



PLYMOUTH CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

10:30 AM  SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 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

KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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

SDavis@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2020
TWELFTH 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 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.

PRELUDE

Return to the Heart David Lanz
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Piano

HYMN *Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody (Turn Me ’Round)* Traditional
Sari Breznau, Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown



Ain’t gonna let nobody turn me ’round
turn me ’round, turn me ’round
Ain’t gonna let nobody turn me ’round
I’m gonna keep on walkin’
Keep on talkin’
Marching up to freedom land
Ain’t gonna let injustice turn me ’round
turn me ’round, turn me ’round
Ain’t gonna let injustice turn me ’round
I’m gonna keep on walkin’
Keep on talkin’
Marching up to freedom land
Ain’t gonna let no heartache turn me ’round
turn me ’round, turn me ’round
Ain’t gonna let no heartache turn me ’round
I’m gonna keep on walkin’
Keep on talkin’
Marching up to freedom land

WELCOMERev. Donene Blair

SHARING PEACE The peace of Christ be with you.

PRAYERS OF THE GATHEREDAl Bentley

Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ernie Boyer, Glenda Carper, Anna Colwell, Steve Davis, Pam Dorrance, Rick Eberharter, Ellie Edelweiss, Mark Edwards, Phil Fredrickson, Jackie Fouts (Mother-in-law of Al Wallace), Keili Geller (Granddaughter of Nancy Geller), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Don Gwilym, Joyce Irving (mother of Rev. Louis Mitchell), Michael Kaid, Libonati 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, Rod Shutt, Jim Stultz (brother of Doug Stultz), Jaime Rubio Sulificio, Jim Tsuchiya (Brother-in-law of Bill Castello), Jordyn Woodke and David Flores (friends of Karen Clark)

 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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CONTEMPORARY VOICEread by Dr. Brown



Howard Zinn was an American historian, playwright, and socialist thinker. Zinn wrote over 20 books, including his influential “A People’s History of the United States.”

“To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness. What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places—and there are so many—where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction. And if we do act, in however small a way, we don’t have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory.” —Howard Zinn

READING FROM HEBREW SCRIPTUREExodus 1:8–2:10

(NRSV translation)

read by Jennifer Castle

The brave Hebrew midwives defied Pharaoh to save many infants from death. When the mother of Moses placed him in a basket in the Nile, the daughter of Pharaoh found him, adopted him, and brought him up. But the sister of Moses and his mother played crucial roles in this drama.

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, “Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.” Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, “When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live.” But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, “Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?” The midwives said to Pharaoh, “Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.” So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, “Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live.”

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

ANTHEM. *Resilient* Rising Appalachia
Performed by Beth and Annabelle Paul-Russell,
accompaniment by Sari Breznau

MESSAGE *Redemption Song* Dr. Brown

BENEDICTION Dr. Brown

POSTLUDE

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (HYFRYDOL). *Setting by Michael Larkin*
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Piano

CLOSING. Rev. Blair



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continue to 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. Remember to bring your sign and mask.

Stay Connected In this time of physical distancing, Plymouth invites you to connect with others for various activities throughout the week. See list and links at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.

COVID-19 Testing now available at Downtown Public Health Center, 2124 4th Ave. Open to all, regardless of income, immigration status or health insurance. Language interpretation services available at no cost. No appointment needed. Walk-up and drive-up hours are Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. When you arrive, please remain at least 6 feet away from others. We may ask you to wear a mask while you are screened and awaiting testing. Testing in the back parking lot. You may enter using Blanchard St. Visit KingCounty.gov/Covid for extensive information or call the King County COVID-19 Call Center between 8 am to 7 pm at 206.477.3977.

Opportunities to Serve Plymouth involves congregants in the leadership of the church through various groups. Currently there are openings on the Congregational Council, Community & Care Board, and the Community Service and Social Action Board, as well as the Finance, Investment and HR Committees. Each of these will have openings next February as well. Stay tuned to hear more from your Nominating Committee during coffee hours after worship in the month of August. We hope to talk to many of you! —*Ruth Williamson*

Youth Activists Tell All Via Zoom Please join us at 6:30 pm today online to hear from Sarah Pham, from the Mike Yarrow Peace Fellowship Directors and from one or more of the current cohort of roughly 20 young nonviolent activists, ages 14 to 25, who will have just concluded their 10 session, 40 hour online Core Training in Nonviolent Organizing from July 21 to August 18, 2020, including a 3 day international training in Kingian Nonviolence sponsored by the University of Rhode Island. See news article at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org for link to register.

Resident Position Open Are you concerned about the impacts of poverty and oppression on individuals experiencing mental health issues? Do you want to participate in social transformation at the level of intimate relationships? House of Healing exists in opposition to stigma, to harmful cycles of poverty, institutionalization, and oppression. It exists for those who feel and perceive the world differently, who find we are better equipped to pursue holistic well-being in the context of loving community. If you are interested in learning more and how to get involved as a Residential Staff Member, contact PlymouthHouse@Plyhc.org or visit Plyhc.org/House-of-Healing. We are currently hiring for open positions!

Check Out the Library Blog This week, learn about Plymouth and Women's Suffrage. Read new articles posted every Monday at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. Click on the Library box on the homepage and then the link to the blog. —*Suzanne Sanderson*

OUR FAITH OUR VOTE

“Shout out, do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet!” — Isaiah 58:1

Plymouth United Church of Christ is joining the UCC's Our Faith Our Vote campaign to register voters, educate ourselves on important issues at stake in the election and encourage voter participation. Since we are not able to do in person registration at church the Our Faith Our Vote committee will call each church member to make sure their voter registration is up to date. Our vote is important! If you would like to volunteer to be a member of the Our Faith Our Vote committee, contact Christine Hanson at 509.679.7430 or email hansonchristineann@gmail.com. Learn more at UCC.org/OurFaithOurVote. — *Christine Hanson*



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.