



PLYMOUTH
United Church of Christ

10:30 AM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 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

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

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10:30 AM SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024
TWENTY-SIXTH 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*

Prelude, Op. 35, No. 5 Eduard Schütt
Peter Nelson-King, pianist

WELCOME *BIENVENIDA* June Hayakawa-Fung

CALL TO WORSHIP Ms. Hayakawa-Fung
LLAMADO A ADORAR

(Inspired by 1 Samuel 2:1-10)

One: The Holy One raises up the poor from the dust and
lifts the needy to inherit a seat of honor. For the pillars
of the earth belong to the Holy One. O on them God
has set the world.

**Many: Exalt in the Holy One! Find strength in God.
God guards the faithful.**

One: Wickedness will perish. Righteousness will thunder.
For not by might does one prevail.

**Many: Exalt in the Holy One! Find strength in God.
God guards the faithful.**

One: Worship the Holy One through grief and gladness, in
despair and hope, in peace and trial.

**All: Exalt in the Holy One! Find strength in God.
God guards the faithful.**

OPENING HYMN *HIMNO DE APERTURA*

O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing (#42) AZMON

1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Sav - ior and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 Je - sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease
4 Glo - ry to God, and love and praise be ev - er, ev - er given

The glo - ries ev - er ech - o - ing the tri - umphs of God's grace!
To spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
Is mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
By all the saints in ev - ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION. Rev. Kevin Bechtold

ORACIÓN DE CONFESIÓN

One: Redeemer and Liberator, we call upon your power to make all things new.

Many: **We confess that we have compromised your good news and settled for a comfortable gospel rather than embrace the radical love, hospitality, and inclusion of your kingdom.**

One: We have been satisfied with a faith that conforms to the world rather than one that challenges the systems and ways of the world.

All: **Forgive us for our focus on our own survival and pleasure while your creation perishes all around us. For your mercy and in repentance, we pray.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE Rev. Bechtold

SEGURIDAD DE GRACIA

Beloved, you bear the image of God. You receive power from the Spirit of God. Be encouraged that Holy Love meets you with boldness and renewal. Let God be glorified as you accept the call to be the activating agents of a new world where love reigns, hope endures, and peace abounds. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Bechtold

ORACIONES DEL PUEBLO

An Interfaith Litany for Trans Day of Remembrance

Rev. Fran Pratt

It is with great joy that we celebrate transgender and nonbinary siblings; great joy that the *imago dei* stretches far and wide with grace.

It is with great grief that we mourn the violence done to them, to include the legislation to come.

We give thanks for each of our gender-diverse kindred

Who embody the uncategorizable and boundary-defining nature of the Divine.

Like all of humanity, they too are made in the Divine image,

Reflecting the Divine imprint.

We remember our trans siblings who have been lost to violence,

Unjustly sacrificed on the altar of society's hatred and intolerance.

We confess our society's indifference and un-love,

And our own complicity in allowing these tragedies to continue.

We ask that forgiveness and justice bear fruit in us.

We are sorry.

We honor them and send love to their spirits,

With prayers for their peace and well-being.

We set the intention to do better:

Provide safety and care,

Nourishment and acceptance,

To the most unique and vulnerable among us,

And to normalize their place in our communities,

**Cherishing the ways they teach us about goodness
and love.**

We ask for wisdom in going about creating a world

That is safe and welcoming for humans of all kinds,

Knowing that when the world is safe for trans people,

It is safer for all of Earth's children.

We ask that the minds and hearts of all people on Earth

**Will be open to practicing kindness, hospitality,
friendship, and love**

Toward those among us who bear the Divine image in
uncommon or surprising ways;

**And that our governments and systems will work for
their protection,**

Undoing patterns of oppression and violence,

Fostering liberation and joy for every human being.

May our transgender family be safe, healed, provisioned,
and happy,

Sharing in the abundance of Earth,

The blessings of nature, joy, community, and freedom,

And the blessing of home.

May it be so. Amen.

Afghan Family (Siblings of Plymouth), Ahmed Black (Nephew of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Wendy Carpenter (Friend of Jocelyn Coit-Durland), Diane Folkert (Mother and Mother-in-Law of Alex & Ara Lawrence), 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), William Chapman Nyaho, Denny Palmason (Brother of Jon Palmason), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Gevan Woodke (Friend of Karen Clark), Shaniece (Friend of Karen Clark)



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 Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

LLAMADO A LA OFERTA Y COMPARTIENDO LA PAZ

The generous life nurtures hope, cultivates, peace, and generates love in tangible ways. Let us bring our resources for our common life and for communal good as a reflection of our commitment to the way of Jesus.

