Welcome!
Plymouth Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ

“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.

Plymouth UCC Purpose
Growing people of faith who participate in God’s work in the world.

Plymouth UCC Vision
Plymouth Church UCC is a Christian Community open to the transforming Spirit of God.

Thank you for worshipping online with us today. Please like and send us a greeting on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The church office will be closed during concerns about the coronavirus.
The church building will be limited to use by Seattle Infant Development Center and essential activities until further notice.
Check PlymouthChurchSeattle.org for updates.

All pastoral care will be via telephone or other electronic means.
If you have personal concerns, you may contact a minister or member of the Pastoral Care Team via e-mails below, or call the pastoral voice mail (206.622.4865 *833), checked daily.

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Worship with Plymouth Church UCC begins with meditation. The quiet of this place is meant to encourage and deepen your own inner work. Thank you for entering this place, this hour, by honoring the spirit of worship.

Indicates you are invited to rise as you are able.

Prelude ............... Sheep May Safely Graze ............... J. S. Bach
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organist

Greeting .................. Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown
“All shall be well,
and all shall be well,
and all manner of thing
shall be well.” — Julian of Norwich

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 95) ............... Dr. Brown
One: O come, let us sing to our GOD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into God’s presence with thanksgiving, singing joyful songs of praise!

Many: Our God is great, Sovereign above all powers and principalities. The sea, the depths of the earth, the heights of the mountains, indeed all of creation were made by God and belong to God.

One: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the HOLY ONE, our Maker! Yes! God is our God, and we are God’s people: O that today we would listen for the Lord’s voice!

Many: Let us not harden our hearts, as they did in the wilderness, when our ancestors tested our Liberator, requiring proof of God’s faithfulness, even though they had witnessed miracles!

One: For forty years God contended with that generation and said, “They are a people whose hearts go astray, and they do not regard my ways.”

All: Today, Holy One, we have learned from their struggles. Today, we re-dedicate our hearts to you and strain our ears to hear your voice. Speak now, Still-Speaking God, for your people are listening!
Sing Praise to God

Lobe den Herren

(Hymnal # 22)

1 Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sustains all creation!
2 Praise God, our guardian, who lovingly offers comfort.
3 Sing praise to God, with sincere thanks for all your success.
4 Sing praise, my soul, the great name of your high God completing!

Sing praise, my soul, in profound and complete adoration! Glad-some rejoice—organ and sinful degradation. Have you observed, how we are courage and bless us. Only conceive, what godly notes sweetly blend—ing. God is your light! Soul, ever

trumpet and voice—joining God’s great congregation. Always preserved by God’s parental affection? Strength can achieve: strength that would touch and caress us. Keep this in sight: a men, a men never ending.
Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, hear the prayers of your thirsting people. For every time we have attributed your miracles in our lives to our own hands alone, forgive us, we pray.

For every time we promised to trust you but turned to our own way when your response did not come soon enough or in the way we expected, Grant us mercy, O God.

For the many opportunities to extend forgiveness that we have refused, show us what it means to love, again, dear Lord.

For each way we put our own understandings above your wisdom, for each time we resist your command to be reconciled with those who believe differently from us, direct us in the way of peace, we pray.

For our silent sins, our quiet acts of violence, and our indifference to the suffering round us, forgive us, Loving One, and quench our thirst with your grace; remake us into vessels of tenderness and compassion. For Christ’s sake we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Reconciliation

“All shall be well,
and all shall be well,
and all manner of thing
shall be well.”
—Julian of Norwich

Welcome

Sharing Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Anna Colwell, Steve Davis, Pam Dorrance, Ellie Edelweiss, Blake & Jo Ann English (Relatives of Lucian Guthrie), Don Gwilym, Jackie Fouts (Mother-in-law of Al Wallace), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Lucian Guthrie, the Guthrie Family, Michael Kaid, Libonati Family, Maclay Family, Sharon Masse (Wife of Gary Magnuson), Jo Mitchell, Georgia Nelson, Taylor Patt, Joshua and Ezra (family of Glenda Carper), Dick, Jean and Alex Paul (Parents and Nephew of Beth Paul Russell), Jim Perry, Jose Robles, Mary Ryan, Rod Shutt, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Jim Tsuchiya (Brother-in-law of Bill Castello), Evelyn Wong

A variety of faithful addresses for God (Creator, Mother, Holy One, Father) are welcome at Plymouth UCC, including in the Lord’s Prayer.

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Parent, who is among us, blessed be your Creation.
May your loving presence be a reality here on earth.
May we become more interested in building your kin-dom here and now than in waiting for it to come down from above.
Let us share our bread with those who hunger.
Let us learn to forgive as well as to receive forgiveness.
Help us through the time of temptation, delivering us from all evil.
For ours are the eternal blessings that you pour upon the earth. Amen.

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INVITATION TO SHARE

Through Christ we are called to be sowers of God’s truth and reapers of God’s blessings. Therefore, let us joyfully share a portion of what we have received from God so those in need may rejoice with us. Please give through text, our website, or mail in your gifts as we continue to be the church.

