

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, May 4, 2025

Worship in the Sanctuary or Online

Third Sunday of Easter

Sacrament of Communion

Acts 8:1–12 (or Judith 9:1–14); Psalm 74:1–12;

Ephesians 6:10–18; Luke 12:49–53

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

9 am Choir Rehearsal, Hildebrand Hall

11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge

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.

Members and Visitors in the church building can access Plymouth Guest wi-fi network using password: peaceonearth.

The Plymouth *Herald* is published every week. Deadline is **Monday, 10 am**, for Wednesday publication.

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 UCC.



PO Box 21368
Seattle, Washington 98111

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

All who live in fear of expedited removal, detention, or deportation., Ahmed Black (Nephew of Michael & Elizabeth Gordon), Wendy Carpenter (Friend of Jocelyn Coit-Durland), Lin Davis (Wife of Mo Longworth), JT Edwards, Diane Folkert (Mother and Mother-in-Law of Alex & Ara Lawrence), Louis Ford (Friend of Karen Clark), Eleanor Fordyce, Elvis Gordon (Brother of Michael and Elizabeth Gordon), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Robert Malae, Julie (Friend of Karen Clark), William Chapman Nyaho, Richard Paul (Dad of Beth Paul-Russell), Colleen Rood (Aunt of Kathy Rood), Dale and Jinny Sewell, Shaniece (Friend of Karen Clark), Raymond & Ann Stanhope (Parents of Elizabeth & Michael Gordon), Patricia Valentine, Gevan Woodke (Friend of Karen Clark)

A memorial service for Judy Raymer is scheduled for Saturday, July 26.

bold=newly added. Names will remain on list for 6 weeks unless requested.



EMBRACE JOY



Register now for Women's Retreat Nov. 7-9

The Pacific Northwest & Central Pacific Conferences of the United Church of Christ join together every three years to offer a spiritual and motivational women's retreat. The retreat theme for 2025 is "Embrace Joy" and registration is now open. Plan now, mark your calendars, and get set to join us November 7-9 for a fantastic event at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, WA.

This open and affirming gathering warmly welcomes all who identify as women. Our aim is to create a supportive and empowering environment where everyone feels valued and included. The planning committee is excited to have Rev. Andrea Rose Cano joining us as the keynote speaker and Rev. Danáe Ashley joining us as our worship leader. We have fabulous workshops lined up to help you embrace joy through movement, music, creativity, nature, and more. Come and take time just for yourself. Breathe deeply, relax fully, and explore, enrich, and rekindle your spirit. This is a retreat created for YOU.

Learn more and register now at NRWR.org.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

United Church of Christ General Minister and President Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson welcomes all in the wider church to participate in an interactive season of prayer. The People's Prayers for Peace Initiative is an open invitation to read — and write — prayers, which are posted daily at UCC.org.

"Today is always a good day to pray," Thompson noted. "We ask for prayers. We support each other in prayer. The time to pray is today. There is no end to our prayer together."

Share prayers at UCC.org/Peoples-Prayers-For-Peace.



Share your prayers for peace.

PROMISE AND PROPHECY

The Esoterics will celebrate spring at Plymouth 8 pm Saturday, May 17, with the choral music of New York composer Martha Sullivan. This fully a cappella repertoire presents a collection of compositions featuring adventure, magic, mischief, romance, hope, anguish, joy, loss, longing — and of course, *dragons*.

The centerpiece of the program will feature *Epithalamion*, Martha's setting of verse from Edmund Spenser's *Wedding Ode*: 24 stanzas to depict each hour of their wedding day in honor of his bride, Elizabeth. Sullivan sets five of these stanzas that focus on the delights and distractions of the wedding night.

Following this are settings from Emily Dickinson and Shakespeare — each depicting moods and metaphors on themes of love, lament and longing. Then comes *Madrigals of Nostradamus* — four French quatrains by the celebrated soothsayer. This cycle will be followed by Martha's setting of *The new Colossus* by Emma Lazarus.

To finish the program, The Esoterics will premiere Sullivan's six-movement cycle entitled *Certain Dragons*. In these six songs, we will celebrate the legendary creatures and their extraordinary nature: volatile, violent and virtuous; fiery, fearless and fierce.

Please join us for this celebration of lavish literature and sumptuous song! More info and tickets at TheEsoterics.org.

HELP WITH HEALING

Plymouth Healing Communities welcomes your donations of new and gently-used household items for new residents moving in to their new apartments. Drop off at Plymouth on Sundays through May 22 in the PHC donation bin in the Lounge. Reach out to PHC Program Manager Dakota Nixon (dnixon@plyhc.org; 206-707-2801) for different drop-off times, or questions. Thank you for helping make a home for our residents.



8 pm Saturday, May 17, at Plymouth



Bring new or gently used items on Sundays.

UCC EARTH SUMMIT REPORT



Read more and view a recording at [UCC.org](https://ucc.org).

The United Church of Christ’s third annual Earth Summit was held via Zoom on Saturday, April 26, and attended by people around the country. The event was kicked off by UCC General Minister and President, the Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, who quoted Jeremiah 29:11 “Where God says, for surely I know the plans I have for you, plans for your welfare, and not for harm to give you a future with hope.” Thompson said she sees a future with hope. “There is shared commitment to helping our communities and our neighbors, including those affected by extreme weather and by pollution, which is especially harmful to children and elderly populations.” Keynote speaker, climate scientist and author Katharine Hayhoe, posed a question: “Isn’t every day Earth Day? Don’t we live on this earth every day? Don’t we depend on the air and the water and the resources that this earth provides to us every single day?” Hayhoe broke this down even further, and crystallized the fact that the planet will be orbiting the sun long after we are gone. “This is quite literally about saving us,” she offered. She encouraged all listening to act, and to hold politicians accountable. Hayhoe concluded, “We have been given a spirit of power to act, of love and of care for others...so if this is what we have, what are we waiting for?”

