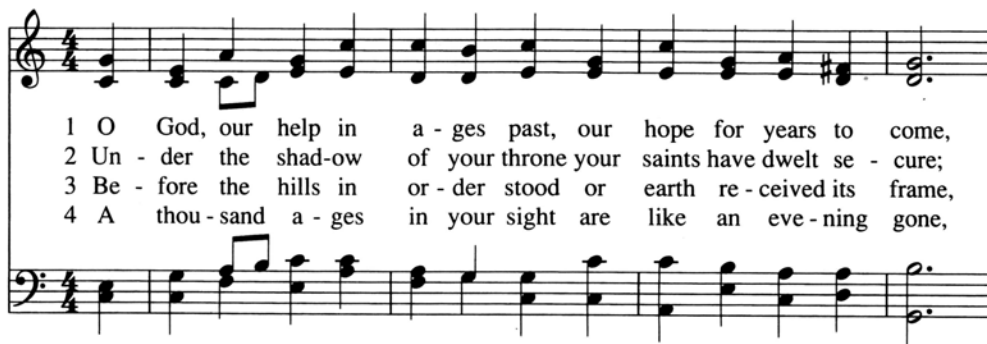
**Many: We praise the Righteous One, who
protects, provides, and prepares their people.**

One: Call upon the Holy One, who is gracious and
merciful.

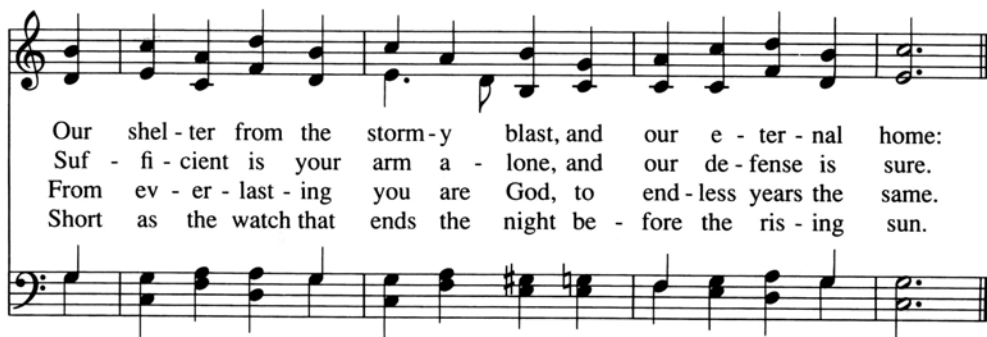
**All: We worship the Radiant One, who walks
before us in the land of the living.**

OPENING HYMN *HIMNO DE APERTURA*

O God, our help in ages past ST. ANNE



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad-ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream,
soon bears us all away;
We fly for - got - ten, as a dream
fades at the o - pening day.

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!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *ORACIÓN DE CONFESIÓN*

One: Loving God, we confess that you are a God of transformation and a solid rock.

Many: **We strive to be like trees planted by the water, steadfast and unmovable at the same time that we embrace your continuing creative acts in the world and in our lives.**

One: We struggle at times to know when to remain firm and when to progress forward.

All: Infuse us with your wisdom and discernment along with courage and grace to be fully who you have created us to be.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE *SEGURIDAD DE GRACIA*

Loving God, we confess that you are a God of transformation and a solid rock. We strive to be like trees planted by the water, steadfast and unmovable at the same time that we embrace your continuing creative acts in the world and in our lives. We struggle at times to know when to remain firm and when to progress forward. Infuse us with your wisdom and discernment along with courage and grace to be fully who you have created us to be.

WELCOME *BIENVENIDA*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *ORACIONES DEL PUEBLO*

Christian and Kim Arvin (Son and Daughter-in-Law of Donene Blair), Ahmed Black (Nephew of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Wendy Carpenter (Friend of Jocelyn Coit-Durland), Afghan Family (Siblings of Plymouth), 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), Mari Mitchell & Alex Putnum, Dr. Maxine Mimms, William Chapman Nyaho, Jaime Rubio Sulficio.



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

LLAMADO A LA OFERTA Y COMPARTIENDO LA PAZ

The Holy One creates, sustains, and renews with abundant generosity. Let us demonstrate our participation in the kingdom, our trust in God, and our stewardship of our resources through our giving to support our collective ministry.