Ways to Give You can contribute to the mission and ministries of Plymouth UCC anytime, anywhere! Go to PlymouthChurchSeattle.org and click on the “Give” box, or text to give: Simply text the amount you’d like to give (i.e. 10.00) to Plymouth UCC’s mobile giving number (206.208.1442), hit send. Questions? Contact Diane in the church office (206.622.4865).
Offering Music

The Lord is My Shepherd . . . . . . . . . . . . . . setting by Eric Helmuth
Jennylynn Vidas, Soloist

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Great Provider, bless these offerings and multiply them according to your will. May they restore hope and wholeness to those who benefit from them. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

Contemporary Voice . . . . . . Water . . . . . . . . . . . by Nikita Gill

When they ask you why you love the rain, the ocean, the river, tell them it is because unlike the people who should have loved you better, the water was never afraid to touch you; even when you were at your most damaged and broken.

Special Music . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Mona Terry, Harp

Nikita Gill is a poet who uses social media to engage her audience. She has been described as one of the most successful Instapoets, and ‘one of the most exciting young writers working today’
So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” They left the city and were on their way to him.
Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

SPECIAL MUSIC .................................. Mona Terry, Harp
MESSAGE ..................Sweet Relief........ Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

(Service continues next page)

LENTEN SPECIAL OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 22

Gifts to Sunday, March 22, 2020 Lenten Special Offering will be divided evenly between One Great Hour of Sharing and Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund.

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women’s empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

Retreats and summer camps are a vital part of Plymouth and the wider church. Your gifts to Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund enable members and friends in financial hardship take part in the numerous opportunities offered by and through Plymouth UCC!
**Hymn . . . . . . . Wade in the Water . . . . African-American Spiritual**

Wade in the water, (children,) Wade in the water, children, Wade in the water,

God’s going to trouble the water. O water.

1. See that host all dressed in white,
2. See that band all dressed in red,
3. Look over yonder, what do I see?
4. If you don’t believe I’ve been redeemed,
March is Women’s History Month so we are featuring music by women composers.

Cécile Chaminade (1857-1944) was a child prodigy born in Paris where she began music studies with her mother. She then studied piano, violin, and composition privately with teachers from the Paris Conservatory since her father was opposed to her receiving a musical education. She and her music were quite popular in the early years of the twentieth century. She toured in the United States and Europe, where she performed many of her character pieces for piano and her salon songs which make up the bulk of her output. Later in the twentieth century, her music fell out of favor as part of the general reaction against late-Romantic French music. Her most enduring work today is her Flute Concertino in D Major, Op. 107, composed in 1902. Her Cortège Nuptial was published in 1928 and is part of a collection of twelve pieces for organ or harmonium that she wrote for use in sacred settings.
Announcements

Daily Encouragement Click on the link on the Plymouth homepage, PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, where our clergy team will be sharing inspiration and encouragement as we engage our theme for Lent: The Gift of the Chrysalis. We are not alone, and this is one way to keep the bonds of fellowship strong. Journey with us as we discover together how to move toward resurrection.

Plymouth Healing Communities’ March 22 celebration of the opening of Eng House on Beacon Hill has been cancelled. PHC will watch for other opportunities to celebrate Eng House, including at PHC’s annual luncheon at Plymouth UCC on May 17.

Racists Anonymous Suspended Plymouth UCC’s experimental 12-step group for people who want to recover from internalized racial superiority has been suspended until Sunday morning worship resumes in the Sanctuary. Keep reading at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org for updates.

Call for Moral Revival Rally scheduled for Friday, March 20, is cancelled. Stay in touch at PoorPeoplesCampaign.org.

Undoing Racism Debrief Join the debrief and networking session scheduled for everyone who attended the Undoing Institutionalized Racism (UIR) Workshop, 6 to 8 pm Monday, April 6, at Plymouth UCC (check PlymouthChurchSeattle.org frequently for possible date change). Free parking in the Plymouth garage after 5 pm on a first-come, first-served basis. If you have children we encourage you to bring them. We will engage them in activities connected to our collective discussion.

Rev. Dr Kelle Brown delivers the keynote address at the 52nd Anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Assassination Day of Remembrance 5:30 pm, Saturday, April 4, 5:30 pm, Mount Zion Baptist Church, 1634 Rev. Dr. S. McKinney Ave. Seattle, 19th and Madison. (Check PlymouthChurchSeattle.org frequently for updates.)

Organ Concert Friday, April 3, 7:30 pm British conductor, organist and pianist Wayne Marshall will be back in town playing Gerschwin with the Seattle Symphony. While in Seattle he will present a concert at Plymouth on the Fisk Opus 140. His program will include music by Marcel Dupré, César Franck, and George Baker and will conclude with an improvisation. (Check PlymouthChurchSeattle.org frequently for updates.)

Believing that God’s love transcends all human distinctions,

Plymouth welcomes people of all races and cultures,
of varied social and economic conditions
and regardless of sexual orientation.

We are open and affirming of all people,
and we call all people to the cost and joy of Christian discipleship.