



PLYMOUTH CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



10:30 AM ✨ PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 31, 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.

KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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For administrative needs, or other non-pastoral care questions, please email:

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PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020

*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

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!

PRELUDE *Holy, Holy, Holy* . . . Setting by Charles Callahan
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Piano

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Donene Blair
(Based on Acts 2:1-6, The Message)

Leader: “When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force—no one could tell where it came from. It filled the whole building.”

People: *(Ring wind chimes, bells, wave flags and streamers.)*

Leader: “Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks, and they started speaking in a number of different languages as the Spirit prompted them.”

People: *(Out loud, but muted, unless you go outside!)*

If you feel comfortable go to your windows, balconies, or yards and ring wind chimes, bells, and/or flags and say “This is the day our God has made let us be glad and rejoice in it!” in the language in which you feel most comfortable; If you stay at your computer, be sure to mute yourself!

Leader: Like a wildfire, we proclaim the Holy Spirit is with us at this moment.

All: *(Out loud, but muted)*

We praise God for the Holy Spirit which fills us at this moment.

HYMN *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* . . African-American Spiritual

Refrain

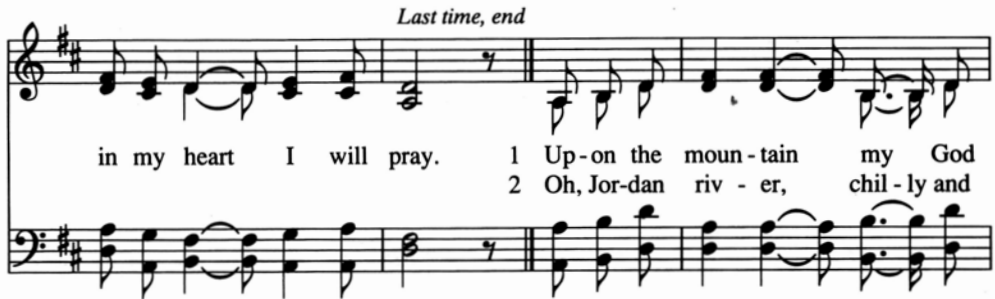


Ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing in my heart I will

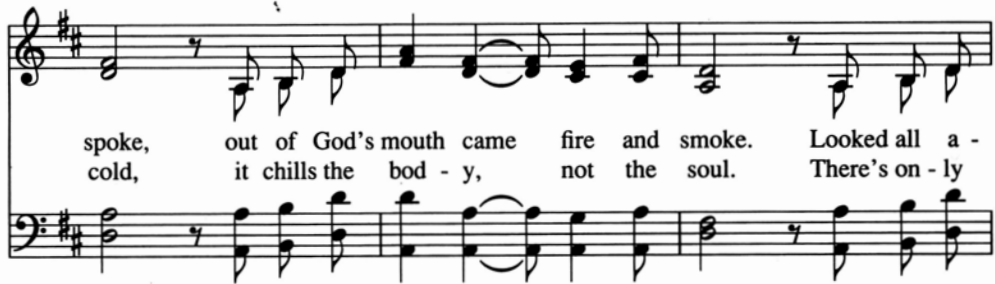


pray. Yes, ev - ery time I feel the Spir - it mov - ing

Last time, end



in my heart I will pray. 1 Up - on the moun - tain my God
2 Oh, Jor - dan riv - er, chil - ly and



spoke, out of God's mouth came fire and smoke. Looked all a -
cold, it chills the bod - y, not the soul. There's on - ly

to Refrain



round me; looked so fine; I asked my God if all were mine.
one train on this track; it runs to heav - en, then right back.

SHARING PEACE The peace of Christ be with you.

PRAYERS OF THE GATHERED Indigo Brown

Daughters of Richard Anderson (member since about 1973), Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ernie Boyer, Anna Colwell, Steve Davis, Pam Dorrance, Ellie Edelweiss, Phil Fredrickson, Jackie Fouts (Mother-in-law of Al Wallace), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Don Gwilym, 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), Jose Robles, Mary Ryan, Rod Shutt, Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Jim Tsuchiya (Brother-in-law of Bill Castello)

We grieve with Al Trezona at the loss of their grandmother Janet Trezona who passed away last week.

“I CAN’T BREATHE...” FEATURING:

- *Dr. Maxine Mimms*
- *Rev. Eric Thomas*
- *Rev. Amantha Barbee*
- *Rev. Annie Jones Barnes*
- *Reggie Weaver*
- *Devon Settles*
- *Chad-Henry Goller-Sojourner*
- *Rev. Carlton Johnson*
- *Marlon Brown*

INVITATION TO SHARE Rev. Steven Davis

As God's people, we are not called to smother the Spirit, or even direct them to go our way. We are to be the people, called to welcome the fire! As you give today, allow the Spirit to ignite a passion in you so that we might be the church God calls us to be, so that just the sound alone of your life will draw our attention and we will know the Holy One is moving.

