

Becoming!

RECOVERING

10:30 AM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 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.

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2023
TWENTIETH 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.*

Today we are honored to welcome the Rev. Dr. Yvonne V. Delk to Plymouth UCC. All are encouraged to remain after the service for a special presentation and learn the often untold story about our Afro-Christian roots in the shaping of the UCC faith tradition. Mother Delk, as she is respectfully known, was the first Black woman ordained in the United Church of Christ, and the second woman to hold a national leadership role in our denomination. She has contributed to many programs focused on ecumenism, racial justice, anti-poverty, and the full inclusion of marginalized persons in religious life.

PRELUDE

Ich ruf zu dir, Herr J. S. Bach/Ferruccio Busoni
Joe Williams, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

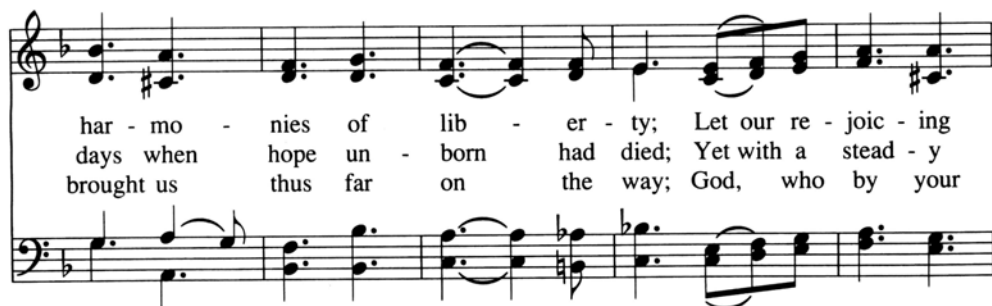
*Led by Indigo Brown,
Moderator for the Pacific Northwest Conference of the UCC*

One: Into this world we are born,
Many: Into the beauty and sorrow of everyday life.
One: Into this day we awake,
Many: Into possibility and the unknown.
One: Into this church we are welcomed,
Many: Into God's grace and each other's truth.
One: So, let us worship our God this day, we who are
called and loved.
**All: Let us worship God, freed to follow in spirit
and in truth.**

HYMN *Lift Every Voice and Sing* . . . James Weldon Johnson



1 Lift ev-ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring, ring with the
 2 Ston-y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas-tening rod, felt in the
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, God who has



har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing
 days when hope un - born had died; Yet with a stead - y
 brought us thus far on the way; God, who by your



rise, high as the lis - tening skies, let it re - sound loud as the
 beat, have not our wea - ry feet, come to the place for which our
 might, led us in - to the light, keep us for - ev - er in the



roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the
 peo - ple sighed? We have come o - ver a
 path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the

faith that the harsh past has taught us, Sing a song full of the
 way that with tears has been wa - tered, We have come, tread - ing our
 plac - es, our God, where we met you, Lest our hearts, drunk with the

hope that the pres - ent has brought us; Fac - ing the
 path through the blood of the slaugh - tered, Out from the
 wine of the world, for - get you; Shad - owed be -

ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun, let us march
 gloom - y past, till now we stand at last where the white
 neath your hand, may we for - ev - er stand, true to our

on till vic - to - ry is won.
 gleam of our bright star is
 God, true to our na - tive land.

WELCOME. Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

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. Donene Blair

A Prayer for the Middle East

God of mercy and compassion, of grace and reconciliation,
pour your power upon all your children in the Middle East:
Jews, Muslims, and Christians, Palestinians and Israelis. Let
hatred be turned into love, fear to trust, despair to hope,
oppression to freedom, occupation to liberation, that violent
encounters may be replaced by loving embraces, and peace
and justice could be experienced by all. Amen.

Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Michelle J. Bennett (Sister of Dawn Bennett), 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), Phyllis Daniels, Mykesha Davis (Daughter of Michael Gordon), Mark & JT Edwards, JoAnn English (Relative of Lucian Guthrie), Diane Folkert (Mother-in-law of Ara Lawrence), 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), Jose Robles and Family, Rachel Sebastian (Friend of Jeanette Hagen), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon), Pluma Wright (Friend of Glenda Carper), Judy Young (Friend of Glenda Carper)

Our hearts are with Nancy Geller and family on the one-year anniversary of the passing of her brother, Charlie Coulter.

A celebration of the life of Greg Harris will be held Saturday, October 21, 1-3 pm at the Hyatt Regency Seattle.



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.

CALL TO OFFERING Rev. Kevin Bechtold

OFFERING MUSIC

*I Opened My Mouth to the Lord & Ain't Gonna Let Nobody medley,
African American Spirituals arr. by Marshan Moultry*

Resounding Love Interfaith Gospel Choir

I open my mouth to the Lord and I won't turn back
I will go, I shall go to see what the ends going to be.
Amazing grace how sweet the sound, to see what the ends going to be
I once was lost but now I'm found, I see what the ends going to be
Ain't gonna let nobody turn me around,
turn me around, turn me around
Ain't gonna let nobody, turn me around,
I'm gonna keep on walkin'
keep on talkin'
waitin' til freedom come.
Ain't gonna let injustice...
Ain't gonna let racism...
Ain't gonna let homophobia...

