

10:30 AM ✦ SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020

GRIT AND GRATITUDE

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:

WBlight@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

DJacobsen@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

RTurner@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

TArthur@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020
TWENTY-FIFTH 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.*

PRELUDE

Give Thanks Henry Smith, Arr. Mark Hayes
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Piano

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

Happy birthday to you;
Anniversary, too!
We are so excited to share them with you.
May God bless and keep you in all that you do.
Happy birthday! (And anniversary!)
Happy birthday! (And anniversary!)
Happy birthday to you!

CALL TO WORSHIP Deacon Tom Maul

Praise be to God
To the God of land
God of the sea
God of the sky
God of the mountains,
The God of rain
The provider of manna
God of our mothers and fathers
Come and be with us this
Morning as we bring our
Hearts to worship you
We come to you with our
Hearts that are dry, hopeless and heavy
With hope that you are
The God that provides,
You are the God of yesterday,
Today and tomorrow.

HYMN *Now Thank We All Our God, vss 1-2* NUN DANKET
Jennylynn Vidas, Emily Kurlinski, Tim Keller, Michael Delos



1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,



Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,



Who, from our parents' arms, has blessed us on our way
And keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed,



With countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.





SHARING PEACEThe peace of Christ be with you.

MOMENT OF LOVE IN ACTIONMike Pierson

PRAYERS OF THE GATHEREDRev. Donene Blair

Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ken Carter, Pam Dorrance, Rick Eberharter, Maria Eclipse (Grandmother of Rogie Eclipse), 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, 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 Becky Colwell and family on the passing of her father, Ernie Boyer.

 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.**

Copyright © by J. Manny Santiago, 1999. From the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists. Used with permission

(Service continues next page)

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.

CONTEMPORARY VOICE read by Deacon Maul

UCC Statement of Faith in the form of a Doxology

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.

Amen.

READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW Matthew 25:31-46
(NRSV translation, made inclusive) read by Rev. Kevin Bechtold

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

“When the Son of Humankind comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Parent, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food,

or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ The he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’” Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

ANTHEM

One Fine Day David Byrne and Brian Eno
Plymouth Soul Choir, Directed by Sari Breznau; Tim Keller, Soloist

MESSAGE Rev. Bechtold

HYMN *Now Thank We All Our God, vs 3* NUN DANKET
Jennylynn Vidas, Emily Kurlinski, Tim Keller, Michael Delos

All praise and thanks to God our Maker now be given
To Christ, and Spirit, too, our help in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore
For thus it was, is now, and shall be forever more.

CHARGE AND BENECTION Rev. Bechtold

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God Sigfrid Karg-Elert
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ



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 (see inside front cover or staff listing page at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

Congregational Conversations Rescheduled In order to honor our precious time together during Advent, Congregational Council has decided to push the budget conversation and vote from December 2020 to January 2021, potentially at the same time as Plymouth UCC's Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 31. Please keep reading the *Herald* and checking the website for updates, and plan to attend these virtual conversations and meetings.

Since I Been Down is a powerful, critically acclaimed new film from Plymouth member Dr. Gilda Sheppard. In 1993, Washington State voters passed the three-strikes law and sent children considered irredeemable super-predators to prison for life without parole. The film spotlights prisoner Kimonti Carter, and follows his efforts as well as a wide group of prisoners, as they break free from their fate and create a model of education that is transforming their lives, their communities, our prisons, and our own humanity. Visit the *Since I Been Down* Facebook page for news of the film and where/how to view.

Plymouth Reads is about reading as a way towards change in ourselves, our church community and our world. We'll see you again in January when we read a very different book, *How to Be An Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. We are off to a brilliant start! —*Plymouth Library Committee*

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.