

SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am Sunday, October 29, 2023
Worship In the Sanctuary or Online

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 1:1–5, 11–18, 29–31
“The Cult of Personality”
Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

9 am Plymouth Singers Rehearsal, Hildebrand Hall

11:30 am Coffee Hour, Lounge/Patio

The Plymouth Library is open before and after worship on Sundays.

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.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS!

Plymouth UCC and the wider church humbly thank all who contributed to the World Communion Special Offering Sunday, October 1. Thanks to you, \$1,900 will be evenly divided between Plymouth UCC Welcome Circle's ongoing efforts in settling the Afghan family and UCC's Neighbors in Need.



1217 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Afghan Family (Supported by Plymouth), Michelle J. Bennett (Sister of Dawn Bennett), Walter Bethel (Friend of Karen Clark), Marilyn Bumpas, 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), Marni Good (Friend of Ricky Powell), Floyd Gossett, Carrie Gossett (Mother of Floyd Gossett), Lucian Guthrie, Allie James (Friend of Dawn Bennett), Shirley K. Shelley (Aunt of Ricky Powell), The Keith Family (Friends of Mari Mitchell and Alex), Beta Utu Malae (Sister of Robert Malae), Barbara Miller (Friend of Barb Laski), **Dr. Maxine Mimms**, Paula Orrego, Jim Oswald (Friend of Bing Tso), Anna Partch (Friend of Sari Breznau), Jose Robles and Family, Rachel Sebastian (Friend of Jeanette Hagen), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Charon Washington (Sister of Michael Gordon), Pluma Wright (Friend of Glenda Carper), Judy Young (Friend of Glenda Carper)

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

PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

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LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING



Ibidunni Ojikutu

Plan to remain after worship Sunday, October 29, for a special recital with Ibidunni Ojikutu and Dr. Nnenna Ogwo at 12:30 pm (suggested donation \$20). Program features songs from Florence Price, Hale Smith, Margaret Bonds, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Robert L. Morris and African American spirituals.

Ibidunni Ojikutu began her tenure as Plymouth's Artist-in-Residence on October 8. Looking forward to her time with us, she says, "I'm beyond excited to contribute to the magic that Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown has created in this beautiful congregation. Plymouth is a welcoming, open, loving yet accountable space. I'm really fortunate to have found another church home that allows me artistic freedom and whose focus is on kindness and service. I look forward to seeing how I grow as an artist and a person."

Read more at IbidunniOjikutu.com.

Dr. Nnenna Ogwo is a pianist, composer, educator and arts innovator of Caribbean and African descent. As a concert pianist, she has performed in Europe, the Middle East, South America, the Caribbean, and the United States, equally at ease performing on grand stages as well as more intimate settings and is known for an engaging warmth that makes diverse audiences feel at home. This is an essential aspect of her mission to expand and diversify classical music audiences.

Read more at Nnenna.net.

Spread the word — invite friends and family for an afternoon of inspiring music in our Sanctuary. 🌍



Dr. Nnenna Ogwo

JESUS' HANDS, FEET, AND VOTES IN OUR COMMUNITY

Announcing Council's Hands-On Social Action Survey! People in covenant with Plymouth have a long history of impactful, hands-on engagement in social justice work in our community and beyond. We have shown up time and time again serving as Jesus's hands and feet, whether as members of the Holy Rollers painting team of old or as someone who connected regularly with unhoused women at Mary's Place. While many of us are still actively engaged in such holy work through Plymouth boards, committees, and other venues, our hands-on social action efforts are not nearly as robust post(ish)-COVID as they once were.

With an eye towards re-energizing Plymouth's hands-on work in the community, your church council has created a survey to gauge interest in various social action efforts, willingness to share what you know about those efforts, and additional ideas you all might have. There will be paper copies of the survey available before and after worship this Sunday, October 29 or you can fill it out online at <https://bit.ly/2023councilsurvey>. Please note that the survey is not anonymous — our plan is to be something like matchmakers and identify who all is interested in learning about and perhaps working on the various options as well as who has knowledge and experience to lend.