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 Ms. Hayakawa-Fung

ORACIÓN DE DEDICACIÓN

Holy Love, may these gifts and offerings make a difference in this life of the community we love, serve, and reflect. May these gifts and offerings extend beyond the borders and boundaries of the stones that encase us to the world that needs us. May these gifts and offerings be a balm to a world in need of comfort and a fire to a world in need of refining. May it begin within us and flourish beyond us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

OFFERING MUSIC OFRECIENDO MUSICA

When God Speaks Haldor Lillenas
Revere Taylor, baritone

CONTEMPORARY VOICE VOZ CONTEMPORÁNEA

The Wise King, by Kahlil Gibran



*Kahlil Gibran
was a Lebanese-
American writer,
poet and visual
artist.*

Once there ruled in the distant city of Wirani a king who was both mighty and wise. And he was feared for his might and loved for his wisdom.

Now, in the heart of that city was a well, whose water was cool and crystalline, from which all the inhabitants drank, even the king and his courtiers; for there was no other well.

One night when all were asleep, a witch entered the city, and poured seven drops of strange liquid into the well, and said, "From this hour he who drinks this water shall become mad."

Next morning all the inhabitants, save the king and his lord chamberlain, drank from the well and became mad, even as the witch had foretold.

And during that day the people in the narrow streets and in the market places did naught but whisper to one another, "The king is mad. Our king and his lord chamberlain have lost their reason. Surely we cannot be ruled by a mad king. We must dethrone him."

That evening the king ordered a golden goblet to be filled from the well. And when it was brought to him he drank deeply, and gave it to his lord chamberlain to drink.

And there was great rejoicing in that distant city of Wirani, because its king and its lord chamberlain had regained their reason.

SCRIPTURE READING *LECTURA DE LAS ESCRITURAS* Luke 7:18b-23
(Dr. Wilda Gafney Translation) Read by Rev. Dr. Mark Smutny

Then John summoned two of his disciples and sent them to the Savior to ask, “Are you the one who is to come, or for another should we wait?” When they had come to Jesus, they said, “John the Baptizer has sent us to you to ask, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or for another should we wait?’” In that hour Jesus healed many women, children, and men of diseases, afflictions, and evil spirits and gave sight to many who were blind. Then Jesus responded, saying, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive sight, the lame walk, the those with diseased skin are made whole, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who is not scandalized by me.”

ANTHEM *EL HIMNO*
Down To The River To Pray. arr. Roger Emerson
Plymouth Choir; Eliza Woodyard, Choir Director

SERMON *SERMÓN* Dr. Smutny
(Service continues next page)

WE REMEMBER



For generations, the transgender population has suffered various forms of abuse (and even death) for challenging the views, notions, and stereotypes around “male” and “female” identity. Every year we set aside November 20 as a Transgender Day of Remembrance. This holiday is meant to honor, commemorate, and memorialize those who face discrimination and stigma (often on a daily basis) across the nation. This holiday is also meant to advocate for transgender people’s rights as well as focus on the persistent struggles they face in their everyday lives, and how others can share their love, support, and hope.

Join the cause of equality for our transgender siblings: visit TransEquality.org to get involved.

HYMN OF COMMITMENT *HIMNO DE COMPROMISO*

Great Is Your Faithfulness (#423) FAITHFULNESS



1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,



with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.



You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.
to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

Refrain



Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed your



hand has pro - vid - ed, Great is your faith - ful - ness, God, un - to me!

BENEDICTION *BENDICIÓN* Dr. Smutny

POSTLUDE *POSTLUDIO* *Shadows* Cyril Scott

Peter Nelson-King, pianist



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prepare for Advent Please join the work party at Plymouth 11 am-1 pm Tuesday, November 26, to decorate the church building in preparation for Advent (beginning Sunday, December 1). Questions? Contact June Hayakawa-Fung.

The Power of Me Seattle Trans and Nonbinary Choral Ensemble presents memorial concerts for Trans Day of Remembrance: 7:30 pm Wednesday, Nov 20 at University Congregational Church (4515 16th Ave NE Seattle). Tickets and info at StanceSeattle.org.

Plymouth Welcome Circle seeks help to find a 4 bedroom, 2 bath house within the Seattle city limits for the Afghan family we have been supporting. Landlord needs to accept a housing voucher (Section 8). Contact Janet Gwilym with leads: J.Gwilym@hotmail.com.

Festival of Hope — Alternative Holiday Fair Saturday Nov 23 10 am-4 pm and Sunday Nov 24 noon-3 pm at Keystone Church (5019 Keystone Pl N, Seattle). You are invited to a unique, not-for-profit holiday fair. Browse and shop knowing the money you spend supports hunger relief and self-help projects.

