

 PLYMOUTH CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



10:30 AM  SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 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 is closed for all 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, APRIL 19, 2020
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

*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.*

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

PRELUDE

Woodland Sketches No. 1: To a Wild Rose Edward MacDowell
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Tad Anderson

One: Hear the proclamation of faith: New life springs from
dead places! The Spirit is poured out.

**All: God is active in our world. God brings hope
and healing.**

One: Hear the call of God: The Spirit of God invites us
into community. We are called to see beyond
ourselves, and to join in loving care for all those
around us.

**All: We accept God's call, and we rejoice in the
gift of community.**

One: Hear a challenge for today: The Earth is stressed by
the heavy impact of human use. The whole of
God's creation is groaning, crying out in pain.

**All: We name the Earth as part of our community.
We extend our love to all of God's creation.**

One: People of faith, gather now to worship God
the creator and redeemer of the world. Gather now
to be transformed by God's compassionate love.

**All: We praise with joy the world's creator, God
of justice, love and peace!**

HYMN For the Beauty of the Earth DIX

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,

For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
 For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

SHARING PEACE Rev. Donene Blair

The peace of Christ be with you

PRAYERS OF THE GATHERED

Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Kenneth Boganey and family (Cousin of Karen Clark), Anna Colwell, Steve Davis, Pam Dorrance, Ellie Edelweiss, Blake & Jo Ann English (Relatives of Lucian Guthrie), Phil Fredrickson, Jackie Fouts (Mother-in-law of Al Wallace), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Lucian Guthrie, the Guthrie Family, Don Gwilym, Deborah Hawkins (Friend of Toni Arthur), Michael Kaid, Libonati Family, Maclay Family, Sharon Masse (Wife of Gary Magnuson), The family of Greg Mimnaugh, Uncle of Mike Pierson), 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), Dorothy Price ("Big"), Jose Robles, Mary Ryan, Rod Shutt, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Jim Tsuchiya (Brother-in-law of Bill Castello)

Our hearts and prayers are with Mary Margaret Pruitt and family on the recent loss of her grandson, Jay Randall Pruitt Collins.

We remember Lyle Appleford and family on the one-year anniversary of the passing of his wife, Betty Appleford.

Our hearts are with Pat DeHart on the one-year anniversary of the passing of her husband Cor DeHart.

We are with Dave Koeger on the one-year anniversary of his mother, Yvonne Koeger.

THE LORD’S PRAYER LITURGY The Seery Family

Loving God, we remember that Jesus taught us to pray saying,
“Holy One...”

You created us, you made this world, and you called your creation very good. Yet often we forget that you are our loving Parent who continues to bless your world.

Jesus told us that you are “...in heaven...”

Yet we fail to live in awe of you. We take you for granted, and we don’t see the awesome beauty of the world you have made.

We pray, “Hallowed be your name...”

We confess that our reverence for you does not always lead us to care reverently for your earth, sky and sea.

We pray, “Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven...”

We confess that we often put our own interests first-exploiting your creation, and living for our own convenience and self-interest.

We pray, “Give us today our daily bread.”

We confess that we consume more than our share of the world’s resources, while billions go hungry every day and your whole creation suffers.

We pray, “Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.”

We confess that we see these words only in spiritual terms, while the Bible is filled with teachings about economic justice and creation care.

We pray, “Save us from the time of trial.”

Help us to resist the temptations of spending more, using more, acquiring more, and wasting more.

We pray, “Deliver us from evil...”

Free us from greed and self-centeredness that separate us from you and others.

We pray, “For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.”

Help us to know that in caring for your wonderful world, we are working for your kingdom, being good stewards of your creative power, and giving you glory.

We pray, “Amen.”

We end our prayers with “Amen,” a word that means “let it be so.” We know we can be faithful disciples by your grace. Amen!

*(From Limestone Presbyterian Church, “The Lord’s Prayer and Creation Care: A Litany of Confession.”
Written by Revs. Bruce and Carolyn Gillette, edited for inclusivity.)*

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS. Jennifer Castle

Blessed are you, Lord God, who made every living thing and called it all “good.” Thank you for our animal companions, for life that comes from you, and for the love and joy our companions brings. Bless this creature and let our loving care be a reflection of your compassion. We praise you for all your beauty in creation.

Blessed are you, Creator God, that we see you in the face of all your creatures! Amen.

INVITATION TO SHARE Rev. Steven Davis

Easter teaches us that generous love is at the heart of God’s work. Joyfully we are able to give knowing that our gifts will help others to see the blessed miracle of God’s creative joy.

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

Like I'm Gonna Lose You Meghan Trainor
performed by Lucinda and Calvin Guthrie

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison) Rev. Davis

Loving God, can a generous prayer be lifted up to you this Eastertide? Can these gifts, given with love, be further transformed like echoes of grace, delighting all who receive their blessings? May it be so, through the surprising power of your Holy Spirit, and may our lives speak of a loving God, full of Easter surprises. Amen.

CONTEMPORARY VOICE read by Annabelle Russell

*Excerpts from two speeches by Greta Thunberg given in 2019:
British House of Parliament on 4/23 and rally in Montreal, Canada on 9/27*

My name is Greta Thunberg. I am sixteen years old. I come from Sweden. And I speak on behalf of future generations.

I know many of you don't want to listen to us - you say we are just children. But we're only repeating the message of the united climate science, concluded by all nations through the IPCC. Nearly every national scientific body around the world supports the work and findings of the IPCC.

