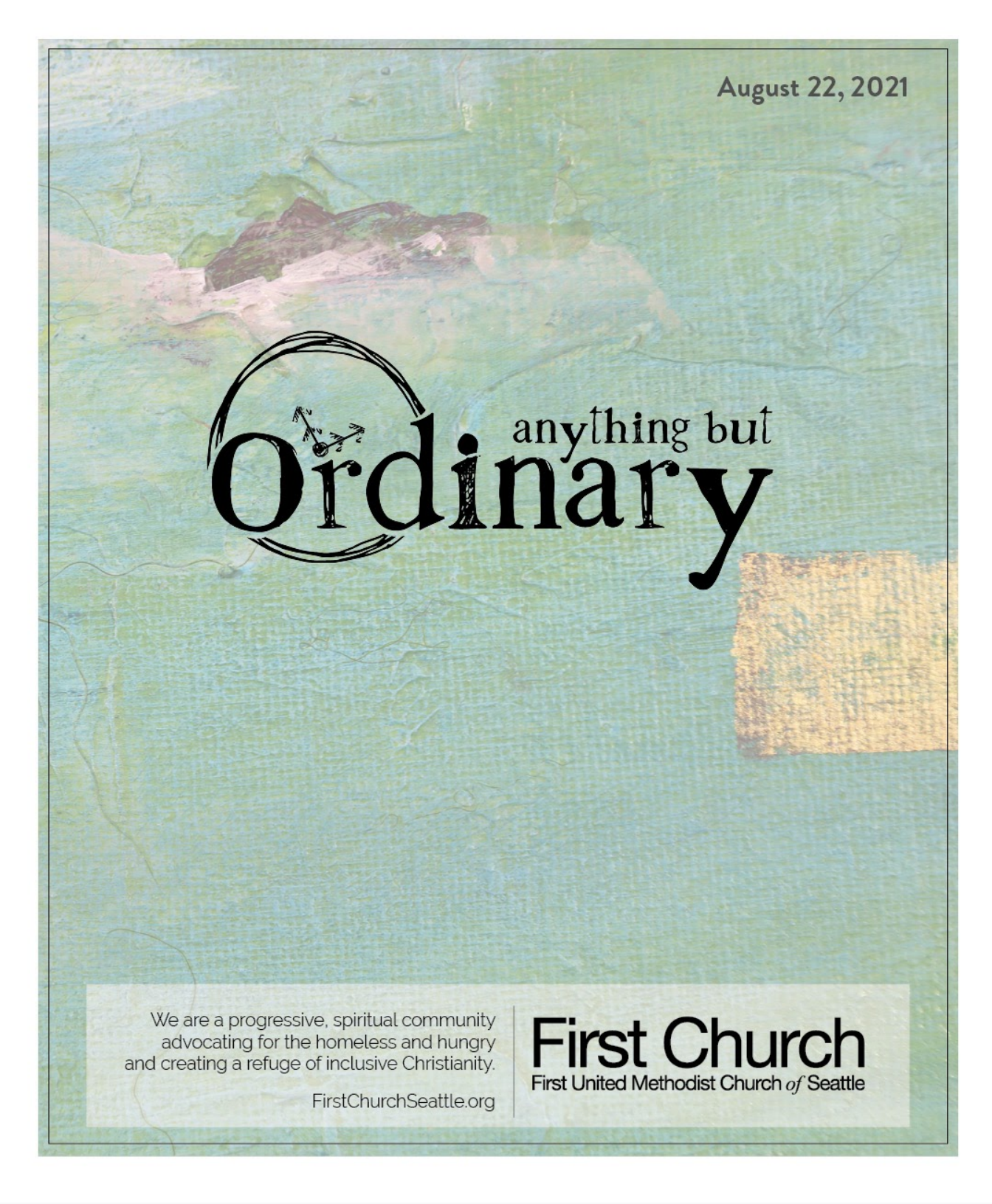


August 22, 2021



anything but
Ordinary

We are a progressive, spiritual community
advocating for the homeless and hungry
and creating a refuge of inclusive Christianity.

FirstChurchSeattle.org

First Church
First United Methodist Church of Seattle

First United Methodist Church of Seattle
180 Denny Way Seattle, WA 98109

“Anything but Ordinary”

August 22, 2021

Prelude

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
improvisational meditation by Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

*** Call to Worship (enfleshed.com)**

Jackie Celin

Here, in this place,

God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!

Here, in this place, we come to follow Christ.

***Opening Hymn**

TFWS #2236 *Gather Us In*

Welcome

Rev. Yvonne Agduyeng

Lighting the Community Candle

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself today.

May this community be a place of companionship and healing for you;

Rich or poor, gay or straight, homeless or housed, young or aging,

Full of hope or full of questions.

There is nothing that can separate us from God’s all-embracing love.

Christ invites you – Christ invites us – to find him today. Let the celebration begin!