Read more and view a recording of the summit at [UCC.org](https://ucc.org).

BEYOND THE BRIDGE: A SOLUTION TO HOMELESSNESS

Downtown Emergency Service Center is thrilled to support the upcoming free film screening of “*Beyond the Bridge: A Solution to Homelessness*,” and we invite you to this special event 5:30 pm Tuesday, May 13 at Town Hall Seattle. (Get free tickets using link in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, or visit TownHallSeattle.org.)

Following the film we’ll be joined by local and statewide advocates and experts for a panel conversation and Q&A. Our goal is for this film to be a part of a community-wide conversation about homelessness. Invite others to this free screening, panel, and Q&A, so that we can all be a part of answering the question: *How can Seattle solve homelessness in a comprehensive way?* Come explore the possibilities May 13.



Film & discussion 5:30 pm Tues. May 13.

WE LIFT OUR HANDS UP TO YOU

We are so grateful and your support means so much to us. To you and everyone who has helped us along this journey, we consider you an important part of the Duwamish story of sw̓ələxʷ (*resilience*) to self determination and to bring honor to the legacy of Chief Sial and the city for which he was named. Tixixsubut̓ələp (*you all take care*).



Words of gratitude from Duwamish friends.

—Ken Workman, President; Kristina Pearson, Director; Cecile Hansen, Chair, Duwamish Longhouse & Cultural Center

YOU ARE NOT ALONE



May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a national observance started in 1949 to bring attention to the importance of mental wellbeing. Across the country, individuals and organizations step up to raise awareness and help address the challenges faced by people living with mental health conditions.

During National Mental Health Awareness Month, we recognize the bravery and resilience of the tens of millions of Americans living with mental health conditions, and we show our gratitude for the dedicated mental health professionals and devoted loved ones who stand by them every step of the way. Mental health care is health care

Mental Health Awareness Month is more than just an observance. It’s an opportunity to bring mental well-being into focus for yourself, your family and your friends. By raising your voice, prioritizing your self-care, celebrating mental well-being and making a safe space for others, you can positively impact your mental health and community.

The world is constantly changing — for better or for worse — and it can be overwhelming to deal with everything going on. While society is getting more comfortable discussing mental health, it can still be hard to know where to start when it comes to taking care of our own mental well-being.

The National Council on Mental Well-being created a free toolkit, *Mindful Moments Checklist*, to support your self-care journey. It offers easy ways to build healthy habits and create space for mindfulness each day. Visit TheNationalCouncil.org to access this and many more resources.

PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING

Throughout the month of June, gifts marked Pentecost Special Offering will be divided evenly between **Strengthen the Church** and **Plymouth Immigration Ministry**.

Strengthen the Church reflects the shared commitment of people to cooperatively build up the UCC. The Pacific Northwest Conference and the national setting equally share the gifts received. Funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. Your gifts help awaken new ideas and develop spiritual life in our youth.

Half of the special offering will help Plymouth Immigration Ministry in their vital efforts to seek a just world for all. We give thanks for your gifts.



STAND WITH TRANS SIBLINGS



Trans Lifeline is a trans-led organization that connects trans people to community support, and resources needed to survive and thrive. With the current presidential administration, much looms in the air regarding the rights, dignity, and well-being of trans people and our families.

As one of the largest trans-led direct service provider in North America, we remain steadfast in our politics of care. Learn more about Trans Lifeline and how you can get involved at TransLifeline.org. Together, we will continue to offer life-affirming care for trans and non-binary people.

BE THE CHURCH

Covenant giving includes your time and talents. Below are a few volunteer opportunities. We are thankful for all gifts you’d like to share. Contact Toni Arthur, TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, to get started:

- Help count the offering after worship
- Prepare communion (first Sundays)
- Become a greeter on Sundays and at special events
- Prepare and serve food on needed occasions
- Join the Companion Ministry



PLYMOUTH CELEBRATES AAPI HERITAGE MONTH

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have contributed significantly to many facets of American culture and society, including science and medicine, literature and art, sports and recreation, government and politics, and activism and law.

AAPI people have a long history in the United States, despite the stereotype that they are “perpetual foreigners,” the idea that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are inherently foreign, other and not truly American. According to the Bering Land Bridge Theory, Asians first migrated to what is now known as North America over 15,000 years ago through a land bridge between Asia and North America.

“AAPI Heritage Month celebrates the unique journey of all AAPI immigrants and citizens in the US and their unique life experiences, traditions and cultures.”

In the 16th century, Filipinos who were escaping forced labor and enslavement during the Spanish galleon trade immigrated to North America, eventually establishing a settlement in St. Malo, Louisiana in 1763. During the California Gold Rush of the 1850s, a wave of Asian immigrants came to the West Coast and provided labor for gold mines, factories and the transcontinental railroad.

Since their immigration to the United States, Asians have been met with xenophobia, racism, bias and violence. Chinese workers were abused, robbed and murdered in the 1850s. In 1854, the California Supreme Court ruled in *People v. Hall* that people of Asian descent could not testify against a white person in court. During World War II, from 1942–1945, people of Japanese descent were incarcerated in internment camps.

The civil rights movement assisted the liberalization of immigration laws. The 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act allowed for the large numbers of Asians and Pacific Islanders to come to the United States with their families. Today, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are the fastest growing racial group in the United States.

AAPI Heritage Month celebrates the unique journey of all AAPI immigrants and citizens in the US and their unique life experiences, traditions and cultures.

Learn more at AsianPacificHeritage.gov.

