

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, February 12, 2023

Worship In Person or Online

Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Acts 16:16–24

“The Costly Nature of Enslavement”

Rev. Robert Wright Lee IV

11:45 am Reception for Rev. Wright Lee

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.

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:

TAArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Your help with this ministry of hospitality is appreciated!






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), **Concetta Lewis (Sister of Jo-Ann Guthrie)**, 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 weeks unless requested.

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!   



PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

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WELCOME REVEREND ROBERT WRIGHT LEE, IV



Rev. Robert Wright Lee preaches Feb. 12

This 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 this Sunday, 10:30 am February 12, to welcome Rev. Wright Lee and hear his message. ✨

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. Featuring installations by organizations like the Black Heritage Society of Washington, Tacoma's Buffalo Soldier Museum and BlackPast.org. Museum runs Tuesdays through Sundays from 11 am-7 pm. Advance registration is encouraged. Tickets and info at CallToConscience.world. ✨

DIVE DEEP INTO BLACK HISTORY

February is a busy month for Plymouth as we gather to commemorate Black history in America. Our faith tradition is founded on memory and ceremony. We are called to remember so as not to forget to call upon the power of God to bring justice and love to our world as others before us have done.

And on the night of February 28, when the gatherings are over, what will turn these memories and ceremonies into a personal commitment to equity in America? Stealing time away to be alone with a book. And possibly a pen. Personal study and reflection seems to be a habit for many who are emboldened to engage with their community towards new visions.

Because of Plymouth's long-standing commitment to racial justice, you will find in the Plymouth Church Library a broad, comprehensive collection of books not only on the history of Blacks in America and what it was, but where it can lead us.

If you can't wait to dive in, stop by the Plymouth Church Library Table on most Sundays. Register as a library user if you haven't already and begin borrowing. Also go online to access the entire card catalog and request that a book be put on hold for you to pick-up or have mailed (*see instructions below*). The Library space itself may be closed and presently without a librarian but we are very much still in business!

Also, Sunday's guest preacher Rev. Robert Wright Lee IV's book, *A Sin by any Other Name: Reckoning with Racism and the Heritage of the South*, is available for check-out.

—The Plymouth Church Library Committee ✨

CHECK IT OUT ONLINE

The name of your Library has changed from “Vida B. Varey” to simply “Plymouth Church.” Access the online catalog by clicking “Library” under the “Learn” tab at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Click “Online Catalog” and instructions will pop up.

1. **Name of Library:** enter Plymouth Church
2. **Password:** leave blank (password NOT required)
3. **Click SIGN IN** ✨



Check out what's in the Library!

UCC RESPONDS TO EARTHQUAKE



Response teams are on the ground.

Thousands have been killed in Turkey and Syria by a massive earthquake that struck Monday morning before dawn on the border of the two countries. The magnitude 7.8 quake, centered in a heavily populated area of southeastern Turkey but felt as far away as Israel and Cyprus, collapsed buildings and buried scores of people in the rubble. This adds to the challenges of the war in this area for over a decade.

The UCC is issuing an appeal to assist those affected in the region. You can be certain that with your financial support the United Church of Christ will be there helping those in need. Find links to support this response at Support.UCC.org. You may also text [UCCDISASTER](https://Text.UCC.org) to 41444.

Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson shared this prayer:

“God of grace and mercy, there are many who are suffering loss today. Around the world and in our communities we are mourning. Today we come holding in our prayers our siblings in Turkey and Syria who are still searching and rescuing survivors and victims of this earthquake. Be present with these families and communities during this time of crisis and need. Be a source of strength and comfort through these days ahead. Help us to be present on behalf of those in need. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.” ✨

SPECIAL EVENTS AT GENERAL SYNOD

Two leading voices addressing racial justice in the U.S. will be special guests of the United Church of Christ during this summer’s General Synod, June 30–July 4 in Indianapolis.

Ibram X. Kendi, author of *How to Be an Antiracist* and *Stamped from the Beginning* will speak at Friday’s fundraising dinner supporting the UCC’s Join the Movement campaign.

