

# **Sunday Services**

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**August 13, 2023 - Proper  
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## Announcements

***The Plymouth Herald*** is on hiatus. Weekly publication resumes August 30. Stay up to date at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org), and look for periodic email updates.

***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!

***Take Action*** The Afghan Adjustment Act would provide stability for our Afghan neighbors and expand safe pathways for those left behind where they remain in harm's way. Read more and find link to contact your representatives in the news article at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.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](mailto: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](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). The guide includes areas of responsibility and contact information.

***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](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

***Help Wanted*** If you can provide purchased, pre-packaged food and arrange it on a platter in the kitchen before worship for coffee hour following worship, please contact Toni Arthur ([TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)). Your help with this ministry of hospitality is greatly appreciated!

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

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## Prerecorded Welcome

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## Prelude

Heaven by Duke Ellington  
Joe Williams, piano

## Call to Worship

One: God has set this day before us,

**Many: A day set apart, a day of rest and praise.**

One: God has set our lives before us,

**Many: A span of years in which we love, and learn, and serve.**

One: God has set God's seal upon our hearts,

**Many: So that we might live fully in deep love.**

One: Let us worship God.

## Opening Hymn

Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho

## Welcome, Land and Labor Acknowledgment

Welcome guests and distribute guest info cards.

Invite people to coffee hour.

Labor and Land Acknowledgment:

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.

Tory Trujillo's Sound Medicine Meditation will be postponed from Sunday, August 20 to Sunday, September 24.

## Prayer of Confession

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4yzguQXil6E>

Can you add the captions?

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## **Assurance of Grace**

Hear this assurance: when you listen to the pain and experience of the oppressed without the need or desire to walk their experiences back-- as if it didn't happen, or undo their rage for your own sake, you have found yourself in the posture of repair and great compassion. Listen with the ears of God, and be at peace.

## **Sharing the Peace**

### **Prayers of the People & The Prayer of Jesus**

Prayers for Hawai'i

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 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.

## **Call to Offering**

Every good thing is a gift from God — the food we eat, the things we have, the time we spend, our whole lives. We give our lives back to God as a way of saying thank you — sharing money with those who are in need, giving food to those who are hungry, and spending our time to help others. With cheerful generosity and without hesitation, let us give to do our part in building the kingdom of God.

Remind those in person to put offering in basket on chancel table and those online to follow directions on screen.

## **Offering Music**

Navajo Vocab for Piano No. 9 by Connor Chee

Joe Williams, piano

## **Doxology**

## **Prayer of Dedication**

You are the source of every good and perfect gift, O God. Use these tithes and offerings for your glory. Let your church be a spring whose waters never fail; and let your people be repairers of the breach and restorers of streets to live in.

Amen

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## Contemporary Voice

Call a person from the congregation to read.

One year, at a school like many schools, there was a class of students who were so unruly that teachers found themselves burned out. As a result of their behavior, one teacher took early retirement and the next decided to get out of teaching altogether. This class became so infamous that even substitute teachers refused to teach them.

Out of options, the school district called a teacher who had previously applied for a position, but wasn't hired. The district requested that she would finish out the year teaching this class in return for the promise of a full-time position the next year. She eagerly accepted.

The principal of the school decided not to warn the teacher about the class, afraid that the new instructor, too, would be scared off by the students' reputation. Nearing the last day of school, the principal felt concerned and accountable when she hadn't heard any reports regarding the class in weeks. She decided to sit in on a class to see how things were going.

To her amazement, the students were well-behaved and enthusiastic!

At the end of class, the principal stayed behind to congratulate the educator on a job well done. She thanked the principal, giving the credit to the principal for giving her such an intelligent, well-behaved class. Confused, and a bit ashamed, the principal told the teacher that she really didn't deserve any thanks.

She laughed and told her, "I discovered your little secret on my first day here. I looked in the desk drawer and found the list of the students' IQ scores. I knew I had a challenging group of bright and rambunctious young people, so I would really have to work to make school interesting for them."

She opened the drawer and shared the list with the students' names and the numbers: 136, 145, 127, 128, and so on written next to the names.

The principal exclaimed, "Those aren't their IQ scores! Those are their locker numbers."

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## Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 17:1-7, 12-16, 24-27

1 Samuel 17:1-7, 12-16, 24-27

1 Now the Philistines gathered their encampments for war; they were gathered at Socoh, which is part of Judah and they encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. 2 And Saul and the Israelites were gathered and encamped in the valley of Elah and they organized ranks to engage the Philistines. 3 Now the Philistines were standing on this hill and the men of Israel were standing on this other hill with a valley between them. 4 And there went out from the camp of the Philistines a man apart [a champion], Goliath was his name, of Gath; his height was six cubits and a span [over nine feet tall]. 5 A helmet of bronze was on his head and he was clothed in scale armor; the weight of the bronze armor was five thousand shekels [or one hundred twenty-five pounds]. 6 And greaves of bronze were on his legs, and a javelin of bronze between his shoulders. 7 The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam and the iron tip of his spear weighed six hundred shekels [or fifteen pounds] and his shield-bearer went before him.

12 Now David was the son of this Ephrathite man of Bethlehem in Judah, and his name was Jesse, and he had eight sons. And the man was, by the days of Saul, old and going as mortals do. 13 Now the three eldest sons of Jesse set out and followed Saul to the battle; the names of his three sons who went to the battle were Eliab the firstborn, Abinadab his second, and the third, Shammah. 14 David was the youngest; the three eldest followed Saul. 15 David would come and go back from Saul to feed his father's sheep at Bethlehem. 16 And the Philistine came forward morning and evening and took his stand for forty days.

24 And all the men of Israel in seeing the man, fled from his presence and were very afraid. 25 The Israelites said, "Do you all see this man who is coming forward? He is coming forward to insult Israel. What will happen is, the man who smites him, the king will make rich—great riches!—and he will give him his daughter and make his family free in Israel." 26 David said to the men who were standing with him, "What shall be done for the man who smites this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the ranks of the living God?" 27 The people answered him according to those spoken words,

“Thus shall it be done for the man who smites him.”

## **Anthem**

Montagues & Capulets from Romeo & Juliet by Sergei Prokofiev  
Joe Williams, piano

## **Sermon**

What You See Is What You Get

## **Hymn of Commitment**

play the video of reflection

## **Charge and Benediction**

## **Postlude**

The People United Will Never Be Defeated! by Frederic Rzewski  
Joe Williams, piano

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