To some people that science is too uncomfortable to address. But we who will have to live with the consequences don't have a choice. To stay below 1.5-degrees-Celsius - and give us a chance to avoid setting off irreversible chain reactions beyond human control - we must speak the truth.

Is my microphone on? Can you hear me?

In the IPCC's SR15 report that came out in 2018 it says on page 108, chapter 2, that to have a 67 percent chance of staying below a 1.5-degree Celsius global temperature rise, the world had 420 gigatons of CO2 left to emit as of January 1st, 2018.

Today that figure is already down to 350 gigatons.

With today's emission levels, that remaining CO2 budget will be entirely gone in 8.5 years. Is my microphone on? Can you hear me?



Greta Thunberg is a Swedish environmental activist who has gained international recognition for promoting the view that humanity is facing an existential crisis arising from climate change.

Around the year 2030, 10 years from now, we will set off an irreversible chain reaction beyond human control that will most likely lead to the end of our civilization as we know it. That is unless, in that time, permanent and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society have taken place, including a reduction of CO2 emissions by at least 50 per cent.

People always tell me and the other millions of school-strikers that we should be proud of ourselves for what we have accomplished. But the only thing that we need to look at is the emission curve. And I'm sorry, but it's still rising. That curve is the only thing we should look at.

Every time we make a decision, we should ask ourselves: how will this decision affect that curve? We should no longer only ask: 'Have we got enough money to go through with this?' but also: 'Have we got enough of the carbon budget to spare to go through with this?' That should and must become the center of our new currency.

We children are doing this to wake the adults up. We children are doing this for you to put your differences aside and start acting as you would in a crisis.

I hope my microphone was on. I hope you could all hear me.

(Full speeches can be found in Greta Thunberg: No One is Too Small to Make a Difference, Penguin Books, 2019)

READING FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE 1 Peter 1:3-9

(NRSV translation, edited) This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even in the midst of difficult circumstances and surroundings.

Blessed be the God and Parent of our Lord Jesus Christ! By God's great mercy God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

ANTHEM *Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree* Elizabeth Poston

Vocal Ensemble: Jennylynn Vidas, Miriam Gnagy, Emily Kurlinski, Sari Breznau,
Tim Keller, Michael Delos

MESSAGE *A Living Hope* Ms. Castle

HYMN *Great is Your Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS



1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,



with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,
your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.



You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.
to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

Refrain



Great is your faith - ful - ness! Great is your faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; All I have need - ed your



hand has pro - vid - ed, Great is your faith - ful - ness, God, un - to me!

CHARGE AND BENEDICTIONMs. Castle

POSTLUDE

Fanfare in B Flat Major Charles W. Ore
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Piano



STAY CONNECTED: GET TOGETHER ONLINE

In this time of physical distancing, Plymouth Church invites you to connect with others for various activities with us each day. Direct links to all these online gatherings are on the homepage, PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Click on “Stay Connected.”

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.

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.

INTERGENERATIONAL POETRY EXTRAVAGANZA!

April is National Poetry Month! Please join me during story time from 7-7:30 pm Tuesday, April 21, for an Intergenerational Poetry Reading Extravaganza. I will share poems and rhyming picture books for all ages, and I invite you to bring a favorite poem to read to the group. Just go to PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, click on “Stay connected” on the home page, and click on “Tuesdays, 7pm — Story time.” —*Suzanne Sanderson, Plymouth Librarian*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Antiracism Giving Webinar Discuss race, reparations, and the concept of fund-shifting. This cross-class online workshop is open to all but has been designed specifically for folks who have benefited from the history of white wealth accumulation. 5:30–8:30 pm, April 22. Link to RSVP is online at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Under “Read the Latest News,” find “Antiracism Giving Webinar” article and click on the embedded link. The workshop is free, but we will be raising money for community members impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

Stewardship 2020: And Still, We Rise! Thank you for all who have already gone online to share your pledge/estimate of giving for 2020! We are happy to help you complete the process using the online green “GIVE” box on the Plymouth Church website home page, PlymouthChurchSeattle.org, or using the 2020 Online Stewardship Card link, also on the home page, for the office administrative staff to assist in entering the information on your behalf. Thank you to those who are mailing in your pledge card sent to your home. If you have not yet done so, we will be extending the response time through the end of April to better assist you. The members of the Finance/Stewardship Committee and Church Council members will begin reaching out to those who have not responded in May to know how we can support you in this decision and time of ministry faithfulness. If the technology is a problem, please email SDavis@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org or DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org so we may assist you.

COVID-19 Community Resources The City of Seattle Mayor’s Office has set up a frequently updated page listing comprehensive resources available at this time: Seattle.Gov/Mayor/Covid-19. This page contains information and web links for City of Seattle, King County, Washington State, federal, and community programs and services that help residents significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of these programs and services are available to everyone regardless of where you live. All Seattle residents regardless of immigration status are eligible for City of Seattle programs and services unless noted otherwise. The page is continuously updated as more resources develop.

Help Plymouth Healing Communities PHC can certainly use financial support to purchase and deliver food and necessary household items. If you are interested in contributing to PHC’s COVID-19 Resource Fund Drive, you can go to PHC’s website, Plyhc.org. Thanks to all who feel able to do this. Giving online in this time is the fastest and most effective way for people to contribute to PHC financially.

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

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.

Forgive often. **Reject racism.**

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.

Call us 800-446-6666
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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.