

 PLYMOUTH CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



10:30 AM  SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020

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 for 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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SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

*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 *Berceuse* Teresa Carreño (1853-1917)
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organist

✦ **CALL TO WORSHIP** Rev. Kevin Bechtold

One: God, sometimes, the days are long, the nights are even longer, and we're so tired. And then You soothe us and bring us to gentle places.

Many: You are our shepherd, and we don't need a thing.

One: Sometimes, life is moving too fast, and we can't find a moment to breathe. And then You surround us with stillness and bring an even rhythm to our breath.

Many: You are our shepherd, and we don't need a thing.

One: Sometimes, we're parched, and it seems nothing will quench our thirst, we're famished and we can't find anything to eat. And then You refresh and fill us.

Many: You are our shepherd, and we don't need a thing.

One: Sometimes, the valley is dark and the shadows are heavy and we're afraid. But then we feel Your strength, and we have courage.

Many: You are our shepherd, and we don't need a thing.

One: There are the times when it seems we're up against the world,

Many: You show those who push the hardest that You have called us to serve. You touch us, and we are blessed.

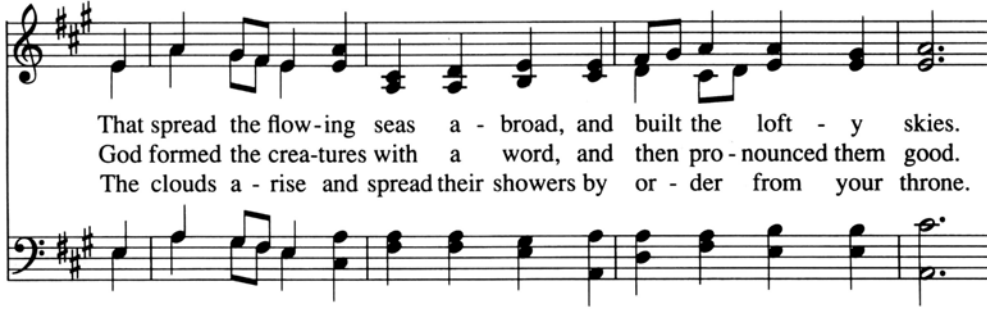
One: We will praise You and dwell with you forever, O God.

Many: We will worship You this day and always!

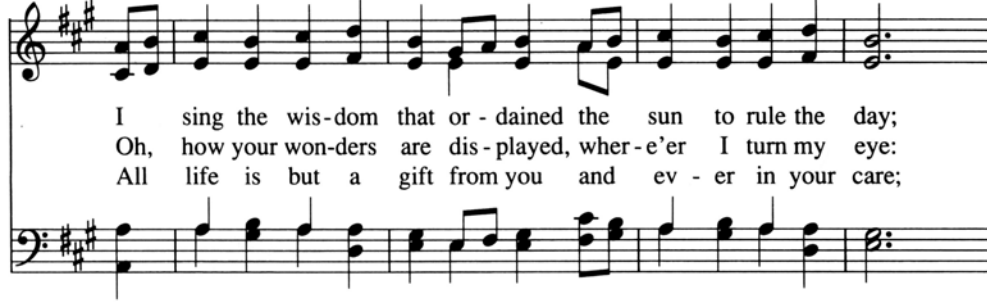
◆ HYMN *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* ELLACOMBE



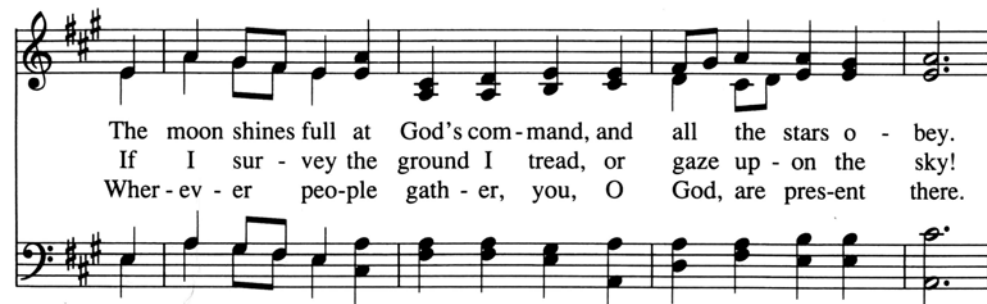
1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
2 I sing the good-ness of our God that filled the earth with food;
3 On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known.



That spread the flow-ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.
God formed the crea-tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.
The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.



