

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, January 21, 2024
Worship In the Sanctuary or Online

Second Sunday After Epiphany

Mark 2:13–28

Rev. Kevin Bechtold

11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge

12:30 pm Sound Medicine Meditation, Hildebrand Hall

IN CASE OF SNOW

If there is snow or snow forecasted for Sunday, we will decide by 6:30 am whether the church building will be open. We will leave an announcement on the church voice mail (206-622-4865) and on the homepage of the church website. Messages will also be sent out via social media.

Find links to video stream and worship bulletin and participate online at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

If you have personal concerns, you may contact a minister or member of the Pastoral Care Team by calling the pastoral care line, **206-639-7739**, checked daily.



1217 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested

JOIN THE FESTIVITIES



Celebrate Lunar New Year February 3.

Lunar New Year celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional lunar calendar. The first day of the festival begins on the first new moon of the lunar calendar, which varies year to year, depending on the cycles of the moon. This year, Lunar New Year lands on Saturday, February 10. Join Wing Luke Museum in the International District February 3 as we ring in the Year of the Dragon with a day full of festive art activities for the family, community booths, story time, and more! We will be joined by Mak Fai Kung Fu Dragon and Lion Dance Association for our special Lion Dance celebration beginning at 10 am. This event is free and open to the public! More details at WingLuke.org/LNY. 🌏

The Plymouth *Herald* is published every week. **Deadline is Monday, 10 am, for Wednesday publication.** Stay current with Plymouth happenings on our website. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram! [f](#) [t](#) [i](#)

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

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), Mykesha Davis (Daughter of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Mark & JT Edwards, Diane Folkert (Mother-in-law of Ara Lawrence), Sally Galliher (Cousin of Doug Stultz), Marni Good (Friend of Ricky Powell), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), El Harp (Friend of Bill & Marilyn Bumpas), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Janice Knight (Sister of Jerome Robinson), Joanna Lemly and Family (Sister of Hayden McManus), James McDowell (Cousin of Jerry Rice), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), Dr. Maxine Mimms, Ian Nelson (Son of Diane Nelson), Paula Orrego, Mary Margaret Pruitt, Jose Robles and Family, Kathy Rood, Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Jamie Shilling, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), Irene Wall (Friend of Ruth Williamson), Charon Washington (Sister of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon)

We grieve with Jerry Rice on the one-year anniversary of the passing of his father, Jerry E. Rice, Sr.

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PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

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SOUND MEDICINE MEDITATION



Join Tory at 12:30 pm January 21

Tory Trujillo offers a deeply healing Sound Medicine Meditation. A Sound Medicine Meditation is sometimes also referred to as a sound bath. Participants are welcomed to sit or lie down comfortably. Tory will center the group with breath work and embodiment practices, improvising instrument and vocal toning to relax, heal, and to help anchor and amplify each participant's intentions. Participants are encouraged to bring yoga mats, blankets, pillows and other items of comfort. Some yoga mats and blankets will be available to borrow. Be prepared to receive a profoundly transformational and healing experience. Sessions last between 60 and 75 minutes.

Next session is January 21, 12:30 pm in Hildebrand Hall. Suggested Donation \$20. 🌏

SHARE AND CARE

The former sign boards outside our building are now small pantries for the community, filled with food, hand warmers and other items. The pantries provide a display of compassion and solidarity with those experiencing homelessness or who are under-resourced. You are invited to support this ministry! Add bottled water, protein bars, or even notes that remind the reader that they are beloved. 🌏



A simple gesture can mean so much.

COME TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

Plan to attend Plymouth's 154th Annual Meeting Sunday, January 28, after worship in Hildebrand Hall. Light lunch provided. Your vote is needed to install new lay leadership and approve the 2024 budget for our church family. Celebrate 2023 and look ahead to 2024. This meeting will take place in person and live online (for link to join online via Zoom, email Rev. Kevin Bechtold, KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). Please join us for this important meeting and to gather with our beloved community. 🌏

CELEBRATE WITH US

On January 3, 2009, members and descendants of the Duwamish Tribe held a Grand Opening ceremony for the beautiful new Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center. For many years, our tribe had no central gathering place. We fought hard for the land that the Longhouse sits upon, an important location in close proximity to the Duwamish River and the largest archaeological dig of a Duwamish village site to date. To date, it is the only Longhouse in the city of Seattle.

