

**10:30 AM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 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](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)

[KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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

[WBlight@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:WBlight@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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[TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

10:30 AM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021  
SEVENTEENTH 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**

*Trumpet in Dialogue* . . . . . Louis Nicolas Clerambault  
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

**WELCOME.** . . . . . Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

**CALL TO WORSHIP.** . . . . . Nan Macy

I know the idiot's warehouse  
Is always full.  
I know each of us  
Could run back and forth from there  
All day long  
And show everyone our vast collection.  
Though today,  
Retire from the madness for an hour,  
Gather with some loyal friends  
Or sit alone  
And  
Sing beautiful songs  
To God.

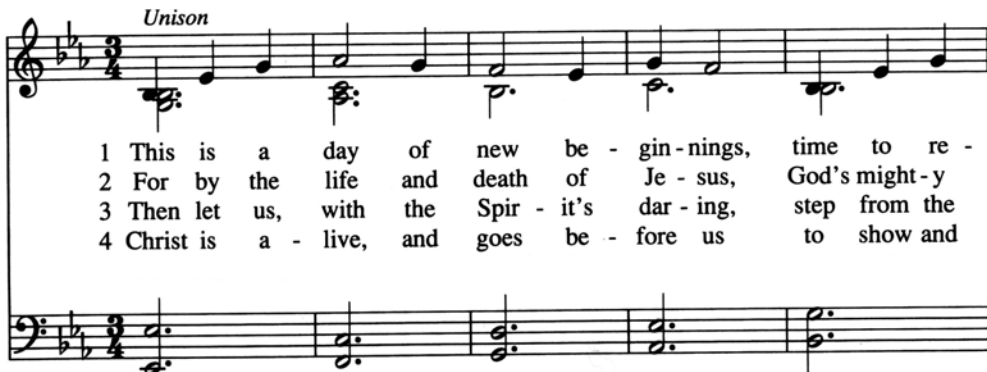
—Hafiz



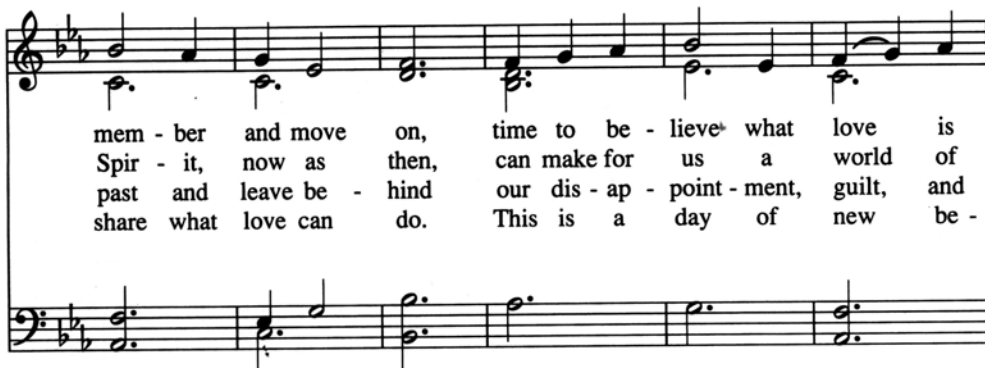
*Hafiz was a 14th  
century Persian  
poet who lauded  
the joys of love and  
wine and targeted  
hypocrisy.*

HYMN . . . . . *This is a Day of New Beginnings* . . . . . BEGINNINGS  
Sue and Tom Maul, Sari Breznau

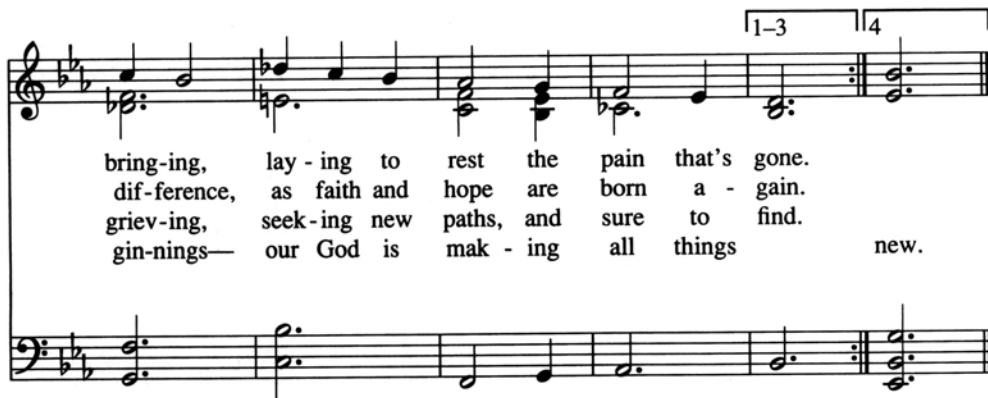
*Unison*



1 This is a day of new be - gin - nings, time to re -  
2 For by the life and death of Je - sus, God's might - y  
3 Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing, step from the  
4 Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us to show and



mem - ber and move on, time to be - lieve what love is  
Spir - it, now as then, can make for us a world of  
past and leave be - hind our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt, and  
share what love can do. This is a day of new be -



bring - ing, lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.  
dif - ference, as faith and hope are born a - gain.  
griev - ing, seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.  
gin - nings— our God is mak - ing all things new.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE . . . . . Rev. Kevin Bechtold**