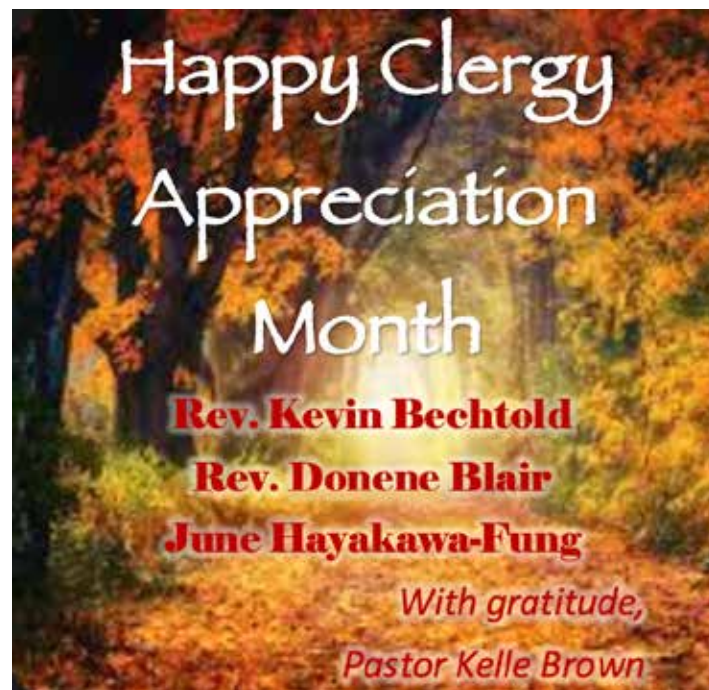
We would appreciate you completing the survey by Thursday November 9.

In addition, if you are a resident of Seattle and 15 years or older, you are eligible to vote on Seattle's People's Budget and choose projects to receive funding. Read more about The People's Vote on page 2.

In peace and gratitude, *Tracy Simpson, Plymouth Moderator* 🌍



Art by Tracy Simpson



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](#)

VOTE FOR PEOPLE'S BUDGET



Voting closes on November 12, 2023. Link to ballot in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Proposals on the ballot have been developed from ideas submitted by the community across five focus areas:

- **Housing & Physical Spaces:** Housing diversity and the need for more Black-led residential commercial spaces.
- **Youth & Children:** Childcare and out-of-school time supports, particularly for kids facing violence and trauma.
- **Crises & Wellness:** There's strong support for alternatives to the currently harmful 911 and crisis response system..
- **Economic Development:** The urgent need for economic relief to address COVID-19, recession and racism.
- **Mental Health:** New culturally responsive and caring mental health network with care by appropriate healers. 🌍

WAITING & WATCHING

This year we will once again create our own Advent Devotional, with the help of Plymouth friends and friends throughout the Pacific Northwest Conference. Our theme is "Waiting & Watching." We welcome all forms of expression, including but not limited to prose of less than 300 words, poetry, art, and photography. Feel like writing a song? We'd love to include it!

We prompt you to consider: What are you waiting for in your life? For what are you looking? What does a season of "waiting and watching" mean to you? Submissions are due **Wednesday November 15**. Send to RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Please include your name and home church, although anonymous submissions are also welcome. 🌍

SHARE YOUR STUFF

Join our church-wide talent show! Shine your tap shoes, warm up your yodel, dust off your poetry! Come laugh and share and sing along. Enjoy lunch and a show Sunday, November 19 after worship. Please contact Sari to sign up your act, or just to let her know you will be in the audience so we can get a count for lunch: SariBreznau@gmail.com. 🌍

PLYMOUTH LIBRARY CITINGS

The blank page. The white screen. The empty canvas. For all you souls considering contributing to the 2023 Advent Devotional – and wouldn't be wonderful if we all did, even if we don't submit – this is what you will be staring at. Blankness, blinding whiteness, emptiness.

So where to find your muse? Consider a Bible concordance. This is a reference material which lists words in the Bible and each place that word appears. One such version available in the Plymouth Church Library is the *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*. The words chosen to meditate upon this year are "waiting" and "watching." Rev. Sheri Edwards Dalton got us off to a good start on Sunday, holding up the waiting and watching of Rizpah found in 2 Samuel 21:1–14. Hidden stories like this and not-often-quoted poetry can be difficult to find in the Bible but for the concordance. Not a slim volume, so come take a seat at Plymouth's Welcome Table and spend some time exploring. Free, online *Strong Concordance* is also available.

