

## SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am **Worship Sunday, October 4, 2020**

*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

Lectionary Text for October 4: Matthew 21:33-46

### World Communion Sunday

*(Use whatever elements you have on hand — bread, crackers, juice, wine, etc)*

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown Preaching

*“Broken to Pieces”*

11:30 am Online Coffee Hour

### Virtual Worship Only!

Find links to video stream and worship bulletin and participate online at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

The church building will be closed for all activities until further notice.

Check [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) for updates.

**All pastoral care will be via telephone or e-mail.**

If you have personal concerns, you may contact a minister or member of the Pastoral Care Team by calling the pastoral voice mail, 206.622.4865 \*833, checked daily.

Staff e-mail addresses are listed under the “About” tab at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). Click on “Ministers and Staff.”



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Faith Action News** Candidate Forum Legislative Districts 36, 37, 43 Monday, October 12. Schedule: 7 pm - LD 36, Position 2; 7:30 pm - LD 37, Position 2; 8 pm - LD 43, Position 2. RSVP for the Zoom link. [bit.ly/36-37-43](http://bit.ly/36-37-43).

phone: 206.625.9790; email: [Fan@fanwa.org](mailto:Fan@fanwa.org); web: [FanWa.org](http://FanWa.org).

**Women’s Retreat Online** All those identifying as female or non-binary are invited to connect online for a retreat with each other. We plan to host this retreat during the late afternoon/evening of October 24 and 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).

**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.

**Check Out the Library Blog** We have new books! You can check them out, and we will mail them to you. New articles posted every Monday at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). Click on the Library box on the homepage and then the link to the blog. Check out archived articles, too.

 **PLYMOUTH CHURCH**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1217 Sixth Avenue, Seattle,  
Washington 98101-3199

Return Service Requested

## OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...



Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ernie Boyer, Bob Brennan, **Ken Carter**, 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 Sulificio, Jordyn Woodke and David Flores (friends of Karen Clark)

*\*Bold = newly added*

The Plymouth *Herald* is published every week. **Deadline is Monday, 10 am, for Wednesday publication.** Stay current with Plymouth happenings on our website. Join us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

# PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

Volume 59  
Number 4

September 30, 2020

## HOLY AUDACITY

Dear Plymouth,  
Like many of you, I woke up this morning, shaking my head in sadness and confusion. I thought as my eyes opened, *How did we get here? How did we get to a moment in our nation where things are falling apart so decisively*, as Chinua Achebe might say?



Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

Tears fell as I awoke to what is at stake for us all, especially as the words “...Stand back. Stand by,” were uttered on a public and national platform. But God is faithful, and I remember that I know people who have been through multiple wars, heartache, illness, and loss. And they are here—different, impacted—but here!

Though things are certainly retched up in significant ways, we as people of faith have to shake all that is false, even that which feels urgent, to choose holy audacity.

We have been here before. Many of us have seen atrocities, done the discernment in the context of the church to be impactful, and moved together to right the wrongs. We’ve seen fear pervade the land, color-coded and ever present, and anxiety manipulated like the knob on the radio. Though the noise is mind-bendingly loud, God is calling us to holy audacity to stand with conviction to be moral, ethical people whose faith and movement will get us through.

Audacity is not matching energy, for it isn’t faithful to react to foolishness or threats in like manner. Being audacious isn’t the if/then paradigm where we wait to see what others do before we decide what we must do. Holy Audacity in these times is more rightly determining our posture, and that no matter the circumstances, we will stand with God on the side of righteousness. We will build home even while things fall apart. Friends, we must be bold, to remember that even a good map fails in new, uncharted territory. Together, our boldness will allow mourning without languishing the point of permanent despair and inaction, for we have work to do.

Plymouth, let us vow to be church, to be a container for experiencing what it means to be together in a place where it isn’t about getting things “right” as much as it means to be faithful and glorify God. To remember our landmark of Jesus

Christ, and allow the plumb line of compassion, remembrance, and being the hands and feet of Jesus to lead us forward. Let us remember that church is meant to console, but not to the point of indifference and disconnection; meant to send us in joy, but not without counting the cost of how joy burst through, despite our difficulties. Our connection and covenant are meant to move us forward in faith, without setting a metronome to mark time in a daily rehearsal of death.

We may be in trouble, but we can be good trouble together. Let us, hand in hand, choose holy audacity, to be moved in our moral calling. And vote...

*as if your life depends on it.*

*It does.*

*as if your vote will tip the scales.*

*It will.*

*as if your ballot is speaking for the trees,  
the sky, the animals, the disappearing ice cap.*

*It is.*

*Vote with the urgency of finding the last restroom for 100 miles,  
as if you are a fish out of water, and your candidate is offering  
Lake Washington.*

*As if our house is on fire, and your ballot is a hose on full blast.*

*For all that is good and right, vote!*

Stand up in holy audacity with the assurance that right action always makes a difference, with God as our helper.

—Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown ✦

## KEEP STANDING FOR RACIAL JUSTICE



Be seen and be heard in the cause of justice.

Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown is out in front representing us on social justice issues in the community. We as a majority white Christian church created and have benefited from systemic institutional racism, and we must be part of changing it. This is one simple action we can take to show up. 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. ✦

# PLYMOUTH CELEBRATES

## AN INVITATION TO LOVE IN ACTION WORLD COMMUNION OCTOBER 4



Kyna Shilling invites you to share.

Love 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." As part of our year-round Stewardship campaign, we invite you to share your story of the impact of Plymouth as it lives out Love in Action.