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 Rev. Bechtold

**God, receive these gifts and multiply them to be used
through our community and beyond to further your
never-ending project of renewal and repair in our
world. Amen.**

CONTEMPORARY VOICE

Video of apology from the Rev. Dr. John Dorhauer

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN John 21:15-19
(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation)

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

ANTHEM. *Trust Me* Richard Smallwood

Resounding Love Interfaith Gospel Choir

I will be with you
I will be with you
I will be with you
If you will only trust Me
Trust Me, trust Me

I'll never leave you
I'll never leave you
I'll never leave you
If you will only trust Me
Trust Me, trust Me

I am that I am
I have all power
I will deliver
If you will only trust Me
Trust Me, trust Me

I'll fight your battle
I'll fight your battle
I'll fight your battle
If you will only trust Me
Trust Me, trust Me

MESSAGE *Freed to Follow*. Rev. Dr. Yvonne Delk

RESPONSE. *The Corinthian Song*. V. Michael McKay
Jerry Rice, vocalist; Joe Williams, piano
Resounding Love Choir

I am troubled, yet not distressed.
Perplexed, but not in despair.
I'm a vessel full of power,
With a treasure, none can compare.

Persecuted, but not forsaken.
Cast down, but not destroyed.
I'm a vessel full of Holy Ghost power
I've got a treasure from the Lord.

Bruised and battered but not broken
Born in sin but from sin set free
I am a vessel full of Holy Ghost power
I have got a treasure in me.

Thank you Jesus for your power
It has resurrected me.
Over painful circumstances
That my poor soul could not flee.

PRESENTATION

HYMN *Don't Feel No-Ways Tired*

African American Spiritual, arr. by Jacqueline Hairston

Amy Van Mechelen, soprano; Joe Williams, piano

I am seeking for a city, Hallelujah (2x)
For a city into the Kin-dom, Hallelujah (2x)
There's a better day a-comin', Hallelujah (2x)
When I leave this world of sorrow, Hallelujah
For to join the holy number, Hallelujah
I don' feel no ways tired
Come too far from where I started from
Nobody tol' me the road would be easy
I don' believe God brought me this far to leave me
Oh Lord, I don' feel no ways tired
Children, Oh, Glory Hallelujah
For I hope to shout glory when this worl' is on fire
Oh, Glory Hallelujah
Oh Lord, I don' feel no ways tired
Children, Oh, Glory Hallelujah
For I hope to shout glory when this worl' is on fire
Oh, Glory Hallelujah
I don' believe God brought me this far
I can't believe God brought me this far
I won't believe God brought me this far to leave me!

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Dr. Delk

POSTLUDE

Song Without Words, Op. 19, No. 1Felix Mendelssohn

Joe Williams, piano

All are invited to remain after worship for a presentation by The Rev. Dr. Yvonne Delk.
Introduction by Rev. Joanne Braxton, PhD, President of the Braxton Institute for Sustainability,
Resiliency and Joy. Don't miss this rare opportunity today. Presentation will also be live online.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lift Every Voice and Sing Plymouth's Artist-in-Residence, Ibidunni Ojikutu, will perform a recital with New York City based pianist Dr. Nnenna Ogwo following the service on October 29. Read more in the *Herald* or news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Take the Survey Please help Plymouth's Immigration Ministry Team by filling out this short online survey at bit.ly/imt2023survey. Your responses are important to help us in our mission to seek justice for the most vulnerable among us. Thank you.

God Says Now! Come to Plymouth 7 pm Thursday, Oct 26, to hear Father Anne discuss why ordination of women in the Roman Catholic Church matters. At 8 pm there will be an element of action, followed by Mass at 8:30 pm. All are welcome. Read more in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Candidate Forum on Housing and Homelessness Come to St. James Cathedral Hall (912 Columbia St), 6:30 pm Thursday, October 19 to hear from City Council Candidates Tammy Morales, Tanya Woo, Alex Hudson and Joy Hollingsworth. Questions? Contact MarkP@StJosephParish.org.

Join Plymouth Ukulele Club What better way to cheer up the colder months than strumming a ukulele with new friends! Ukulele Club meets online on Mondays at noon, with occasional in-person gatherings. Email Sari at saribreznau@gmail.com for info. We even have instruments you can borrow!

2024 Calendars Sought for Inmates The inmates at Monroe Correctional Facility really appreciate current calendars. If you receive free calendars in the mail you won't use, would you please donate them? Drop them in the box at church on Sundays, from now until December. If you live at Horizon House, please put them in Sue Jones' cubby hole in the mailroom (#1S). If you are unable to make it to church, we will do our best to collect them from you. Call or email Christine Hanson (509-679-7430)

Disrupt the School-to-Prison Pipeline Join an online event October 29 to discuss ways for communities to unite and break down the oppressive systems that lead to youth incarceration. Read more and register in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.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.

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.



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.