We invite you to join us in celebration on Saturday, January 27 from 11 am to 2 pm at the Duwamish Longhouse & Cultural Center, 4705 W Marginal Way SW, Seattle, 98106. A traditional Native salmon lunch will be provided for all guests. Due to capacity constraints, there will only be about 100 seats provided on a first come basis: Link to RSVP in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. 🌏



GREETINGS, REAL RENTERS

As Chair of the Duwamish Tribe, the "People of the Inside," I am so happy to express my gratitude. Your contributions have been monumental in our ongoing pursuit of federal recognition. At the present time, with your help, the Tribe has been able to buy the properties north and south of our Duwamish Longhouse & Cultural Center. We are excited to launch new programs and for the much-needed storage space. The Tribe is creating and developing cultural classes teaching tribal members how to make traditional Native drums, paddles, artwork, flutes, and jewelry fabrication including bracelets and rings which will be sold in our gift shop. The building could be used for jam sessions for members and of course the public to learn of our culture and history. We are so happy to launch these projected programs in 2024.

Thank you to all the Real Renters who have been so kind to support the Duwamish Tribe. I consider you all part of our family. —Cecile Hansen Chair of the Duwamish Tribe 🌏



RECLAIMING CHRISTIANITY



On the third anniversary of the Jan. 6, 2021 insurrection event, when supporters of then-President Donald Trump broke into the U.S. Capitol, harming officers and challenging the nation’s peaceful transfer of power, churches and groups around the state of Massachusetts endured the cold to stand against Christian nationalism.

“Christian nationalists want their beliefs to be the official national religion that governs our laws, our education and our families,” said David Langston, deacon of First Congregational Church of Williamstown. “They would end the constitutional guarantee of freedom of religion, and as Christians and as citizens, we stand in opposition to forsaking both Christian teaching as well as the Constitution. We need to have a countermovement in the country. We want this to spread. We’d like every congregation in America to stand up and say, ‘Christian nationalism is not Christian.’”

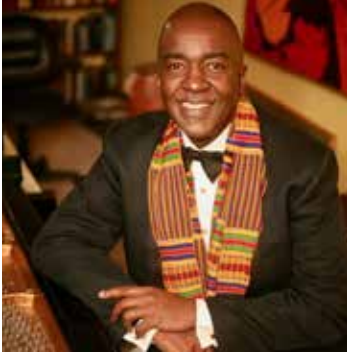
“We are clear that Jesus condemned the use of force and violence in his name — in the garden at his arrest, at the cross — and that he did not demand that people believe in him before he taught them, healed them and ate with them,” said the Rev. Marisa Brown Ludwig, pastor at First Congregational Church of Lee. “We are Christians that cannot accept the idea of Christianity being used to exclude or force one way of being American in our land. We know that our freedom to follow Christ is only possible when other people can follow their conscience in freedom, too. We stand today as Christians against Christian Nationalism.”

The responsibility to vocalize an alternative, inclusive view of Christianity, in relation to the state, is a pressing issue within the Christian church, standout organizers believe. “Reclaiming Christianity as a religion of love and equity, inclusiveness and justice, is the job of congregations like our own,” said Sherwood Guernsey, an activist at the Williamstown church.

Read more at UCC.org.

HEAR DR. WILLIAM CHAPMAN NYAHO FEBRUARY 11

On February 11 at noon, Plymouth Church invites internationally esteemed scholar and pianist Dr. William Chapman Nyaho to present a recital featuring piano works of the African diaspora. Suggested donation: \$20. Please join us for an afternoon of special music in the Sanctuary with this acclaimed artist.



Dr. William Chapman Nyaho

PUT FAITH IN ACTION

Faith Action Network’s Interfaith Advocacy Day, 9 am–3 pm February 8 in Olympia, brings the voices of compassion and justice to our elected leaders. Meeting with your legislators and their staff on this day is putting your faith into action.

Visit FanWa.org to register. Registration deadline is January 29. We are limited to 200 participants due to regulations at The United Churches of Olympia. We encourage you to sign up early so that we can guarantee you a spot. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, there is no cost to participate. You are welcome to donate anytime to keep our advocacy moving forward in 2024.

After you register, you will receive information via e-mail as February 8 approaches, with details on the agenda, workshop topics, and times of your legislative appointments. We’re excited to have you in the halls of power on this great day!



