

## SUNDAY AT PLYMOUTH

10:30 am **Worship Sunday, February 21, 2021**

*First Sunday in Lent*

Lectionary Text for February 21: Mark 1:9-15

J Mase III, Preaching  
(see article page 1)

11:30 am Online Coffee Hour

### Virtual Worship Only!

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

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

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

If you have personal concerns, you may contact a minister or member of the Pastoral Care Team by calling the pastoral care line, **206.639.7739**, checked daily.

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

### PLEASE NOTE

Next week's *Herald* will be the last before the staff break.

There will be no *Heralds* produced the weeks of March 1 and 8. Look for details on communications in next week's *Herald* and online at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](https://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Join Weekly Bible Study** with friends Wednesdays at 9 am on Zoom. Led by Jennifer Castle, this group studies the biblical texts from the Revised Common Lectionary for the upcoming Sunday's worship service. Attendance ranges from 12-20 people, and the Zoom link is accessible from the Plymouth website. Please contact Jennifer at [JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:JCastle@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) for the Zoom password, or if you would like to be added to the group's weekly email list.

**Holding Hope** , the 6-foot sculpture on the plaza near the Seneca Street entrance to Freeway Park, is meant to inspire unity and community as we move forward in recovery. Take a photo of yourself and post with the hashtag #HoldingHopeSeattle. For every post, the Downtown Seattle Association will make a \$10 donation to the Pike Place Market Foundation in your name.

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! [f](#) [t](#) [i](#)

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

Return Service Requested

## OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH...

Jessie Attri, Riley Balcita, Matt Banks, Ken Carter, Pam Dorrance, Maria Eclipse (Grandmother of Rogie Eclipse), Carmen Ramsey Ellington, (friend of Karen Clark), Phil Fredrickson, Keili Geller (Granddaughter of Nancy Geller), Peter Gibbons (Brother of Eileen Gibbons), Floyd Gossett, **Katherine Guthrie**, Robert Hardy (Friend of Karen Clark), Joyce Irving (mother of Rev. Louis Mitchell), Larry Jones, Michael Kaid, Renee Lang (friend of Glenda Carper), Libonati Family, Sharon Masse (Wife of Gary Magnuson), Dick, Jean and Alex Paul (Parents and Nephew of Beth Paul Russell), Tommy Rivers Puzey (Friend of Karen Clark), Jose Robles, Joseph Scott, Naomi Stein, Jim Stultz (Brother of Doug Stultz), Jaime Rubio Sulficio, Lisa Waldschmidt (Sister of Angela Deppe), Samantha Williams, Stu Williamson (Father of Ruth Williamson) (**bold = newly added**)

You are invited to a celebration of life for Margaret Kitchell via Zoom, 1 pm Sunday, February 28. Contact Julia Buchans, [JBuchans@gmail.com](mailto:JBuchans@gmail.com), 206.353.1894 for link and details.

A service for Merrily Applewhite is scheduled for 2 pm, March 20, via Zoom. Watch for more information.

# PLYMOUTH CHURCH HERALD

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## CHALLENGE AND CHANGE, REST AND RESPITE



Message from Moderator and Vice-Moderator

Challenge and change, and in some cases loss and/or hardship have pervaded the last year for many. In the face of these and other tests, the small but mighty Plymouth staff has helped create and sustain our virtual church, which in turn

has helped sustain and grow the Plymouth community. Much of the ongoing work to keep Plymouth thriving is largely invisible and seen only in results, including online church services, book groups, and prayer meetings.

In the unprecedented year we've all been through, several staff members have foregone earned time off, including bereavement or sabbatical time, just to keep Plymouth going. After so many months of pushing on and pushing through myriad professional, personal, and societal challenges, there comes a time when deep rest and spiritual rejuvenation are needed. Without intentional rest, there can be no rejuvenation. Put another way, life cannot be sustained from an empty well. There is never an ideal time to interrupt the flow of to-do lists, events, and rhythms, but there comes a time when not resting is no longer an option—for the well-being of individuals as well as organizations. We want and need to ensure that keeping Plymouth running AND thriving is something both sustainable AND sustaining for those involved.

To this end, Plymouth staff will take an overdue and well-earned respite for the first two weeks of March. Stay tuned for details regarding how this will affect church services and activities.

On behalf of the Plymouth Council, I want to say a bottomless thank you to the staff for ALL they've done to go above and beyond in the past year, and to wish each staff member true rest and replenishment.

—Al Bentley, Moderator, Nan Macy, Vice-Moderator ✦

## WELCOME, J MASE III

Join online worship this Sunday, 10:30 am, and hear the message of J Mase III, a Black/Trans/queer poet & educator based in Seattle by way of Philly. As an educator, Mase has worked with community members in the US, UK, and Canada on the needs of LGBTQIA+ folks and racial justice in spaces such as K-12 schools, universities, faith communities and restricted care facilities. He is founder of awQward, the first trans and queer people of color talent agency.