I sing the wis-dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;
Oh, how your won-ders are dis - played, wher - e'er I turn my eye:
All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;



The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o - bey.
If I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!
Wher - ev - er peo-ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres-ent there.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION.Rev. Donene Blair

Sometimes, O God, we forget people forgotten already and too often – the difficult ones, the needy ones, the ones that are hard to spend time with, the ones who rub us the wrong way. And sometimes when we do things like that, it’s not really about the other people, but about us. We are uncomfortable, or we feel guilty, or we follow brighter, shinier people who will benefit us more, or we worry about what will make us look good. Holy one, we are in such desperate need of your forgiveness. We need to be forgiven for mistaking what the world values with what you value. Help us to be better, and to see more clearly, and to care more thoroughly.

✦ **ASSURANCE OF RECONCILIATION** Rev. Blair

We thank you, O God, for your steadfast love and forgiveness. Guide us, we pray, through the life and love you show us in Jesus the Christ, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

Happy birthday to you;
Anniversary, too!

We are so excited to share them with you.
May God bless and keep you in all that you do.

Happy birthday! *(And anniversary!)*
Happy birthday! *(And anniversary!)*
Happy birthday to you!

MOMENT OF MINISTRY. June Hayakawa-Fung

✦ **SHARING PEACE** The peace of Christ be with you.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Jennifer Castle

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, Margaret Kitchell, 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, Dorothy Price (“Big”), 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 Rev. Steven Davis

God sees all things! God sees our comings and our goings, our strengths and our weaknesses, our needs and our desires. God sees in us the potential we do not yet see in ourselves. I invite you to share your offerings and gifts out of the abundance that is God’s vision for us!.

Gifts received today will be divided evenly between One Great Hour of Sharing and Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund.

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, DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

**OFFERING MUSIC La Andina Libby Harding
Plymouth Soul Choir**

This song, sung in Spanish, is in support of the indigenous women of the Andes, who today are still struggling to keep their cultures alive in their communities, to continue to exist as peoples and to have the opportunities they deserve in the face of oppression, preserving the continuity of the next generation.

Daughter of the Andes, sister of the sun,
Women of wealth and culture, they have destroyed your castle of silver.
How will your children grow up?
Cry, my comrades, and remember that from here, afar, we cry with you.
Suffering sister who is surrounded in chains,
Prisoner in your own country, they have censored your poem and your song.
How will you express your sadness?
Sing, my comrades, and remember that from here, afar, we sing with you.
Although they have taken away all your rights, you have the respect of your peers
You were the flower of the resistance that sprouted in the oppression.
Fight, my comrades, and remember that from here, afar, we fight with you.
Fight, my comrades, and remember that we are fighting for your liberty.

✦ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison) Rev. Davis**
**All that we have, all that we give this day, Holy One,
already belongs to you. Bless these, our gifts, and give us
vision to use them to glorify you. Amen.**

HEBREW SCRIPTURE The 23rd Psalm . . . setting by Bobby McFerrin



Bobby McFerrin is an American jazz vocalist. He is known for his vocal techniques, such as singing fluidly but with quick and considerable jumps in pitch, as well as scat singing, polyphonic overtone singing, and improvisational vocal percussion.

Some Questions You Might Ask, by Mary Oliver



Mary Jane Oliver was an American poet who won the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize. The New York Times described her as “far and away, this country’s best-selling poet.”

Is the soul solid, like iron?
Or is it tender and breakable, like
the wings of a moth in the beak of the owl?
Who has it, and who doesn’t?
I keep looking around me.
The face of the moose is as sad
as the face of Jesus.
The swan opens her white wings slowly.
In the fall, the black bear carries leaves into the darkness.
One question leads to another.
Does it have a shape? Like an iceberg?
Like the eye of a hummingbird?
Does it have one lung, like the snake and the scallop?
Why should I have it, and not the ant eater
who loves her children?
Why should I have it, and not the camel?
Come to think of it, what about the maple trees?
What about the blue iris?
What about all the little stones, sitting alone in the moonlight?
What about roses, and lemons, and their shining leaves?
What about the grass?

◆ **READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHNJohn 9:1-15; 24-25**

(NRSV translation) *Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.*

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on

my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

ANTHEM. *Can't Give Up Now*
Shanell Powell

MESSAGE *Necessary Medicine* Dr. Brown
(*Service continues next page*)

STAYING CONNECTED

In this time of physical distancing, Plymouth Church invites you to connect with others for various activities with us each day. Links to each activity listed below are on the Plymouth Church website home page (PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). Click on the "View Full Calendar" where daily events will have ONLINE in the title. Click on the desired activity and it will provide you with direct links to the Zoom Video connections, as well as telephone numbers to connect if you simply want to interact by phone. If you have trouble connecting or need technological assistance, please email Info@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org and we will be happy to respond help you within 24 hours. We hope many will want to participate and see or hear each other online or by phone as we share support and encouragement together.