CONFERENCE MEN’S RETREAT



Men’s Retreat at Pilgrim Firs February 1-4

How do men (persons socialized/identifying as male) of varying generations view ‘manhood’? What are some of the things each generation can contribute to the whole of ‘mankind’? Can men of faith/spirituality make a unique contribution? Join us to share insights and discuss changing roles and experiences in a safe and welcoming environment.

Retreat leader Rev. Dan Stern will share recorded interviews with men of various generations to spark our conversations as we explore the theme “Evolving Masculinities: Inter-Generational Perspectives & Conversations.” We welcome ALL to join us and share your views, insights and experiences.

The retreat begins Friday evening, February 2, and runs through Sunday morning, February 4, with the optional one-day silent retreat beginning Thursday evening, February 1.

The committee explored adding a Zoom option for remote attendance but that’s not yet feasible. We understand the risk of illness is ever present. Please don’t attend if you are uncomfortable with the risk. Feel free to wear a mask to lessen your exposure. We hope for safe travels and look forward to a fun and meaningful retreat. Link to register in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Conference Men’s Retreat Planning Committee: *Charlie Torres, Don Jenkins, Hans Dankers, Jim Gaudino, Larry Kiriluk, Paul Withington and Rick Russell*

THE HUMAN FAMILY

“I’m for truth, no matter who tells it. I’m for justice, no matter who it is for or against. I’m a human being first and foremost, and as such I’m for whoever and whatever benefits humanity as a whole.” —Malcolm X

Enjoy a recital featuring cast members from X: The Life of Times of Malcolm X. Joshua Conyers’ (*Blue*) tender baritone will be joined by frequent Seattle Opera collaborators and chorus members sopranos Ibidunni Ojikutu (*A Thousand Splendid Suns, Porgy and Bess*), and Ellaina Lewis (*Blue, Porgy and Bess, From His Heart’s Deep Core*) for an evening of music from across the ages.



Joshua Conyers, Ellaina Lewis, Ibidunni Ojikutu

Upcoming Performances:

- Saturday, January 27, 2024 7:30 pm Opera Center (363 Mercer Street, Seattle)
General Public: \$39, Subscribers: \$34, or 1 Flex Pass Credit
- Thursday, February 29, 2024 7 pm Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute (104 17th Ave S, Seattle)

Read more and purchase tickets at SeattleOpera.org.

FORWARD TOGETHER!



Thanks to all who braved the frigid weather to join Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown for the 41st annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Rally and March January 15. After the rally at Garfield High School, where Dr. Brown spoke, hundreds of people walked down Madison Street to the Federal Building, singing “Forward together! Not one step back!”

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

President Obama declared January “Human Trafficking Awareness Month” to bring to light the issues and the victims of slavery. Organizations and governments around the world organize events and conferences to educate as many people as possible about slavery.



Human trafficking is slavery. The U.S. Department of State uses the terms slavery or “modern-day slavery” to encompass all forms of trafficking. It has taken on different forms from sex trafficking to labor trafficking. Slave “owners” now have the ability to use different means of technology to provide slaves to people and organizations and the number of people enslaved and profits earned by traffickers is constantly growing.

Both terms, slavery and human trafficking are defined to include the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, fraud, deception, the abuse of power or exploitation of vulnerability. It is important to remember

Fifty years ago, the abomination of slavery seemed like a thing of the past. But at this moment, men, women and children are being trafficked and exploited into forced labor all over the world.

that those enslaved cannot walk away from those that have imprisoned them. There are many reasons why victims cannot leave, including lacking access to their passports, mental trauma or being beaten badly enough that physically they cannot walk away.

There are many ways that individuals, organizations, and communities can get involved. One simple way is to reach out to your Congressperson to let them know this is an important issue they need to get involved. At this time, the US Federal law, The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA) has not been reauthorized by the Senate. Many states, including Virginia, do not have robust state laws that specifically get to the heart of the issue but focus on other ways such as racketeering to convict traffickers of their crimes. Visit PolarisProject.org for information on the laws by state. There are also many petitions that individuals can sign focused on legislation and other slavery advocacy issues through Change.org and others.

You can educate yourself, your employer, your friends about the issues and determine how you can be involved in eradicating slavery. As you learn about modern-day slavery and think you might have observed someone who is a victim of slavery, call the **National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline to report: 1-888-373-7888.**