May 31 through the end of June, gifts earmarked Pentecost Special Offering will be divided evenly between Strengthen the Church and Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund.

OFFERING MUSIC I Will Sing with the Spirit John Rutter
Jennylynn Vidas, Miriam Gnagy, Emily Kurlinski, Sari Breznau,
Tim Keller, Michael Delos

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison) Rev. Davis

O Holy One, take the gifts that we have offered this day, and use them to ignite the world with the fire of your presence. Take the prayers that we have offered this day, and use them to breathe life into the valleys of dry bones. Take the gifts of the Pentecost Offering, and use them to teach and nurture your people, that they might live into a renewed vision for the world as we proclaim the power of your wondrous deeds. Amen.

CONTEMPORARY VOICE read by Dr. Brown

Excerpts from *The Fire Next Time*, by James Baldwin

“You were born where you were born and faced the future that you faced because you were black and for no other reason. The limits of your ambition were, thus, expected to be set forever. You were born into a society which spelled out with brutal clarity, and in as many ways as possible, that you were a worthless human being. You were not expected to aspire to excellence: you were expected to make peace with mediocrity...I know your countryfolk do not agree with me about this, and I hear them saying “You exaggerate...” Take no one’s word for anything, including mine — but trust your experience. Know whence you came.”

“I know what the world has done to my brother and how narrowly he has survived it. And I know, which is much worse, and this is the crime of which I accuse my country and my countrymen, and for which neither I nor time nor history will ever forgive them, that they have destroyed and are destroying hundreds of thousands of lives and do not know it and do not want to know it. One can be, indeed one must strive to become, tough and philosophical concerning destruction and death, for this is what most of humankind has been best at since we have heard of humanity. (But remember: most of humankind is not all of humankind.) But it is not permissible that the authors of devastation should also be innocent. It is the innocence which constitutes the crime.”

“The subtle and deadly change of heart that might occur in you would be involved with the realization that a civilization is not destroyed by wicked people; it is not necessary that people be wicked but only that they be spineless.”

“And if the word integration means anything, this is what it means: that we, with love, shall force our siblings to see themselves as they are, to cease fleeing from reality and begin to change it. For this is your home, my friend, do not be driven from it; great ones have done great things here, and will again, and we can make America what America must become.”

“In order for this to happen, your entire frame of reference will have to change, and you will be forced to surrender many things that you now scarcely know you have.”



James Baldwin was an American novelist, playwright, essayist, poet, and activist. His essays, as collected in Notes of a Native Son, explore intricacies of racial, sexual, and class distinctions in mid-20th-century USA.

READING FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE Acts 2:1-21

(NRSV translation, made inclusive, courtesy of Park Avenue Christian Church)

Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the fiftieth day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people assembled in Jerusalem for the festival. Filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs — in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "People of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

‘In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and children shall prophesy,
and your young ones shall see visions,
and your old ones shall dream dreams.

Even upon the enslaved, of every identity,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of God's great and glorious day.

Then everyone who calls on the name of God shall be saved.'

ANTHEM. *Canticle of the Spirit*
Words by Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179); Music by Eleanor Daley (b. 1955);
performed by Jennylynn Vidas, Miriam Gnagy, Emily Kurlinski, Sari Breznau

MESSAGE *The Fire Next Time* Dr. Brown

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Dr. Brown

POSTLUDE

O for a World (Tune: AZMON). Setting by Matthew Weston
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Piano



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Solstice E-Bash Are you a high school youth? Has COVID and quarantine got you feeling ripped off from all of your social events? 8 pm Saturday, June 20, Plymouth Church Seattle UCC and Orion Entertainment present The Summer Solstice E-Bash 2020. Log on to celebrate the longest day of the year with a live DJ, virtual photo booth, live chat room, and real-time song requests to dance the night away to your favorite quaran-tunes. ALL high school youth from ALL genders, races, ethnicities, orientations, religions and backgrounds are INVITED AND WELCOME. Look for details to come —*Anna Cohwell*

Our Stewardship Commitments continue to come in by mail to the church office, as well as online. Please mail in your pledge card, or fill out the online pledge card information and we will contact you to set up automatic payments and/or verify your intentions for 2020.

Faith Action Spring Summits The Puget Sound summit begins 3 pm June 7. RSVP at FanWa.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.