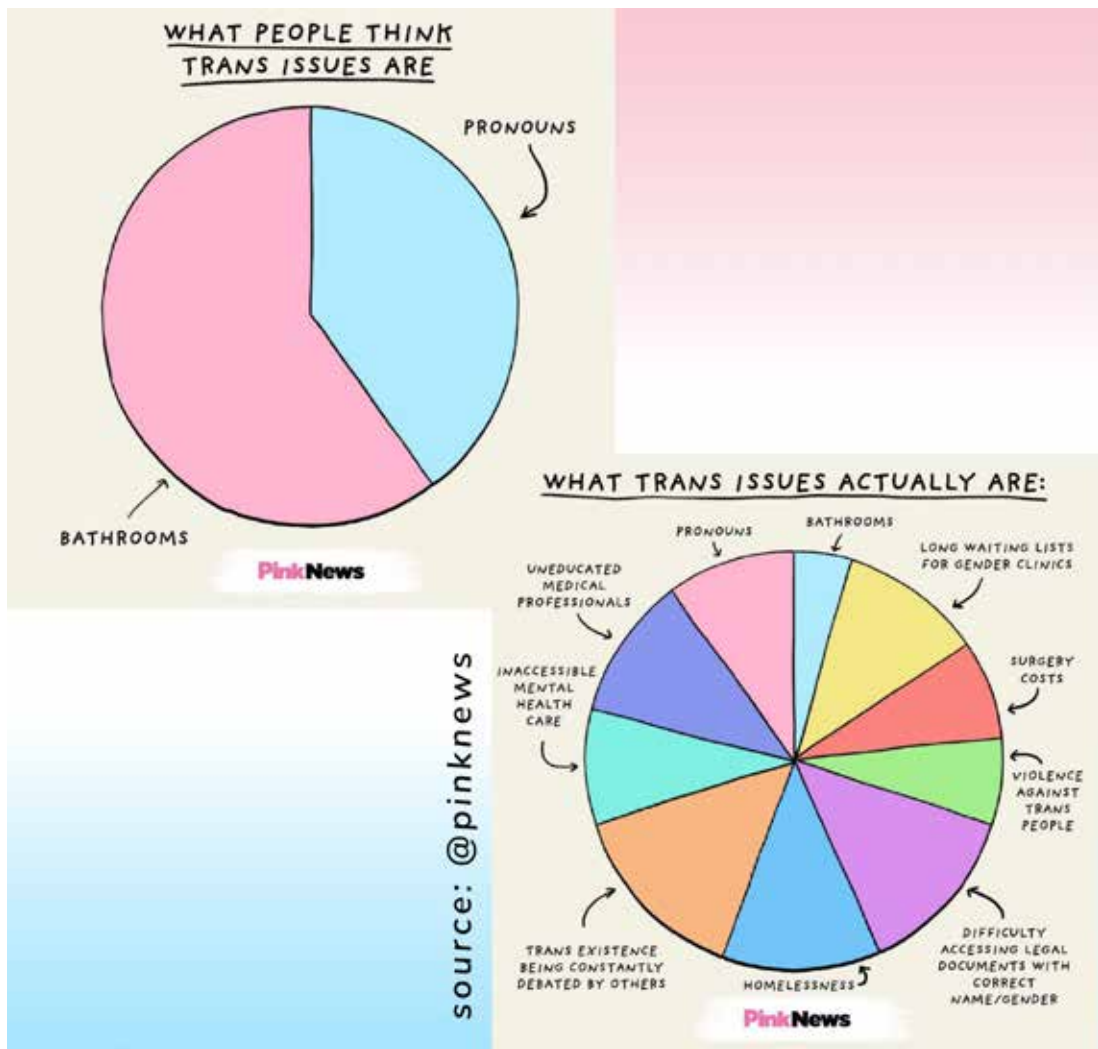
Join Puget Brass 7-9 pm Saturday, December 7, at Plymouth UCC for a program of brass and organ music supporting Plymouth Immigration Ministry. Free admission. Donations of cash, check, non-perishable food, and toiletries accepted. See PugetBrass.org/Events for more info.

Pathway to Freedom Film screening at Plymouth, 5-7 pm Sunday, December 8, followed by a panel discussion on justice activism. Pizza, salad and refreshments served. Donations accepted to help the mission of Families Shoulder to Shoulder. Kindly RSVP to ciara@familiesshouldertosoulder.org.

2025 Calendars Sought for Inmates The inmates at Monroe Correctional Facility appreciate current calendars. If you get free calendars in the mail you won't use, please drop them in the box at church on Sundays. Questions? Contact Christine Hanson: HansonChristineAnn@gmail.com.

Sound Medicine Meditation Tory Trujillo offers a monthly deep healing Sound Medicine Meditation after worship in Hildebrand Hall. Next session is scheduled for Sunday, November 24.

Born to be Wild Conference Men's Retreat at Pilgrim Firs January 31-February 2, 2025, led by Pastor Bill Comfort. All believers, seekers and doubters who identify as male are welcome. Registration is now open. Link to register and more info in news article 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.