

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, February 5, 2023

Worship In Person or Online

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Matthew 8:14-22

“On Following”

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

Join Director of Music and Arts Joe Williams and members from the worship team on Feb 5 immediately following the service in Hildebrand Hall. This will be an opportunity to express your artistic preferences for worship, sign up for vocal and instrumental ensembles and hear our plans for unifying choirs and presenting world class organ music. Light refreshments will be available.

ALL ABOARD!

Horizon House residents can ride the charter bus to Plymouth the first Sunday of every month.

The bus will pick you up at Horizon House and bring you to Plymouth in time for the 10:30 am service and return you to Horizon House afterward.

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

CALL TO CONSCIENCE



This February, Rainier Avenue Radio converts the Columbia City Theater (4916 Rainier Ave S, Seattle) into the Call to Conscience Black History Month Museum to celebrate the achievements and the achievers of the Pacific Northwest,

recognizing the Black excellence that shines in the region today. Museum runs Tuesdays through Sundays from 11 am-7 pm. Advance registration is encouraged. Tickets and info at CallToConscience.world. ✨

UNDO INSTITUTIONAL RACISM

The training is based on the premise that racism has been systematically erected and that it can be “undone” if people understand where it comes from, how it functions and why it is perpetuated. Cost is \$350 per person.

Next workshop will be held **February 16-18**. Find full schedule and link to register at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org or PinwSeattle.org. ✨



1217 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Emily Blaine-Davis, Sue Ellen Daniel (Friend of Barb Laski), John Daniels, Lauren Davis, Mark and JT Edwards, Susan Emerson (Mother of Kate Forrester), Diane Folkert & Family (Mother-in-law of Ara Lawrence), Megan French(niece of Sue Jones) & David Dixon & Family, Michelle J. Bennett, Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), Mamadou Diakhate (Friend of Floyd Gossett), Montecino Family, Jose Robles and Family, Doug Ryan (Brother of Mary Ryan), Abby Scott (Friend of Anne Mohundro), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon)

***bold=newly added.** Names will remain on list for six*

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](https://facebook.com/PlymouthChurchSeattle) [t](https://twitter.com/PlymouthChurchSeattle) [i](https://instagram.com/PlymouthChurchSeattle)



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PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

February 1, 2023

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES



Together we are creating the Beloved Community.

that Robert Turner faithfully and lovingly compiled for us all, so please be sure to take a look at it soon. In addition to the incredible feat of pulling together the Annual Report, many, many others pitched in to make the Annual Meeting happen and really, to make Plymouth continue to happen through this 153rd year of our existence. I believe we are blessed to have Clergy and Staff who are willing and able to do what it takes to keep us going week in and week out. I also believe we are fortunate to have so many who feel called to contribute through Council, Boards, Committees, Teams, and other Volunteer efforts. And, it's wonderful that we have so many who are bringing the gift of their presence and love for this community. I hope that most days, you feel nourished and held in return.

One of the ways Council made space for folks in our community to lift up what is on their minds and hearts last

“...It's wonderful that we have so many who are bringing the gift of their presence and love for this community. I hope that most days, you feel nourished and held in return.”

year was through monthly Council Drop-in opportunities. We are re-starting that practice this month and hope you will join us next Wednesday, February 8, at 7 pm. Please reach out to Diane Jacobsen for the link (DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

For those who were not able to attend the Annual Meeting, I would like to give you some information about the self-nomination process for the Developer Selection Committee (DSC). The link to the DSC Charter and the link to the

self-nomination survey tool may be found in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Here is a brief overview of important things to know:

- The deadline for self-nominations is **5 pm Sunday, February 12, 2023**.
- Please be sure to review the Charter before completing the self-nomination survey if you would like to apply to be part of the DSC.
- The DSC is a Council appointed committee, meaning that Council will identify and vote on the committee slate.
- A subset of Council, supported by Revs. Brown and Bechtold, will review the self-nominations and will propose a slate for Council to consider; the four Council members are myself, Vice Moderator, Matt Durland, Secretary, Ara Lawrence, and Member, Dr. Tiffany Johnson.
- Council will vote on the slate at our February 22, 2023 Council meeting.
- The slate will be announced in the *Herald* and in worship shortly after the Council meeting.

I've heard from a few folks that there are issues with the Council email address so if it doesn't work for you (council@plymouthchurchseattle.org), please feel free to reach out to me (tracysimpson7@gmail.com) if you have questions or comments about the DSC or anything else you would like Council to know.

In closing, I am grateful that you all have entrusted me to be your Moderator for another year. Admittedly, at times being your Moderator definitely feels like a second full-time job. And, thankfully, most days being in this role is a gift, an opportunity to learn and grow alongside you all in the messy, beautiful ways that we humans show up when we are co-creating an inclusive, nourishing, spirit-filled corner of the beloved community.

Peace and love as we head into our 154th year together

—*Tracy Simpson, Plymouth Moderator* ✨

CONNECT WITH COUNCIL

Members of the Plymouth community are invited to meet with Council members online via Zoom 7-8 pm the second Wednesday of each month. Next opportunity is **7 pm February 8**. Email Diane Jacobsen, (DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org), by **5 pm** the day of the meeting for the Zoom link. ✨



The Publication of Plymouth Church Seattle
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CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY



Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. The story of Black History Month goes back to 1915, when the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by Black Americans was formed, and in 1926 sponsored a national Negro History week, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. By the late 1960s, largely due to the Civil Rights Movement and a growing awareness of Black identity, “Negro History Week” had evolved into Black History Month on many college campuses.

President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.”

This year’s Black History Month theme is “*Black Resistance*,” exploring how African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms and police killings, since the nation’s earliest days. Read more at BlackHistoryMonth.gov.