Bryan Stevenson – attorney, activist and author of *Just Mercy* will deliver this year’s Valerie Russell Lecture. A third Justice and Local Church Ministries special event will be a town hall gathering to bring together a panel of leading experts around reproductive justice.

Read more about special guests and events and find links to register at UCC.org. Early registration is recommended. ✨



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE NOW!

The Multifaith Coalition for Restorative Justice is a grass roots group that through advocacy and education seeks to make our incarceration system more transformative and less punitive. This year we are focusing our attention on bills concerning these areas: De-criminalization of simple drug possession, restricting the use of solitary confinement, sentencing reform, and minimum wage for work done in prison.

To Join Us on Advocacy Day, February 15:

Find link to register in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

Once you sign up, you will receive a calendar of the legislator visits which includes the name of the legislator, the time of the visit, and the Zoom link.

Schedule for the Day:

9–9:45 am — Opening Plenary

Rabbi Jay Rosenbaum, Imam Jamal Rahman, Rep. Lauren Davis & Rep. David Hackney, Larry Jefferson Jr., Director, Washington State Office of Public Defenders

9:45–3:30 pm — Legislative Representatives Meetings

3:30 pm — Closing Plenary

Dr. Gilda Sheppard, Kimonti Carter, Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

For more information, email RabbiRosenbaum@h-nt.org. ✨



Join Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown February 15.

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. ✨



CONNECT WITH COUNCIL

Members of the Plymouth community are invited to meet with Council members to ask questions, make suggestions, and express their hopes for Plymouth. Council members are available online via Zoom **7–8 pm the second Wednesday of each month**. Email Diane Jacobsen by 5 pm the day of the meeting for the Zoom link. ✨

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE

The Developer Selection Committee will take Plymouth Church’s redevelopment project through the next phase. In forming the DSC, your Congregational Council seeks to gather a spirit-led group of Plymouth congregants who will be Christ’s hands, feet, eyes, mind, and heart as they carry out the work of selecting a development partner. If you feel called to join in this work, here are important points to consider:



Are you being called to serve?

- The deadline for self-nominations is 5 pm Sunday, February 12, 2023. Access the form at: <https://bit.ly/DeveloperSelectionCommitteeSurvey>.
- Be sure to review the Charter before completing the survey: <https://bit.ly/DSCCharterPDF>.
- 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 after the Council meeting. —Tracy Simpson, Moderator ✨

BE THE CHURCH

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 ✨

HONORING BLACK RESISTANCE

When Carter G. Woodson established Negro History week in 1926, he realized the importance of providing a theme to focus the attention of the public. The intention has never been to dictate or limit the exploration of the Black experience, but to bring to the public’s attention important developments that merit emphasis.



This year’s theme is “Black Resistance.” African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression, in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms, and police killings since their arrival upon these shores. These efforts have been to advocate for a dignified self-determined life in a just democratic society in the United States and beyond.

Black people have had to consistently push the United States to live up to its ideals of freedom, liberty, and justice for all. Black people have sought ways to nurture and protect Black lives, and for autonomy of their physical and intellectual bodies through armed resistance, voluntary emigration, nonviolence, education, literature, sports, media, and legislation/politics. Black led institutions and affiliations have lobbied, litigated, legislated, protested, and achieved success. Read more at Asalh.org.

This Week in Black History

February 9

- Paul Laurence Dunbar, first poet to use Black dialect in his verse, died (1872–1906)
- Leroy “Satchel” Paige elected to Baseball Hall of Fame, 1971

February 10

- Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded, 1957
- Andrew Brimmer becomes the first Black person to serve on the Federal Reserve Board, 1966
- Leontyne Price, world renowned soprano, born 1927

February 11

- Nelson Mandela, leader of movement for democracy in South Africa, released from prison after 27 years, 1990
- Clifford Alexander, Jr. first Black US Secretary of State, confirmed 1977

February 12

- Lincoln’s birthday
- NAACP founded after riot in Springfield, IL, 1909

February 13

- First Black pro Basketball team, “The Renaissance,” organized 1923 ✨