

10:30 AM ✦ SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

# BUILDING HOME

PLYMOUTH  
United Church of Christ

# 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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[TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2020  
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Worship with Plymouth Church UCC begins with meditation.  
The quiet is meant to encourage and deepen your own inner work.  
Thank you for entering this space, this hour, by honoring the spirit of worship.*

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).

**PRELUDE** . . . . . *Pastorale* . . . . . Douglas E. Wagner  
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

**CALL TO WORSHIP** . . . . . Rev. Kevin Bechtold  
Come to hear the Word.  
Come to do the Word.  
Come to experience Comfort.  
Come to experience Challenge.  
Come to find Cost.  
Come to find Joy.  
Come to find Humanity.  
Come to find Community.  
Come to find Church.  
Come to find God.  
Let us now worship God together!

HYMN . . . . . *Sing Praise to God, vs 1-3* . . . . LOBE DEN HERREN

Miriam Gnagy, Emily Kurlinski, Tim Keller, Michael Delos

1 Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sus - tains all cre -  
2 Praise God, our guard - ian, who lov - ing - ly of - fers cor -  
3 Sing praise to God, with sin - cere thanks for all your suc -

a - tion! Sing praise, my soul, in pro - found and com -  
rec - tion, Who, as on ea - gle's wings, saves us from  
cess - es. Mer - ci - ful God ev - er loves to en -

plete ad - o - ra - tion! Glad - some re - joice - or - gan and  
sin - ful de - jec - tion. Have you ob - served, how we are  
cour - age and bless us. On - ly con - ceive, what god - ly

trum - pet and voice - join - ing God's great con - gre - ga - tion.  
al - ways pre - served by God's pa - ren - tal af - fec - tion?  
strength can a - chieve: strength that would touch and car - ess us.



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

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

**PRAYERS OF THE GATHERED** . . . . . Rev. Donene Blair

*Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ernie Boyer, Bob Brennan, Pam Dorrance, Rick Eberharter, Phil Fredrickson, Jackie Fouts (Mother-in-law of Al Wallace), Keili Geller (Granddaughter of Nancy Geller), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Joyce Irving (mother of Rev. Louis Mitchell), Michael Kaid, Libonati Family, Sharon Masse (Wife of Gary Magnuson), Jackie Maxon (Mother of Rev. Steve Davis), Bob and Jo Mitchell, **Jim Mohundro**, Georgia Nelson, Dick, Jean and Alex Paul (Parents and Nephew of Beth Paul Russell), Tommy Rivers Puzey (Friend of Karen Clark), Jose Robles, Rod Shutt, Rev. Dr. Warren Stewart (Cousin of Karen Clark) and his wife Karen, Jim Stultz (Brother of Doug Stultz), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Jordyn Woodke and David Flores (friends of Karen Clark)*

*We grieve with David Fliegel and family on the passing of his mother, Ruth Fliegel on September 17.*

 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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**MOMENT OF LOVE IN ACTION** . . . . . Kyna Shilling

*Sometimes* by David Whyte

Sometimes  
if you move carefully  
through the forest,  
breathing  
like the ones  
in the old stories,  
who could cross  
a shimmering bed of leaves  
without a sound,  
you come to a place  
whose only task  
is to trouble you  
with tiny  
but frightening requests,  
conceived out of nowhere  
but in this place  
beginning to lead everywhere.  
Requests to stop what  
you are doing right now,  
and  
to stop what you  
are becoming  
while you do it,  
questions  
that can make  
or unmake  
a life,  
questions  
that have patiently  
waited for you,  
questions  
that have no right  
to go away.