This Week in Black History

February 1

- Black college students staged a sit-in at a segregated lunch counter in Greensboro, NC, 1960.
- Langston Hughes, poet and author, born 1902-1967

February 3

- Geraldine McCullough wins Widener Gold Medal for Sculpture, 1965
- 15th Amendment (Black suffrage) passed 1870

February 4

- 24th Amendment abolished Poll tax, 1864

February 6

- First organized emigration of U.S. Blacks back to Africa, from New York to Sierra Leone, 1820
- Peabody Fund established to promote Black education in South, 1867

February 7

- President Truman appointed Irwin C. Mollison judge of the US Customs Court, 1945
- Eubie Blake, famed pianist, born in Baltimore 1883-1983
- Freedman’s Aid Society founded to promote education among African Americans. ✨

FINDING MEANING AND HOPE AND DYING WELL

This workshop is appropriate for anyone contemplating their mortality and curious about what a good death means. Explore these concepts in a community setting led by Rev. Lorraine Leist, a palliative care chaplain in Seattle. At Plymouth and online Saturday, February 4. Link to register at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

These workshops are focused on different aspects of the dying process. First, a three-hour retreat-style workshop, **9 am-12 pm**, called *Moments of Peace: Finding Meaning and Hope Toward the End of Life*, will focus on the spiritual journey and the limitations to completion of life’s tasks near the end of life. Second, in a 90-minute forum-style workshop, **1 pm-2:30 pm**, called *Dying Well: An Open Conversation About a Good Death* will explore what a good death means.

You are encouraged to come engage in a meaningful time with others, journeying through the spiritual and emotional dimensions of completing life. Questions? Contact June Hayakawa-Fung, JHayakawaFung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. ✨

ADVOCATE FOR JUSTICE



Register now at FanWa.org.

Interfaith Advocacy Day in Olympia, 9 am-3 pm Thursday, February 9, brings voices of compassion and justice to elected leaders. Visit FanWa.org to register.

We will gather at The United Churches of Olympia (110 11th Ave SE Olympia, WA 98501) in the morning and meet with legislators in the afternoon.

Lunch will be provided. We will provide updates about online participation and registration for online activities as more is known. Please join us to raise voices of faith and conscience in our State Capitol! —*Faith Action Network* ✨

TREATS AND HELP NEEDED

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. Your help with this ministry of hospitality is appreciated! ✨



A simple way to show you care.



In person or online Saturday, Feb. 4.

WELCOME REVEREND ROBERT WRIGHT LEE, IV

Next Sunday, February 12, we welcome The Reverend Robert Wright Lee, IV to preach at Plymouth. Rob is an author, activist, public theologian, and preacher. His work has been covered by *MTV*, *the View*, *The New Yorker*, *CNN*, *the New York Times*, *NPR*, and countless others. Rob is often found just telling stories with friends in his hometown of Statesville, North Carolina. He is a graduate of Duke University Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina.

Rob believes preaching and writing are his native languages and expressions of the abundance of God. He has written extensively for both secular and religious news outlets.

Rob is a collateral descendant of Confederate General Robert E. Lee and has been engaged as an activist in the field of racial reconciliation. Rob still lives in his hometown with his wife Stephanie, his poodle Frank and goldendoodle Maggie. His life has been forever enriched by his two adopted daughters, Athena and Phoenix.

Please join us in person or online next Sunday, 10:30 am February 12, to welcome Rev. Wright Lee and hear his message. ✨

BE THE 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. Here are some available volunteer opportunities. Contact Toni Arthur, TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, to get started:

- Participating in money counting after worship
- Preparing communion (first Sundays)
- Becoming a greeter on Sundays and special events
- Answering phones 2 days a week from 10 am-2 pm
- Cleaning/decluttering (short-term commitment)
- Food preparation and service on needed occasions
- Join the Companion Ministry

This is a partial list. If you have a talent you would like to share, please contact Toni and discuss how best to contribute your gift to our community. We are grateful for all you bring to the life and ministries of Plymouth UCC. ✨



Rev. Robert Wright Lee preaches Feb. 12

HEAR OUR CRY

The United Church of Christ joins all whose anger, grief, and horror have been triggered by the recent beating by Memphis police officers that resulted in the tragic death of Tyre Nichols.

We extend to his mother, to whom he cried out repeatedly during the sustained beating he endured at the hands of five Memphis police officers, and to his family and loved ones our sympathy, our prayers, and our promise to continue the work of calling for an end to this kind of police brutality. Violence like this is criminal and demands response. Protests, demonstrations of public outrage and calls for accountability should ensure that those responsible for this tragedy are brought to justice; and also to reduce the chances of it happening yet again.

People of faith must lift their voices in anger, in outrage, and in grief over this tragic killing. Our lament will continue until every mother’s child knows they can walk the streets without worrying that those mandated with protecting us are the danger we fear or face.

In memory of Tyre Nichols, and in solidarity with his mother, his family, his loved ones, and with the collective voice of all who feel this deep pain we offer our own lament:

God whose image every child bears, hear us as we cry out in grief over the tragic loss of our brother Tyre.

God whose vision for the world is Shalom, hear us as we cry out for an end to brutality and violence at the hands of peace officers.

God whose hope is that all will be treated with respect, hear us as we express our outrage at another black body mauled and left without breath by those wearing a badge.

God whose justice we long for, hear us as we grieve another tragic and untimely death from those who lord their power over others.

God whose love conquers all, hear our cry now for love to heal a grieving mother as she buries her son and who had to suffer the indignity of visiting his broken body in the hospital.

Hear our cry.

Receive our lament.

Transform our anger into action, our fear into hope, our brokenness into healing.

This is our prayer.

Amen.

The Elected Officers of the United Church of Christ ✨



Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown at Plymouth’s Candlelight Vigil January 28