*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.*

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 *ORACIÓN DE DEDICACIÓN*

**Generous God, may these gifts honor your name and
your generous Spirit alive within us. We thank you for
the opportunity and privilege of contributing to your
kingdom and our world.**

OFFERING MUSIC *OFRECIENDO MÚSICA*

Prayer: an Offertory George Walker
Martha Freitag, organ

CONTEMPORARY VOICE *VOZ CONTEMPORÁNEA*

Positivity, by D. A. Powell



D. A. Powell is known for his syntactically inventive, longer eight- or ten-beat lines in poems.

“Anyway, it isn’t forever,” Chris said,
“eventually you’re dead.” And we laughed
Besides, everything is better now. Not us
but implants, blenders, children, heart attacks.
There’s never been a better time to be alive
than when you are. If you are. Black-throated
blue warbler says chewchewchewchewchewwww
drawing the last chew out like a sucking drainpipe
to say he has mated and is satisfied. Say what
you will about that. His joy is uncontainable
and yet it has a form, a measure, to make it clear
he’s not upset or feeling anxious. And if he’s bragging,
well, it’s no shame to brag that you’re happy.
Honeybees cavorting on the goldenrod are working
toward a common goal they’ll never see achieved.
They lay down the walls of their cathedral of honeycomb
and will not cope the spire, busy in the present task,
trusting that the work continues. I’d like to write
a children’s book called everybody dies. Upbeat, of
course, and pragmatic. You only got so many
days. Don’t think about death; when you’re
ready, death will think about you. Go out
tonight with your friends, like Chris, who went out
big or not at all. Have a ball. Plan ahead.

SCRIPTURE READING *LECTURA DE LAS ESCRITURAS* . . . 1 Samuel 1:1-6, 9-18
(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation)

Now there was a certain man of Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham son of Elihu son of Tohu son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. He had two wives; the name of the one was Hannah, and the name of the second, Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had no children.

Now this man went up year by year from his town to worship and to sacrifice to the SOVEREIGN of heaven's vanguard at Shiloh; there the two sons of Eli, Hophni, and Phinehas, were priests of the HOLY ONE OF OLD. And it was, on the day Elkanah sacrificed, he would give to his wife Peninnah and to all her daughters and her sons portions [of the sacrifice]. But to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the WOMB OF LIFE had closed her womb. Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the WELLSPRING OF LIFE had closed her womb.

After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the HOLY ONE OF OLD. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorposts of the temple of the HOLY ONE. Hannah's soul was embittered, and she prayed to the SOURCE OF LIFE, and she wept profusely. And she vowed a vow and said, "HOLY ONE of heaven's legions, if only you would truly look on the affliction of your slave-woman, and remember me, and not forget your slave-woman, but will give to your slave-woman man-seed, then I will place him before you as a nazirite all the days of his life. He shall not drink wine or strong drink, and a razor shall not go upon his head."

And it was as she increased praying before the FAITHFUL ONE, Eli was observing her mouth. Now Hannah, she was speaking in her heart, only her lips moved; her voice was not heard. So, Eli took her for a drunkard. And Eli said to her, "How long will you remain drunk? Put your wine away woman—away from you!" Then Hannah responded and said, "No, my lord, I am a woman whose spirit has hardened; I have not drunk either wine or strong drink; I have been pouring out my soul before the GOD WHO HEARS. Do not regard your slave as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking from my great grief and vexation all this time." Then Eli answered and said, "Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to God." And Hannah said, "May your slave-woman find favor in your eyes." Then the woman went on her way to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer.

