



PLYMOUTH CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

10:30 AM ✦ SUNDAY, JULY 5, 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](http://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](mailto:KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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[JHayakawafung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:JHayakawafung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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

[SDavis@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:SDavis@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

[DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

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SUNDAY, JULY 5, 2020  
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*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.*

**Ways to Give** You can contribute to the mission and ministries of Plymouth UCC anytime, anywhere! Go to [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://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](mailto:DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

**WELCOME** . . . . . Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

This Sunday we share together Holy Communion in our online interactive worship.

Before the time of the service you will want to prepare some bread, a slice or a small loaf of any kind of bread and juice of some sort. Let it be something you alone or you with others in your house may break and share. Remember this is a meal of grace, so whatever “bread” or “juice” you choose will more than suffice.

Set these elements in the sacred place where you experience worship electronically with our faith community. You are invited to light a candle or place a flower or plant or something meaningful into the circle of faith beside the bread and the cup. Thank you for your preparation.

**SHARING PEACE** . . . . . Dr. Brown

**PRELUDE**

*This is My Song* (FINLANDIA) . . . . . arr. Chuck Marohnic  
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Piano

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION.** . . . . . Dr. Brown

Holy One,

Thank you that you promise us that where two or three are gathered you are there in the midst.

O God, we invite you here.

We welcome you amongst us today and celebrate the gift of life that you have lavished upon each of us.

We ask that you would open our ears so that we may hear your voice,

Open our minds so that we may receive your wisdom;

Open our spirits so that we may know your leading and guidance,

And open our hearts so that we may receive your love.

We ask all these things in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

**HYMN** . . . . . *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing* . . . . . NETTLETON

Jennylynn Vidas, Sari Breznau, Tim Keller, Michael Delos

1 Come, O Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;  
 2 Here I pause in my so - journ-ing, giv-ing thanks for hav-ing come,  
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!

streams of mer - cy, nev-er ceas - ing, call for songs of end-less praise.  
 come to trust, at ev-ery turn - ing, God will guide me safe-ly home.  
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to you.

Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a - bove.  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God,  
 Prone to wan - der, I can feel it, wan-der from the love I've known:

Praise the mount; I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail - ing love.  
 Came to res - cue me from dan - ger, bless - ed bod - y, pre - cious blood.  
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.

**CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION . . . . . Dr. Brown**

*Everyone is welcome at our table to share the bread and the cup, whether you are a believer, a seeker, a skeptic, doubter or somewhere in between.*

**INVITATION**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**CONSECRATION AND COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ernie Boyer, Glenda Carper, Anna Colwell, Steve Davis, Pam Dorrance, Ellie Edelweiss, Mark Edwards, Phil Fredrickson, Jackie Fouts (Mother-in-law of Al Wallace), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Don Gwilym, Joyce Irving (mother of Rev. Louis Mitchell), Michael Kaid, Libonati Family, Maclay Family, Sharon Masse (Wife of Gary Magnuson), Jo Mitchell, Georgia Nelson, Dick, Jean and Alex Paul (Parents and Nephew of Beth Paul Russell), Jose Robles, Mary Ryan, Rod Shutt, Jim Stultz (brother of Doug Stultz), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Jim Tsuchiya (Brother-in-law of Bill Castello)*

*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**

**Holy One, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
On earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**O God our mystery, of remembrance, and righteous response,  
you bring us to life, call us to freedom, and move between us  
with love.**

**Having been nourished at your table, may we go into your  
wondrous and diverse world**

**to tear down walls of exclusion,  
in our hearts and in the world,  
    to confront powers and principalities,  
    to live and love boldly in the promise of your  
resurrection. Amen.**

**CONTEMPORARY VOICE . . . . . read by John Hargrave**

*Let America Be America Again.* by Langston Hughes

Let America be America again.

Let it be the dream it used to be.

Let it be the pioneer on the plain

Seeking a home where one is free.

(America never was America to me.)

Let America be the dream the dreamers dreamed—

Let it be that great strong land of love

Where never rulers connive nor tyrants scheme

That anyone be crushed by one above.

(It never was America to me.)