Special Music

***How Great Thou Art* - David Solomon, vibraphone**

Prayers of the People

Jackie Celin

Prayer Response

UMH #164 *Come My Way, My Truth, My Life*

Introducing the Scriptures

Rev. Yvonne Agduyeng

Hebrew Bible Reading

Genesis 37:1-4

Laura Celin

Hebrew Bible Reading

(Continued) Genesis 37: 12-28

Jonathyn Kraig

This is the Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Special Offering for Haiti Earthquake Recovery

Call to Discipleship

Confession & Lord's Prayer

God, we thank you that we are fearfully and wonderfully made.
 You formed us each in your own image, and you made us
 all special
 Our voices, our faces, our bodies, our habits, our talents,
 and our failings
 All the same and all unique

You search me and you know me,
You search us and you know us

We each have our private stories, feelings, our places, our hopes, our joys,
 Our secret fears, resentments, insecurities, doubts which we bear alone or we bear together
 Our times when we feel trapped like Joseph
 In a hole, in the ground, with only a distant star as our nighttime companion.
 Help us to hold our individuality with our place in community

Rev. Jeremy Smith

Search me and know me,
Search us and know us

Dear Jesus, you walked alone in the desert,
 You shared a life and ministry with your twelve disciples
 You were surrounded by massive crowds,
 You spoke to individuals and to multitudes
 You suffered alone on the cross,

Search me and know me
Search us and know us

We come to you as individuals,
 We come to you as a community
 In the silence of night, the brightness of morning,
 the turbulence of the rush hour,
 In this church building, in our workplaces, and homes

**Help us to be one with ourselves,
 one with each other and one with you.**

(Adapted liturgy from *enfleshed.com* and *Joe Serenname*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** **UMH 127** *Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah*

***Blessing of the Elements & Sending** **Rev. Yvonne Agduyeng & Rev. Jeremy Smith**

Postlude ***Improvisation on "This is My Maker's World"*** **Elisabeth Ellis, Organist**

**All may stand as able.*

***You are invited to use the translation of the Lord's Prayer with which you are most comfortable.*

Our Thanks to Those Helping in Worship: Jackie Celin, Lay Worship Leader; Laura Celin, Reader; Jonathyn Kraig, Reader; Communion Steward, Vi Boyer; Front Door Greeter, Vi Boyer; AV, TBA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Offering: Haiti Earthquake Relief – we are gathering a Special Offering for earthquake relief and early response efforts in Haiti. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), has awarded a grant to the Methodist Church of Haiti to aid in these efforts along with coordinating with two medical clinics in Gebeau and Les Cayes. Special thanks to the Global Missions Committee for the coordination of the Special Offering. Give online by selecting **“Special Offering: Haiti Earthquake Relief”** from the dropdown menu on our giving page: firstchurchseattle.org/give

Pride + Faith August Gathering - Our first in-person Pride + Faith gathering since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic will be this month! Join us for an outdoor gathering at Plaza Garibaldi on **Saturday, August 28th from 6-8pm**. Pride + Faith is an LGBTQ + Allies group at First Church that meets for fellowship once a month and welcomes anyone who supports the LGBTQ cause to join in on some good food and conversation! RSVP so we know to save you a seat: Prideandfaith@firstchurchseattle.org

July - August Sermon Series – Several United Methodist churches in the area have banded together to do a “preacher share” where guest preachers will be streamed to these churches on the same Sunday. **Each week in July and August**, these new and familiar voices will guide us through fresh perspectives on the origin stories in Genesis. As we reopen on July 18th, we will reflect on what these stories of faith tell us about the historical context in which they were written, and how they continue to shape our faith today.

Volunteer for Shared Breakfast – Diane White-Shaw, our Women's Retreat Coordinator, writes: *"We are disappointed that the women's retreat will not take place this year. Instead, join us for fun, laughs, food and BUNCO!!"* This event will take place at Joyce Frost's home in Kirkland, WA on **September 18 from 3-8pm**. Note: This event will take place outdoors. In the event of inclement weather we will move the event to a well-ventilated indoor space, and request that all attendees wear masks. RSVP to Diane White-Shaw for address and additional information: 206-310-6595/ dkwhish@epad.com

Newcomers Orientation – The First Church Hospitality Team hosts a quarterly “Welcome to First Church” gathering for newcomers to our community, as well as for anyone who is interested in making First Church their church home by becoming a member. **Join us on Sunday, September 19 at 12PM, to learn more at First Church. Please register by Thursday, September 16.** Email Pastor Jeremy Smith: Jeremy@firstchurchseattle.org

Share a Prayer Request - Please let us know how we can be praying for you! We want to make sure we are supporting each other in every season, especially when we are not gathering in-person as regularly.

Learn more about all of these opportunities at:

firstchurchseattle.org

ABOUT US



We're called “First Church” because we are Seattle’s first congregation, established in 1853. We cherish our place in Seattle’s past, present, and future. First Church is a proud member of the **Reconciling Ministries Network**, a community “mobilizing United Methodists of all sexual orientations and gender identities to transform our Church and world into the full expression of Christ’s inclusive love.”

firstchurchseattle.org ♦ 206-622-7278

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