Hear J Mase III Sunday, 10:30 am.

J Mase is author of *And Then I Got Fired: One Transqueer's Reflections on Grief, Unemployment & Inappropriate Jokes About Death* as well as *White Folks Be Trippin': An Ethnography Through Poetry & Prose*. His work has been featured on MSNBC, Essence Live, Everyday Feminism, Black Girl Dangerous, the New York Times, BuzzFeed, Blavity, the Root, the Huffington Post, TEDx and more. Currently, he is head writer for the theatrical production *Black Bois* and is co-editor of the *Black Trans Prayer Book*. Find him on Instagram (@jmaseiii) and [JMaseiii.com](http://JMaseiii.com). ✦

## CALLED AS SIBLINGS



### Joining Hearts and Minds with Immigrants and Refugees

The Plymouth Immigration Ministry team is offering a Wednesday Night Lenten series on Zoom, 7-8 pm beginning February 24 and continuing for 4 weeks. We will focus on current immigration laws and systems and how they affect everyone from US born children and unaccompanied minors to asylum-seeking adults and long-time residents. Through discussion, film, presentations, guest speakers, prayer, and reflections we'll listen for ways working together can make a difference during pandemic restrictions and beyond. The changes in our national and state leadership offer us a unique opportunity as people of faith to gain understanding and find new roles in walking alongside our immigrant neighbors near and far. Please join us for all or as many Wednesdays as you can. RSVP on the homepage at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](https://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) to receive the Zoom link. —Carol Mooney ✦

## MUSIC NOTES



Dr. Wanda Griffiths

At Plymouth we always seek to lift up composers, musicians, writers, artists, etc., of color, but especially so during February.

This coming Sunday's prelude was composed by **Dr. H. Leslie Adams** (b. 1932, Cleveland, Ohio). He has worked in all media, including symphony, ballet, chamber, choral, instrumental and vocal solo, and

keyboard. Adams' works have been performed by orchestras all over the world and he has been commissioned by many orchestras as well. Dr. Adams earned degrees from Oberlin College (Conservatory of Music), Long Beach State University, and Ohio State University. His music drama *Blake* was initially composed during the 1980s but has yet to have a full performance with staging. The work is now available for presentation and is actively being promoted to chamber groups, theatre companies, and universities. The story takes place on the eve of the Civil War and according to the website [BlakeOpera.org](http://BlakeOpera.org) it was "Suggested by an idea from a 19th century American novel by Martin Delany (1812-85). *Blake* recounts the story of an enslaved man who resolves to lead his people out of bondage and to a life of dignity. The libretto presents Blake's quest against a background of intrigues involving the authoritative master and the separation of Blake and his wife Miranda, who is given away as a gift."

The composer for this Sunday's postlude is the Nigerian-born composer **Fela Sowande** (1905-1987), who also composed last week's postlude. A prolific composer, Sowande wrote works in many genres: choral, vocal solo, orchestral, and organ. Many of his organ works were composed during the time he was organist and choirmaster at West London Mission of the Methodist Church (1945-1952). He incorporated Nigerian melodies into these organ works providing a point of connection for Black members of the congregation, many of whom had recently migrated to London from the African continent. Composer, musician and blogger Ruth Draper writes: ["Jubilate"] features two themes, an opening fanfare that is distinctly European in character and harmony, and a contrasting Yoruba-influenced theme with a rhythmic pedal ostinato, repeated parallel harmonies in the left hand, and a pentatonic melody in the right." —*Dr. Wanda Griffiths* ✦

## THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

**February 15** Maya Angelou awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama, 2011

**February 16** Joe Frazier Becomes World Heavyweight Champion, 1970

**February 17** Contralto Marian Anderson born, 1902

**February 19** First Pan-African Congress organized in Paris by WEB DuBois, 1919

**February 21** Malcolm X assassinated, 1965 ✦

## ANTI-RACIST GIVING WORKSHOP

Join Anti-racist Giving Workshop Wednesday, February 24, 5:30-8 pm The workshop is free, but we will be raising money for community members impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. Link to register at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) (*In the news feed, click on article "Anti-racist Giving Workshop"*).



Discuss race, reparations, fund-shifting and mutual aid.

- How do our identities shape our relationships with money, philanthropy and giving?
- How do we decide when, where and how much money to give?
- What does it look like to center giving as part of an anti-racist practice?

This cross-class virtual workshop is especially geared towards members of churches and other faith communities and has been designed specifically for folks who have benefited from the history of white wealth accumulation.