O, let my land be a land where Liberty

Is crowned with no false patriotic wreath,

But opportunity is real, and life is free,

Equality is in the air we breathe.



*Langston Hughes was an American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright, and columnist from Joplin, Missouri. He moved to New York City as a young man, where he made his career. One of the earliest innovators of the then-new literary art form called jazz poetry, Hughes is best known as a leader of the Harlem Renaissance.*

(There's never been equality for me,  
Nor freedom in this "homeland of the free.")  
Say, who are you that mumbles in the dark?  
And who are you that draws your veil across the stars?  
I am the poor white, fooled and pushed apart,  
I am the Negro bearing slavery's scars.  
I am the red man driven from the land,  
I am the immigrant clutching the hope I seek—  
And finding only the same old stupid plan  
Of dog eat dog, of mighty crush the weak.  
I am the young man, full of strength and hope,  
Tangled in that ancient endless chain  
Of profit, power, gain, of grab the land!  
Of grab the gold! Of grab the ways of satisfying need!  
Of work the men! Of take the pay!  
Of owning everything for one's own greed!  
I am the farmer, bondsperson to the soil.  
I am the worker sold to the machine.  
I am the Negro, servant to you all.  
I am the people, humble, hungry, mean—  
Hungry yet today despite the dream.  
Beaten yet today—O, Pioneers!  
I am the man who never got ahead,  
The poorest worker bartered through the years.  
Yet I'm the one who dreamt our basic dream  
In the Old World while still a serf of rulers,  
Who dreamt a dream so strong, so brave, so true,  
That even yet its mighty daring sings  
In every brick and stone, in every furrow turned  
That's made America the land it has become.  
O, I'm the man who sailed those early seas  
In search of what I meant to be my home—  
For I'm the one who left dark Ireland's shore,  
And Poland's plain, and England's grassy lea,  
And torn from Black Africa's strand I came  
To build a "homeland of the free."

The free?

Who said the free? Not me?

Surely not me? The millions on relief today?

The millions shot down when we strike?

The millions who have nothing for our pay?

For all the dreams we've dreamed

And all the songs we've sung

And all the hopes we've held

And all the flags we've hung,

The millions who have nothing for our pay—

Except the dream that's almost dead today.

O, let America be America again—

The land that never has been yet—

And yet must be—the land where every man is free.

The land that's mine—the poor man's, Indian's, Negro's, ME—

Who made America,

Whose sweat and blood, whose faith and pain,

Whose hand at the foundry, whose plow in the rain,

Must bring back our mighty dream again.

Sure, call me any ugly name you choose—

The steel of freedom does not stain.

From those who live like leeches on the people's lives,

We must take back our land again,

America!

O, yes,

I say it plain,

America never was America to me,

And yet I swear this oath—

America will be!

Out of the rack and ruin of our gangster death,

The rape and rot of graft, and stealth, and lies,

We, the people, must redeem

The land, the mines, the plants, the rivers.

The mountains and the endless plain—

All, all the stretch of these great green states—

And make America again!



**READING FROM HEBREW SCRIPTURE** . . . . . 1 Kings 18:1, 20-21  
(A Voice translation) read by Dr. Brown

After many days the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year of the drought, saying, “Go, present yourself to Ahab; I will send rain on the earth.”

So Ahab sent to all the Israelites, and assembled the prophets at Mount Carmel. Elijah then came near to all the people, and said, “How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow God; but if Baal, then follow Baal.” The people did not answer him a word.

**MEDITATION ON BASS** . . . . . Evan Florey-Barnes  
Evan Florey-Barnes

**MESSAGE**

*The Sound of Silence* . . . . . Rev. Matthew V. Johnson, Sr. PhD

**BENEDICTION** . . . . . Dr. Johnson

**POSTLUDE**

*Doxology (Old Hundredth)*. . . . . arr. Mark Hayes  
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Piano

**CLOSING**. . . . . Dr. Brown

Special thanks to guest preacher Rev. Matthew V. Johnson, Sr. PhD. Pastor, preacher, scholar, writer, lecturer, administrator, and servant of God, Dr. Johnson has been in the ministry for over thirty years. A widely respected author, Dr. Johnson’s books include, *The Tragic Vision of African American Religion*, *The Cicada’s Song: A Novel*, *The Passion of the Lord: African American Reflections*, and *Onesimus Our Brother: Reading Race, Religion, and Slavery in Philemon*. Additionally, two of his articles *The Middle Passage, Trauma and the Tragic Re-imagination of African American Theology* and *The Poverty of Prosperity Theology and the Spiritual Impoverishment of the Church*, have been published in *The Journal of Pastoral Psychology*. Dr. Johnson is the Senior Pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama.