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| Sundays, 10:30 am | Worship ONLINE |
| Sundays, 11:30 am | Coffee Hour ONLINE — Bring Your Own Coffee! (BYOC!) |
| Mondays, 6 pm | Dinner & a Movie Together — POTLUCK from Your Home! |
| Mondays, 7 pm | Movie Night — Enjoy a movie and comment with the Plymouth Family. Details coming! |
| Tuesdays, 7 pm | Story Time — Enjoy a story for ALL AGES and share together! |
| Wednesdays, 9 am | Bible Study — Sharing God's Word with God's People |
| Thursdays, 12 pm | Prayer @ Noon — Light a candle and pray together with our community in faith! |
| Fridays & Saturdays | Sabbath and family/family of choice time. Together, let's value rest and renewal. In addition, you may connect on your own through phone or social media, exercise, or sing. Be a source of encouragement and connection. |

◆ HYMN *Siyahamba (We Are Marching)* SIYAHAMBA

G D7 G C

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos', si - ya -
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are

1 D 2 D

hamb' e - ku - kha-nyen' kwen-khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
 march-ing in the light of God. We are march-ing in the

G G7 C

nyen' kwen - khos', Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya -
 kha - nyen' kwen-khos', light of God. We are march-ing, march-ing, we are
 light of the light of God. march-ing,

G C D G

Oo, si - ya - hamb' e - ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'.
 ham - ba, ham - ba,
 Oo, march-ing, we are march-ing in the light of God.
 march-ing, march-ing,

Last time, end

✦ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**Dr. Brown

POSTLUDE

Mazurka, Op. 6, No. 5. Clara Wieck Schumann (1819-1896)
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organist

March is Women’s History Month so we are featuring music by women composers.

Teresa Carreño (1853-1917) A native of Venezuela Ms. Carreño was a child prodigy who studied piano first with her father and then, after studying with Louis Moreau Gottschalk, made her debut in New York in 1862 at the age of eight. She had multiple musical gifts, eventually becoming not only a virtuoso pianist, but also an opera singer, a conductor, and a composer. During the course of her 54 year career she lived in Paris and the United States and performed frequently both in the US and abroad. She wrote extensively for piano but also for piano and voice, chorus, as well as for orchestra.

Clara Wieck Schumann (1819-1896) One of the most famous piano virtuosos of the nineteenth century, Clara Wieck composed this Mazurka in 1836 when she was only seventeen. Her parents divorced when she was quite young and she lived with and studied piano with her father, who was extremely strict and controlling. By this age, she and Robert Schumann already shared a deep connection and when she turned nineteen, Robert proposed marriage. Her father, whose permission they needed if she were to marry before she turned 21, refused it, and so she sued to be independent from him. They finally won their suit, and Robert and Clara were married one day before her 21st birthday.



LENTEN SPECIAL OFFERING TODAY

Gifts received today 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 UCC involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women’s empowerment. You meet immediate needs and address underlying causes that create those needs.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Soul Choir is meeting online at 9am on Sundays, preparing for an Easter anthem. All are welcome to join in on Zoom meeting ID 253-074-414

Ukulele Club continues to meet online at 2:30 on Tuesdays! Join in on Zoom at meeting ID 909-859-698

Organ Concerts Cancelled Concerts scheduled for April 3 and 8 are cancelled. Keep checking PlymouthChurchSeattle.org for updates.

Day of Remembrance scheduled for April 4 has been cancelled.

Plymouth Healing Communities' celebration of the opening of Eng House on Beacon Hill has been cancelled. PHC will watch for other opportunities to celebrate Eng House. Thanks to all for their faithful support! For those interested in contributing an item, large or small, to the new household and residents, here is a link to the Target gift registry: Tgt.Gifts/EngHouseRegistry.

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.

N-Sid-Sen Planners Needed! A committee is forming to plan our annual intergenerational camp, July 19-25 on the shores of Lake Coeur d-Alene, Idaho. There are many ways to contribute to the planning process, and all ages are welcome to participate in the planning. We need your ideas and energy! You don't have to be a camp veteran to help— those who are planning to attend for the first time are welcome too. Contact Jennifer Castle at jcastle@plymouthchurchseattle.org.

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.