

10:30 AM ✦ SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021

LENT:

*Finding Hope
In Times of Struggle*



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.

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

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.

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Kelle Brown

PRELUDE *Offertory* Dr. H. Leslie Adams
Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

African-American composer Dr. H. Leslie Adams (b. 1932, Cleveland, Ohio) has written works in a wide variety of 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.

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Louis Mitchell

Hear now a call to worship and action from the words of
Saint Bayard Rustin:

“We are all one — and if we don't know it, we will learn it
the hard way.”

“We need, in every community, a group of angelic troublemakers...”
who “...believe in social dislocation and creative trouble.”

“Let us be enraged about injustice; but let us not be destroyed by it.”
And work while knowing, “To be afraid is to behave as if the truth
were not true.”

“The proof that one truly believes is in action.”

So, move and act, knowing, “The only weapon we have is our bodies,
and we need to tuck them in places so wheels don't turn.”

And know we have a choice, for... “Surely, I must at all times attempt to
obey the law of the state. But when the will of God and the will of the state
conflict, I am compelled to follow the will of God.”

For what does the Lord require of us? “God does not require us to achieve
any of the good tasks that humanity must pursue. What God requires of us
is that we not stop trying.”

May we hold to our heart an accountable faith. Amen

HYMN *Guide My Feet, Vss 1-3.* . . . African-American Spiritual
 Miriam Gnagy, Emily Kurlinski, Tim Keller, Michael Delos

1 Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet
 2 Hold my hand while I run this race, hold my hand
 3 I'm your child while I run this race, I'm your child

Yes, my God.

while I run this race, guide my feet while I run this race,
 while I run this race, hold my hand while I run this race,
 while I run this race, I'm your child while I run this race,

Yes, my God.



For I don't want to run this race in vain.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Mitchell

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)

You are invited to a celebration of life for Margaret Kitchell via Zoom, 1 pm Sunday, February 28. Contact Julia Buchans, 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.

 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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SHARING PEACEThe peace of Christ be with you.

MOMENT OF LOVE IN ACTION Michael and Elizabeth Gordon

A TIME OF REMEMBRANCE *Remembering the Japanese Internment*

Japanese internment camps were established during World War II by President Franklin Roosevelt through his Executive Order 9066. From 1942 to 1945, it was the policy of the U.S. government that people of Japanese descent would be interred in isolated camps. Enacted in reaction to Pearl Harbor and the ensuing war, the Japanese internment camps are now considered one of the most atrocious violations of American civil rights in the 20th century.

CONTEMPORARY VOICE Honoring Bayard Rustin



INTRODUCTION AND SCRIPTURE READING Dr. Brown
(NRSV translation) Genesis 45:5

And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you.

ANTHEM. *Angels* by Richard Smallwood
Dr. Brown

MESSAGE *Accountable Faith* J Mase III

HYMN *Guide My Feet, Vs 4. . .* African-American Spiritual
Miriam Gnagy, Emily Kurlinski, Tim Keller, Michael Delos

Stand by me while I run this race, Yes, my God
Stand by me while I run this race, Yes, my God
Stand by me while I run this race
For I don't want to run this race in vain

CHARGE AND BLESSING J Mase III

POSTLUDE. *Jubilate* Fela Sowande

Dr. Wanda Griffiths, Organ

Nigerian-born composer Fela Sowande (1905-1987) wrote today's postlude (and also last Sunday's postlude). Sowande composed works in many genres: choral, vocal solo, orchestral, and organ. Many of his organ works were written during the time he was organist and choirmaster at West London Mission of the Methodist Church (1945-1952). He often 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.

Special thanks to guest preacher 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. Read more about him and find links to his work at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org.



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

Called as Siblings The Plymouth Immigration Ministry team offers a Wednesday Night Lenten series on Zoom, 7-8 pm, beginning February 24 and continuing 4 weeks. 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. Please join us for all or as many Wednesdays as you can. RSVP on the homepage at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org to receive the Zoom link. —*Carol Mooney*

Join Anti-racist Giving Workshop Wednesday, February 24, 5:30 – 8 pm The workshop is free, but we will raise money for community members impacted by the pandemic. Discuss race, reparations, fund-shifting and mutual aid. This cross-class virtual workshop is especially geared towards members of churches and faith communities, designed specifically for folks who have benefited from the history of white wealth accumulation. Find link to register at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (*In the news feed, click on article “Anti-racist Giving Workshop.”*)

White Co-conspirator Summit March 19-20 This virtual summit is 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. Links to info and registration at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (*In the news feed, click on article “White Co-conspirator Summit.”*)

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.

Celebrate with Jennifer Hagedorn You are warmly invited to attend Jenn Hagedorn's ordination and installation service as Pastor at Spirit of Peace UCC in Sammamish, Washington Sunday, February 28 at 3 pm PST. Details at PlymouthChurchSeattle.org (*In the news feed, click on article “Celebrate with Jennifer Hagedorn.”*)

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.