## STAND FOR RACIAL JUSTICE



Come to Plymouth and join others standing for racial justice. We as a majority white Christian church created and have benefited from systemic institutional racism, and we must be part of changing it. Come when you can, stay for any length of time you want. Social distancing and mask-wearing protocols will be observed.

Ruth Williamson has been coordinating and scheduling this effort. Contact her (206.313.5931) for parking and other logistics. Ruth shares:

*“A woman walking by Plymouth said to us one day ‘I hope you’re in this for the long haul!’ So pace yourself. If everyone comes once a week, or once every two weeks, we’ll have people out front the majority of every week day. More people can be energizing, but a single person makes a statement of commitment and constancy. There’s been interest in weekends, so I’ve added Saturday and Sunday to the schedule. Just know that the building is not staffed or accessible on weekends. It seems like Fridays are often big event days, so if people want to shoot for a bigger group on Fridays I think that would be great.”*

Help keep a Plymouth presence on the streets! See photos of folks bearing witness at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). Under the “Connect” tab, click on “Albums.”

## STAYING CONNECTED

Sunday coffee hour and weekday online gatherings are on hiatus in the month of July. This is a chance to practice sabbath, for rest and renewal. You are encouraged to continue to connect on your own through phone or social media and be a source of encouragement and companionship.

You may also want to subscribe to the UCC Daily Devotional. Sign up at [UCC.org/Daily\\_Devotional](http://UCC.org/Daily_Devotional)



## ONLINE DISCUSSIONS WITH REV. DR. KELLE BROWN

**Seattle Demonstrates** What have the recent demonstrations in Seattle accomplished? Black voices are being heard, for one thing. The city council has struggled to understand what to do in response. The Council had been eager to show how much they supported the police. In an instant that has shifted. The Labor Council has also begun to talk tough to the police unions. Already there are police reforms in the works — bans on choke holds, tear gas, flash bangs. There are strong political winds that have shifted significantly. **View recent discussion with Dr. Brown at [PostAlley.org](#).**



**Exit Strategies from the Pandemic** As the infection rates from the Corona Virus pandemic ease and ‘shelter in place’ restrictions are gradually lifted, the question for most of us is ‘how do we return to normal?’ Should we even consider a return to what we might consider normal or is this a time for a ‘reset’ in the way we live our lives? The Daughters of Abraham, Rev. Dr. Kelle J Brown, Aneelah Afzali and Rabbi Yohanna Kinberg, an interfaith group of female faith leaders consider these questions, and offer lessons we could draw from those who have experienced similar traumas. **View the video at [PathsToUnderstanding.org/challenge/](#).**

## MASKS STILL NEEDED



The Immigration Ministry team requests your immediate help in providing washable cloth face masks for these kids who are represented by K.I.N.D. (Kids in Need of Defense). Ideally, each kid would have 2 masks, allowing for one to be washed and dried while the other is being worn, but even one mask per kid would allow them to meet health guidelines in public places. The masks can be any style that meets the CDC guidelines. Since most of the kids are teenagers, the adult size face

mask is best. To purchase masks to donate, there are many stores online. Any style in adult size is fine. Here are 4 local companies currently offering masks from \$5-10 each: [SwaddleDesigns.com](#); [SplashFabric.com](#); [SnugAsAMug.com](#); [Etsy.com](#). For other prices and styles made locally see [SeattleRefined.com](#). Live links for all these sites at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](#). Choose the drop off location that is easiest for you: downtown to Mary Margaret Pruitt at Horizon House; Janet Gwilym’s house on Beacon Hill, or Ruth Williamson in Shoreline. Their contact information can be found in Simple Church.

We are a people of

**EXTRAVAGANT**

**WELCOME**

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.