Sharing these stories helps our community understand the importance of generosity in our lives, the reasons to support the church, and what we accomplish together. We are asking for short written pieces (250-350 words) for our weekly *Herald*, and short video pieces (2-3 minutes) for worship. If you'd like to submit a written piece or "Love in Action" video, please email Kyna at [KynaGrace@gmail.com](mailto:KynaGrace@gmail.com) to get onto the calendar. You can upload your story here.

The most moving testimonials come from sharing your own heart. You might begin to prepare your thoughts by thinking about these questions:

- Where do you see the love of our church changing lives?
- How has the love of our church changed your life?
- How have you been called to love through Plymouth?

When you think about how Plymouth embodies "Love in Action," you might consider:

- How does worship change our lives?
- How does the fellowship of this community impact us?
- When did pastoral care matter to our lives? Or music?
- Who experiences love within this congregation in life-changing ways?
- What social justice projects have you been involved in through Plymouth, and what impact has that love in action had on you, on this community, and on our world?

At Plymouth United Church of Christ we answer God's call to love in action in many ways. As the finance committee is working on Plymouth's 2021 Budget, we are prayerfully considering the question "How does our budget reflect our love in action?"

We take seemingly small actions to live out God's love. We hope that each of you takes time to consider your personal generosity. Your commitment to Plymouth with prayers, presence, and pledges creates love in action through this church. And here's the best part: together, in community, we can change the world. —Kyna Shilling ✨

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**.

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC supporting ministries of justice and compassion throughout the US. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry. Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations working for justice. These grants fund projects ranging from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Special consideration is given to serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

The Plymouth UCC Scholarship Fund has been busy the last few years, diminishing its funds. Thanks to you, half of our annual special offerings continues to replenish the balance, supporting members and friends in financial hardship take part in the future opportunities offered by and through Plymouth UCC. ✨



### OPTIONS TO GIVE

Thank you for your faithful support of the mission and ministries of Plymouth United Church of Christ. Listed below are a variety of ways for you to provide offerings and gifts.

**Mail:** Mail your offerings to the church:

Plymouth Church, United Church of Christ  
1217 6th Ave Seattle WA 98101

**Online Giving through Simple Church:** Click on GIVE box. Choose to deduct directly from your bank account or credit/debit card to make a one-time offering, or schedule recurring offerings.

**Text to Give:** Simply text to 206.208.1442 and enter a dollar amount. You will receive prompts to complete the transaction. Once set up, you will be able to text offerings with one step.

**Cash App:** Download the Cash App mobile app from the Apple App Store or Google Play and follow the instructions to set up giving directly from your bank account. Our Cash App ID is \$PlymouthUCCSeattle. Questions? [DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) ✨

# 150 YEARS OF MISSION AND SERVICE

## PLYMOUTH READS

October kicks off the very first Plymouth Reads! Over the next nine months, we are invited by the Plymouth Library Committee to read together three books on race in America by three Black American authors. Books chosen because of their personal stories and challenge to love, think and believe our way to a personal and national reckoning with race in America.



The first book is *The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin. A seminal work calling "to end the racial nightmare, and achieve our country and change the history of the world." Check the Plymouth Library page for more information about the planned activities, weekly challenges, additional resources and even a playlist to listen to while reading these tough texts! We will deep dive, and allow ourselves some lightness so as to keep our balance.

Learn more and register for Plymouth Reads at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) (click the "Plymouth Reads" icon). ✨

## OUR FAITH, OUR VOTE: MAKE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED!



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 really important to

confirm you are registered. You may have moved recently and suddenly your registration is out of date. You can easily check your registration online at [Olvr.Votewa.gov](http://Olvr.Votewa.gov).

Washington offers online voter registration. You can register by mail to vote in Washington by printing a voter registration form, filling it out, and mailing it to your local election office. You can also register to vote in person if you prefer. You can register or update your address online or by mail until 8 days before an election. You may also register in-person through Election Day. Registration forms submitted by mail need to be received not postmarked by the 8-day deadline (October 26).

If you need help with registering, mailing 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 United Church of Christ are able to vote! We look forward to the conversation. ✨

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP RE-STARTING

2020 has been a really difficult year, to say the least. Many of us are feeling all kinds of grief, especially those who have lost a loved one. Our Grief Support group met only once before the pandemic hit and the Plymouth Church building was closed. We are ready to re-start this group, and invite others to join us. As a church community, we can help each other navigate the grief process, and offer mutual support.



Online group begins next week.

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. ✨

## WE CARE



Help spread the love.

Even in the first global pandemic of our lives, the Plymouth tradition of sending 'Fall Care Packages' to our graduated seniors remains intact. In fact, since many of the college students/young adults in our Plymouth Family are now attending remotely, or taking time away from school, we would like to send a little something their way as well.

There are two ways you can help us. The first is to send contact information for your student, or one you know (previously graduated) to June Hayakawa-Fung ([JHayakawafung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:JHayakawafung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)). Our 2020 graduated seniors are Sam Neer, Beata Landes, Jonah Lehto.

The second way is to contribute to care packages with small items (notes, gift cards, tea or coffee, snack items, chocolate, etc). Contributions can be sent to June at Plymouth Church by October 15 (1217 Sixth Ave, Seattle WA, 98101).

In these challenging times, it is so important to make sure our 'young ones' feel our love and support. Thanks for your help with this. —Community and Care Board ✨

## MOVIES THAT MOVE

Watch movies together online and discuss afterwards. Saturday evenings Oct. 17, Nov. 21, and Dec. 19. Our first movie will be *White Savior: Racism in the American Church*. Keep reading the *Herald* and checking website for details. ✨



First film Saturday, October 17.