**Sponsored by:** *Coalition for Anti-Racist Whites* educating, organizing and mobilizing white people to show up powerfully for racial justice and collective liberation. *Wallingford United Methodist Church*, a Reconciling Congregation. *Social Justice Fund NW*, a foundation working at the frontlines of social change. ✦

## LET'S HEAR FROM YOU



Each week, we are sharing our Love in Action stories in worship and in the *Herald*. We'd like to hear your story! This year-round

stewardship campaign is a great reminder of the strength of this community, and it keeps us feeling connected to each other in these times of physical distance.

How is Plymouth "Love in Action?" There are many ways you could interpret this question! You could consider how Plymouth inspires you to act for justice (because justice is a form of love), or the share about radical love and acceptance you've experienced or witnessed here, or share what participating in this church family means to you, or speak to the important work Plymouth is doing in our community. How do you experience God's love in action at Plymouth? Videos and text can be uploaded via link at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) (*In the news feed, click on article "Love in Action."*) ✦

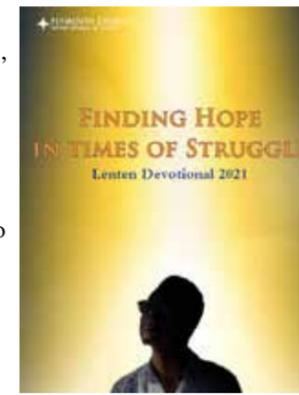
## WHITE CO-CONSPIRATOR SUMMIT

Get equipped to be an agent of change! This virtual summit, **March 19-20**, is unapologetically intended to speak to white people about their role in dismantling white supremacy. Each speaker session and workshop calls out a particular area of white supremacy in order to shift the dominant narrative, and provides ways to re-imagine collectively conspiring against white supremacist culture in order to foster a true Beloved Community. Speakers include Jim Wallis and Nadia Bolz-Weber. Cost is \$150 for the two day session. Visit [ScarrittBennett.org/Summit2021](http://ScarrittBennett.org/Summit2021) to register. ✦



## LENTEN DEVOTIONAL AVAILABLE

We are pleased to share with you Finding Hope in Times of Struggle, this year's Lenten Devotional made up of submissions by the Plymouth community, for the Plymouth community. May this devotional help draw you nearer to God and to one another as we journey through Lent to Easter together. Download pdf at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). A very limited number of paper copies have been printed. To request a paper copy, please contact [Info@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](mailto:Info@PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). —*Jennifer Castle* ✦



Download at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org).

## CELEBRATE WITH JENN HAGEDORN



Congratulations, Jenn!

On behalf of the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ (PNCUCC), Plymouth Church Seattle United Church of Christ, and Spirit of Peace United Church of Christ, you are warmly welcomed to attend Jenn Hagedorn's upcoming ordination and installation service. She will be ordained and installed as Pastor at Spirit of Peace UCC in Sammamish, Washington, **3 pm PST Sunday, February 28.**

Links and details at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) (*In the news feed, click on article "Celebrate with Jennifer Hagedorn."*) ✦

## HEALTH NEWS YOU CAN USE

With the COVID-19 pandemic still raging — and all of its impacts on jobs — many people suddenly need to get health insurance. Now, there's a Special Enrollment Period for free or low-cost insurance through our state's Affordable Care Act health exchange, Washington Healthplanfinder, where the cost of insurance is based on your income and family size.



June Hayakawa-Fung, Faith Community Nurse

The special enrollment is open from Feb. 15, 2021 through May 15.

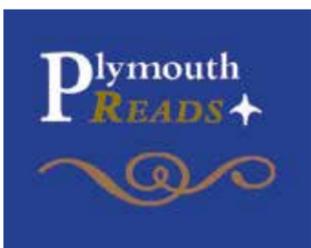
Health insurance Navigators will be available to help people understand the different insurance options and assist through the enrollment process. Public Health—Seattle & King County has its own team of Navigators, and it also manages a county-wide network that includes more than 300 Navigators, working for many Community Health Centers, hospitals, and human services agencies.

Navigators can assist by phone, online with virtual visits, at Zoom enrollment events, and even through in-person visits with protective screening, distancing and masks (more information below). You can learn more about plans and assistance from Public Health or browse plans and sign-up directly through Washington Health Plan Finder.

Find links and resources at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org) (*In the news feed, click on article "Health News You Can Use."*) ✦

## PLYMOUTH READS

Keep reading! And join now if you haven't started "How To Be An Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi. There is still time. Please stay tuned for new dates for our events around Kendi's book as our beloved staff take a much deserved Lenten break. Be first with the news by registering: [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). ✦



## CHECK OUT THE LIBRARY BLOG



Read about it at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org)

Looking for more what's new at Plymouth Library? Read the Library Blog. New articles are posted on the Library Blog every Monday. Do you want to check a library book out and have it delivered? Read how at [PlymouthChurchSeattle.org](http://PlymouthChurchSeattle.org). ✦