

10:30 AM ✦ SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 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 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 care line, **206.639.7739**, checked daily.

KBrown@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

KBechtold@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

DBlair@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

JHayakawafung@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

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

DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020
TWENTY-FOURTH 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.*

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Growing people of faith who participate in God's work in the world.

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 *Aria on a Chaconne* Joel Martinson
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Kevin Bechtold

We gather in the presence of God to encounter Love that sets free.
We do not come seeking crumbs of justice but a way of life
that liberates.

Together, we practice courage in resisting evil and rejecting the
temptations of complicity and complacency.

The Spirit leads us in power and truth.

Our faith is placed in Love Eternal that lifts broken spirits and brings
new life from places of ruin.

With hope that is neither narrow nor fragile, we come to follow Christ.

HYMN *I've Got a Feelin'* Traditional

Be Russell, Vocals, Evan Florey Barnes, Bass,
Leo Neer, Drums, Sari Breznau, Piano and Vocals



I've got a feelin' everything's gonna be alright.
I've got a feelin' everything's gonna be alright.
I've got a feelin' everything's gonna be alright.
Be alright, be alright, be alright.

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

PRAYERS OF THE GATHERED Dr. Brown

Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ernie Boyer, Mamie Holland Bruce, Ken Carter, Pam Dorrance, Rick Eberharter, Carmen Ramsey Ellington, (friend of Karen Clark), Phil Fredrickson, Jackie Fouts (Mother-in-law of Al Wallace), Keili Geller (Granddaughter of Nancy Geller), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Sharon, Floyd, and Carrie Gossett, Robert Hardy (Friend of Karen Clark), Reg Hearn (Brother of Melony Joyce), Joyce Irving (mother of Rev. Louis Mitchell), Virginia Johnson, Michael Kaid, Renee Lang (friend of Glenda Carper), Libonati Family, Dorothy Mann, Sharon Masse (Wife of Gary Magnuson), John Mooney (Brother of Carol Mooney), Georgia Nelson, Dick, Jean and Alex Paul (Parents and Nephew of Beth Paul Russell), Tommy Rivers Puzey (Friend of Karen Clark), Jose Robles, Jim Stultz (Brother of Doug Stultz), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Mildred Whitehurst (Grandmother of Toni Arthur), Samantha Williams

Our hearts are with family and friends of Dorothy Jean Swanson, member of Plymouth since 1973, who died November 9.

 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 Indigo Brown

CONTEMPORARY VOICE read by Michelle Sarju



Octavia Butler was an American science fiction author. In 1995 she became the first science-fiction writer to receive a MacArthur Fellowship.

“We keep falling into the same ditches, you know? I mean, we learn more and more about the physical universe, more about our own bodies, more technology, but somehow, down through history, we go on building empires of one kind or another, then destroying them in one way or another. We go on having stupid wars that we justify and get passionate about, but in the end, all they do is kill huge numbers of people, maim others, impoverish still more, spread disease and hunger, and set the stage for the next war. And when we look at all of that in history, we just shrug our shoulders and say, well, that's the way things are. That's the way things always have been.”

— *From ‘Parable of the Talents’ by Octavia Butler*

SPECIAL MUSIC Amazing Grace

Allen Giardinelli, Guitar

Allen Giardinelli’s international and widely varied musical background shows in the great versatility of his music making. He grew up traveling the world with his musician parents, his father a recording artist turned producer/talent scout for European RCA and his mother a classical violinist. Al began his musical career at a young age both in the recording studio and on stage. By the time he was in his early teens he already had a consuming interest in several genres from rock to blues, americana, jazz, & was playing music fulltime and touring with several bands. Although the guitar is his main instrument Al also plays Upright bass, Harmonica, Sitar (picked up during an 8 year stretch in India), dobro, lapsteel....anything with strings really... and percussion.



Al’s performances can range anywhere from the gypsy jazz music of Django Rheinhardt to Delta Blues and Americana to howling electric blues, along with his originals the result is a unique and highly versatile sound that never fails to surprise & enchant.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEWMatthew 25:14-30

(NRSV translation, made inclusive)

read by Sue Jones

“For it is as if a person, going on a journey, summoned their enslaved and entrusted their property to them; to one they gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to their ability. Then the person went away.

The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid their enslaver’s money.

After a long time the enslaver of those enslaved came and settled accounts with them.

Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Enslaver, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’

The master said to the one, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy enslaved one; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Enslaver, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’

The enslaver said to that one, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy enslaved one; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Enslaver, I knew that you were a harsh person, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’

But the enslaver replied, ‘You wicked and lazy enslaved person! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from this one, and give it to the one with the ten talents.

For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.

As for this worthless enslaved person, throw this one into the outer exile, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

MESSAGE *Dare to Resist*. Jennifer Castle

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Waltz. Aaron Keim
Sari Breznau, Ukulele

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Ms. Castle

POSTLUDE

The God of Abraham Praise Setting by Michael Burkhardt
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

CLOSING Dr. Brown

GIVING OPTIONS TO SUPPORT PLYMOUTH UCC

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 at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org. 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your Plymouth Care Team is committed to maintaining availability of staff to handle any care concerns that might come our way. There is a new care line phone number to get in touch with the Care Team should anything arise. The phone number is **206.639.7739**. Messages are checked at least once a day and the Care Team makes every attempt to follow up as soon as we are able. Please call and leave a message if there is something you feel the Care Team should be aware of as we endeavor to serve you. The Care Team is composed of Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown, Rev. Donene Blair, Rev. Kevin Bechtold, Jennifer Castle, and June Hayakawa-Fung. We are also available by e-mail.

Contribute to Devotional In this time when we can't physically be together, it will be particularly meaningful for our faith community to experience Advent together through a devotional made up of submissions from one another. Our theme for Advent this year is Enter the Mystery. Submissions can be stories from your life, prayers, photography, or art. Please email your submissions to Jennifer Castle at JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org by Wednesday, November 18.

Congregational Conversations Please plan to attend these upcoming virtual conversations and meetings. Your participation is vital as we move forward. We need to hear from you! Change in Dates: 11:30 am Sunday, December 6: 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. 11:30 am Sunday, December 20: Congregational Meeting and budget vote.

Keep 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. 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.

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.