*Carmen Ramsey Ellington (Friend of Karen Clark), Floyd Gossett, Juno Griswold, John Holford (Father of Michelle Sarju), Michael Kaid, Darryl Marshall (Stepfather of Jennifer Castle), Bob Mitchell, Jo Mitchell, Montecino Family, Tommy Rivers Puzey (Friend of Karen Clark), Carol Reynolds Kenning, Jose Robles and Family, Lydia Stuckey (Friend of Dr. Maxine Mimms), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Patricia Valentine, Ruth, Eppie, and Keddy Williamson*

***Our hearts are with...***

*Stan Orr and the Orr family on the passing of Pris.*

*Kate Forrester on the passing of Pat, her sister-in-law.*

*The family and friends of Cynthia Watson on her passing.*

*The Gwilym family on the one year anniversary of Don's passing.*

*The Fliegel family on the one year anniversary of Ruth's passing.*

(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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**MOMENT OF LOVE IN ACTION . . . . . Michael and Elizabeth Gordon**

**HONORING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**

*An Anthem . . . . . Richard Blanco*

CONTEMPORARY VOICE . . . . . read by Min. Jennifer Castle

*"Invitation,"* from *A Thousand Mornings*, by Mary Oliver



*Mary Oliver was an American poet. The New York Times described her as "far and away, this country's best-selling poet."*

Oh do you have time  
to linger  
for just a little while  
out of your busy  
and very important day  
for the goldfinches  
that have gathered  
in a field of thistles  
for a musical battle,  
to see who can sing  
the highest note,  
or the lowest,  
or the most expressive of mirth,  
or the most tender?  
Their strong, blunt beaks  
drink the air  
as they strive  
melodiously  
not for your sake  
and not for mine  
and not for the sake of winning  
but for sheer delight and gratitude –  
believe us, they say,  
it is a serious thing  
just to be alive  
on this fresh morning  
in the broken world.  
I beg of you,  
do not walk by  
without pausing  
to attend to this  
rather ridiculous performance.  
It could mean something.  
It could mean everything.  
It could be what Rilke meant, when he wrote:  
You must change your life.

"I think it pisses God off if you walk by the color purple in a field somewhere and don't notice it." —Alice Walker, *The Color Purple*



Alice Walker  
is an American  
novelist, short  
story writer,  
poet, and social  
activist.

**READING FROM HEBREW SCRIPTURE . . . . .** Isaiah 43:1b-2; 18-19  
(NRSV translation) read by Al Bentley

*Emancipation is a primary thread that runs throughout Isaiah 43. The prophet's vision is rooted in the imagery of the deliverance from Egypt. The key to this liberation is the faithfulness of God who delivers from bondage. Throughout every dark night, the dawn of a new day is always coming.*

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.  
Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.  
I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.

**ANTHEM. . . . .** *The Lone Wild Bird* . . . arr. by David Johnson  
Jennylynn Vidas, Miriam Gnagy, and Tim Keller  
Video Editing by Doug Arney

**MESSAGE . . . . .** *Begin Again: A New Thing* . . . . . Dr. Brown

**MOMENT OF REFLECTION**

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

**POSTLUDE. . . . .** *Sonata 1 in Gm, Presto*. . . . . J. S. Bach  
Asya Sorshneva, violin

# CELEBRATE THE ORDINATION OF JENNIFER CASTLE



The Pacific Northwest Conference UCC  
and Plymouth Church UCC  
*joyfully invite you to attend the Ordination of*

## **Jennifer Castle**

3 pm (PDT) September 26 via Zoom  
Visit [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](https://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) for link to RSVP  
(required to receive information on joining the service)  
or email Jennifer:  
[JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

## 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](https://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](mailto:DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Come Together with Love and Hospitality*** Families from Afghanistan will be arriving here over the next 6 months. One of the hands-on ways you can help is by assembling “Restart Kits” containing items families will need to settle into their new homes. Read more and volunteer at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) (in the news section click on “*Come Together with Love and Hospitality*” for direct links to get involved).

***Plymouth Reads Final Book in Series on Racial Justice*** We are now beginning the last book of our three-book series on racial justice, *I'm Still Here*, by Austin Channing Brown, and it could be the most contentious book yet. Visit [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) to read news article, to register and find resources that will enrich your reading experience. Keep reading the *Herald* and checking the website for upcoming events this fall.

***Honor Hispanic Heritage*** Every year from September 15 to October 15, Americans celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month. The 2021 Hispanic Heritage Month theme, “*Esperanza: A Celebration of Hispanic Heritage and Hope*” invites us to celebrate Hispanic heritage and to reflect on how great our tomorrow can be if we hold onto our resilience and hope. Check [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) for a list of events in and around Seattle.

***September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month***, a time to raise awareness on this stigmatized, and often taboo, topic. Learn more at [NAMI.org](http://NAMI.org). If you or someone you know is in an emergency, call **The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800-273-TALK**.

***Help People of Haiti*** In August the people of Ayiti/Haiti experienced another devastating earthquake. They need our prayers, love and solidarity. Visit the News Page at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) and click on “*Help People of Afghanistan and Haiti*” for direct links to donate and get involved.

***World Communion Sunday Special Offering*** is one of four special offerings throughout the church year to support national and local ministries within the United Church of Christ. Our gifts in the month of October will be divided evenly between Neighbors in Need and UCC Earthquake Relief in Haiti.

***Pray for Peace*** Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on September 21. The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire. Plymouth's Peace Action Group invites you to join the world in prayer at noon on September 21. Read more at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

***A Memorial Service for Pris Orr*** will be held 2 pm, Sunday, October 3, at Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard Avenue. Parking available in the Polyclinic Garage located at 1145 Broadway, east of the church, and on the streets adjacent to the church.

We are a people of  
**EXTRAVAGANT**  
**WELCOME**

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.