ANTHEM *EL HIMNO*

Laudate Dominum from *Vesperae solennes de confessore* W.A. Mozart
Eliza Woodyard, soprano; Martha Freitag, organ

SERMON *SERMÓN*


New Life at the End of Your Rope. Dr. Brown

HYMN OF COMMITMENT *HIMNO DE COMPROMISO*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling BEECHER




1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, joy of heaven, on earth be found,
2 Breathe, O breathe your lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-ery trou-bled breast;
3 Come, al-might-y to de-liv-er, let us all your life re-ceive;
4 Fin-ish, then, your new cre-a-tion; pure and spot-less may we prove;



Fix in us a hum-ble dwell-ing, all your faith-ful mer-cies crown;
Let us all in you in-her-it, let us find your prom-ised rest;
Sud-den-ly re-turn, and ne-ver, ne-ver-more your tem-ples leave.
Let us see your great sal-va-tion per-fect-ly re-stored in you;



Je-sus, you are all com-pas-sion; pure, un-bound-ed love im-part.
Take a-way our love of sin-ning; Al-pha and O-me-ga be;
You we would be al-ways bless-ing, love you as your an-gels love,
Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry, till in heaven we take our place,



Vis-it us with your sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-ery trem-bling heart.
End of faith, as its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
Pray and praise for your un-fail-ing, wound-ed arms out-stretched a-bove.
Crowned as saints, we ev-er shall be lost in won-der, love, and praise.

BENEDICTION *BENDICIÓN* Dr. Brown

POSTLUDE *POSTLUDIO*

Dialogue sur les grand jeux Nicolas de Grigny
Martha Freitag, organ



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Explore Vanport and Selma Take a deep dive into complex social history with upcoming educational trips to Vanport, Oregon Nov. 15-17, and Selma, Alabama, March 6-14, 2025, led by Museum Without Walls. Read more and reserve your place now in the news article at PymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Please Remember to fill out your card to pledge your time, talent, and treasure and to express your desire to covenant with Plymouth. We are grateful for your commitment to Plymouth Church over the coming year and welcome you in covenanting with God, Plymouth Church, and one another.

Study the Bible with Plymouth Wednesdays at 9 am or Thursdays at 7 pm The Zoom link in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org will be the same every week for both Wednesday morning and Thursday evening studies.

Sound Medicine Meditation Tory Trujillo offers a monthly deep healing Sound Medicine Meditation after worship in Hildebrand Hall. Fall sessions are scheduled for Sundays, September 22, October 20 and November 17. Read more at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

School Supplies Needed The Community and Care Board will collect donations of school supplies every Sunday now through the end of September. Please bring what you can: notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons, backpacks, rulers, glue sticks, etc. All donations are appreciated.

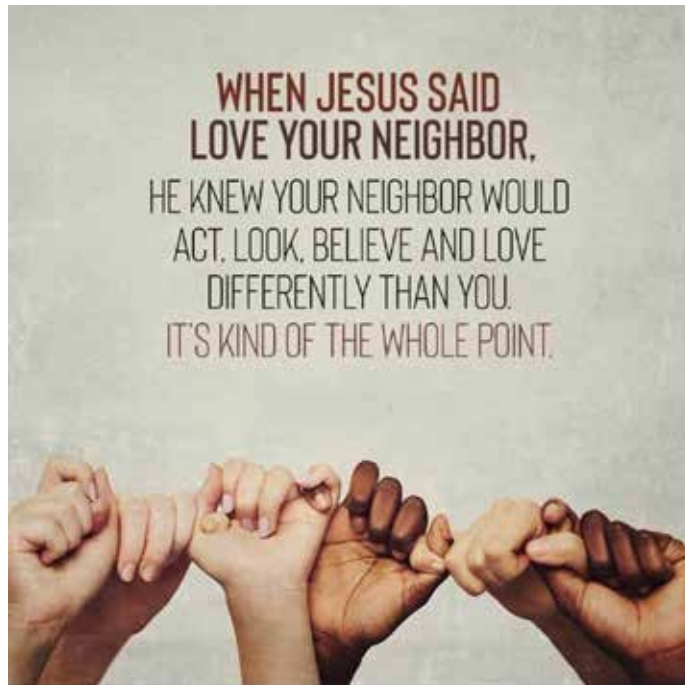
Honoring Our Sacred Stories Join women of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the UCC at Pilgrim Firs, October 4-6. This gathering welcomes all women — cis, trans and non-binary people comfortable in a space centering the experience of women. More info and link to register at Pilgrim-Firs.org/Calendar.

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.

Help Lead Worship The Plymouth Worship Team welcomes lay leaders to help with worship, both in person and online. If you feel called to serve, please contact Rev. Kevin Bechtold: KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

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