*David Whyte is a poet, author, speaker and organizational thinker. He lectures to large audiences throughout the world. He has said that all of his poetry and philosophy are based on “the conversational nature of reality.”*

**READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW . . . . .** Matthew 21:23-32  
(NRSV translation) read by Diane Jacobsen

*After driving the moneychangers out of the temple, Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir;' but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

**SPECIAL MUSIC** . . . . . *We Shall Be Known* . . . . . MaMuse  
performed by Jamie Shilling and Kyna Shilling

**MESSAGE** . . . . . *Know Better, Do Better?* . . . . . Jennifer Castle

**HYMN** . . . . . *Sing Praise to God, vs 4* . . . . . LOBE DEN HERREN  
Miriam Gnagy, Emily Kurlinski, Tim Keller, Michael Delos

Sing praise, my soul,  
the great name of your high God commending.  
All that have life and breath join you,  
their notes sweetly blending.  
God is your light!  
Soul, ever keep this in sight;  
amen, amen never ending.

**CHARGE AND BLESSING** . . . . . Ms. Castle

**POSTLUDE**

*Psalm 71: I will go in the strength of the Lord* . . . . . Douglas E. Wagner  
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Plymouth Reads*** begins October 1! Hear about the books in the video announcement before Worship. Then starting on Monday, go on the Plymouth Church website to find out about the related activities. Click the box labeled “Library” on the Home Page and then click once more on the word “Blog” in the Library banner. And let’s get reading!

***Grief Support Group Re-starting*** 2020 has been a really difficult year, to say the least. As a church community, we can help each other navigate the grief process, and offer mutual support. Rev. Donene Blair, Minister of Community Care, will facilitate the group, with other special guests. We will meet via Zoom starting the week of October 5. Please send an email to Donene to indicate your interest and to notify her of your preferred meeting day(s) or evening(s) and times that will work for you. Donene’s email is [DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). You may also contact her by calling the church Care Line, 206.622.4865 ext. 33.

***Our Faith, Our Vote*** Many of us are concerned about the coming election. We want to make sure our voice is heard and our ballots are counted. It is important to confirm you are registered. You can easily check your registration online at [Olvr.Votewa.gov](http://Olvr.Votewa.gov). If you need help with registering, mailing in your ballot or finding your nearest drop box you can call a member of the Our Faith, Our Vote committee and we will help you. The members are: Christine Hanson, Tracy Simpson, Al Bentley, Glenda Carper and Betty Eberharter. You will probably get a call from one of us in the next few weeks. We want to make sure all the members and friends of Plymouth UCC are able to vote! Read more at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

***Upcoming Congregational Conversations*** Sunday, Oct 25, 11:30 am: Congregational Conversation about the 2020 budget (update about pledges, projected budget deficit) and the 2021 high/low budget projections. Major issues will be outlined and discussed. Feedback will be incorporated into the final budget. Sunday, Nov 15, 11:30 am: Congregational Meeting and budget vote.

***Women’s Retreat Online October 24*** All those identifying as female or non-binary are invited to connect online for a retreat with each other. We’ll provide some program time mixed with social time. Looking forward to having you there! To register, please email [Jenny Kaiton JKaiton@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:JKaiton@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) and [Anna Colwell AColwell@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:AColwell@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

***Bless The Hands That Feed Us*** As we continue to struggle with COVID times and emerge from our smoke filled air, the Immigration Ministry Team asks your support and prayers for the Farmworkers in our state and everywhere. We recently contributed \$1500 in the name of Plymouth, as well as personal donations, to support the “Farmworkers United for Justice” (FUJ) in our state whose health and livelihood have been greatly impacted.

***World Communion October 4*** Our World Communion Sunday special offering is one of four special offerings throughout the church year to support national and local ministries within the United Church of Christ. October 4 gifts will be divided evenly between **Neighbors in Need** and **Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund**.



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.



## Beloved, Love in Action

***“Do your little bit of good where you are. It’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.”*** – Archbishop Desmond Tutu

**L**ove is a verb. Not simply a feeling or thought. Grounded in God’s love for us, we are called to act, to love. 1 John 4:11 puts it this way, “Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.” We take seemingly small actions to live out God’s love. Here’s the beautiful thing: together in community, we can change the world.