One more citing which is a favorite of mine once you have your quote and if it is in the Old Testament. Robert Alter's translation of the Hebrew Bible. You will also find it in the library. Also big, with three books and one of those 2 ½" thick, sitting down at the Welcome Table to browse is again a good idea. As one critic noted, sitting down with this translation is like having a biblical scholar at your elbow, chatingly explaining Hebrew words and clarifying confusing phrases. And I can't help but think that pulling your muse from the Hebrew Bible in this time of war isn't a bad idea. As Rev. Dalton showed us in 2 Samuel, we are not spared the horror of war but also shown the power of waiting and watching for God's light. —Melony Joyce 🌍

ELIMINATE MEDICAL DEBT NOW!

Over a hundred million Americans struggle with the weight of medical debt. Through your gifts, RIP Medical Debt purchases bundled medical debt for pennies on the dollar and then eliminates that debt. Each recipient will owe nothing on the debt and will face no tax penalty. For those touched by this movement to abolish medical debt, it will be a year of Jubilee!

Contribute to Plymouth's campaign, "Licks of Fire" by clicking the button on the homepage at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. **Deadline to donate is November 1!** 🌍



Plymouth Library is open every Sunday.



You can make this a year of jubilee!

HELP PROVIDE COMFORT

Bring items for comfort bags and help assemble them to be distributed to visitors in need. The Community and Care Board is asking for contributions of gloves, socks, tissues, hand sanitizer, and granola bars by November 12, 2023. After worship on November 12, we will gather in the Lounge to assemble the comfort bags. On October 29 and November 5, contributions can be left at the welcome desk before worship. Thank you! —Kathy Rood, Community and Care Board 🌍



Bring items and help make care bags.

ANTI-RACIST GIVING WORKSHOP



Social Justice Fund, the Coalition of Anti-Racist Whites (CARW), and Plymouth Church will lead a two-part workshop open to all, and designed specifically for folks who benefit from the history of white wealth accumulation. Through learning and discussion, you'll gain the tools to begin building your personal social justice giving plan.

- Part 1: 5:30–7:30 pm PST November 6
- Part 2: 5:30–7:30 pm PST November 13
- Location: Zoom (link will be shared with registered participants in advance of the event).

Register in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. 🌍

SIGN THE BOOK OF LIFE

Remember and honor friends and family who have passed by writing their names in the *Book of Life*. The book becomes part of worship on All Saints Sunday, November 5. Names of persons who have passed away in the last 12 months will be spoken in prayer during service that Sunday. Add names using the online form (link in news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) or sign the book in the Lounge. Please place an asterisk by names of those who have passed in the previous 12 months. Please send/sign names by Wednesday, November 1.

All are invited to bring pictures of loved ones who have passed to place on the chancel table on All Saint's Sunday. 🌍



For all the saints who from their labors rest...

DEAR SINGERS AND MUSICIANS...

It is with sadness that I share with you that Sari Breznau has tendered her resignation. I accepted her resignation, honoring her process of thoughtful discernment and care for the well-being of the community.

Though this is much to process, I am grateful for Sari's imagination and musical leadership over more than 10 years, as well as her ingenuity that saw us through the pandemic.

Sari's last day with choir will be November 12, and she will facilitate the Talent Show scheduled for November 19. In the coming days, we will schedule a meeting with singers and musicians to discuss vision for the music program and plans for going forward. There will also be a reception to honor Sari prior to her leaving.

Please feel free to reach out to Sari with your words of gratitude and thanksgiving. Let us vow to be in our own discernment as we continue forward together. —Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown 🌍

DISRUPTING THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE



Join online discussion October 29

Take part in a free online event to explore and discuss ways for communities to unite and truly break down oppressive systems that lead to youth incarceration.

Learn, connect, and join the movement for change 7–9 pm (PDT) Sunday, October 29, online. Find link to register for this free event in the news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. 🌍

2024 CALENDARS FOR INMATES

Each year we collect calendars for the coming new year to bring to the Monroe Correctional Complex. If you receive free calendars, please donate them. There is a collection box at church to drop off calendars on Sundays. If you live at Horizon House, please put them in Sue Jones' cubby in the mailroom (#1S). If you can't make it to church, we'll do our best to collect them. Call or email Christine Hanson (509–679–7430) to arrange pick up. This simple act brings great joy to our incarcerated friends! 🌍



A small gesture makes a big difference.