

A dramatic sunset over a city and water, with a semi-transparent text box overlaid. The sky is filled with vibrant orange, red, and purple clouds. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. In the foreground, the silhouettes of buildings and trees are visible against the bright sky. The water in the middle ground reflects the colors of the sunset. The text box is centered and contains the following text:

Celebration of Life for
Bishop Wilbur Wong Yan Choy

May 28, 1918 - December 28, 2021

Celebration of Life for
Bishop Wilbur Wong Yan Choy

First United Methodist Church of Seattle
March 12, 2022, 2:00pm

Prelude	<i>Medley of Favorite Hymns</i>	Elisabeth Ellis, Pianist
Processional		
Gathering & Greeting		Rev. Jeremy Smith, First Church Seattle, Pastor
Call to Worship		Mona Tanaka, First Church Seattle, Laity
*Hymn (UMH #711)	<i>For All the Saints, (vs. 1,2,4)</i>	First Church Seattle Virtual Choir
Opening Prayer		Rev. Jeremy Smith, First Church Seattle, Pastor
Remembrances		Bishop Roy Sano Rev. Stan DePano Rev. Barbara Troxell
Special Music	<i>"The Lord's Prayer" - arr. Albert Hay Malotte</i> Tess Altiveros, Soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, Pianist	
Remembrances	<i>Video Memorial</i>	Jon Choy Donnell Choy Rev. Nancy Adachi-Osawa
Scripture in Song	<i>"Psalm 23" - arr. Albert Hay Malotte</i> Tess Altiveros, Soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, Pianist	
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 40:1-5,27-31 ; Hebrews 11:1-3,13-16,39-40	Rev. Jan Anderson, retired Rev. Juliana Bateman, Bayview Retirement Center

Homily

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, Resident Bishop

Special Music

“The Bishop’s Song”

Rev. Jan Anderson

*Beloved, beloved, we are the children of God,
and it does not yet appear what we shall be;
But we know - that when God appears,
But we know - that when God appears,
We shall be like God. We shall be like God.
We shall see God, face to face.
Come, Thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Beloved, beloved, we are the children of God,
and it does not yet appear what we shall be;
But we know - that when God appears,
But we know - that when God appears,
We shall be like God. We shall be like God.
We shall see God, face to face.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bishop Mary Ann Swenson

Special Music

“What a Wonderful World / Aloha Oe”

Blaine Ukelele Group of Seattle

Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church

Thank you from the Family

Marcy Hikida

Dismissal & Blessing

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, Resident Bishop

*You are invited to recess from the back to the front of the Sanctuary
so you can take a moment of remembrance by the altar.*

Recessional Postlude

Shall We Gather at the River

Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

Reception to follow in Narthex or Driveway

Bishops in attendance:

Bishop Minerva Carcaño - California Nevada

Bishop Grant Hagiya - California Pacific

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung - Wisconsin, North Central Jurisdiction

Bishop Jane Middleton - Retired, North Eastern Jurisdiction

Bishop Karen Oliveto - Mountain Sky

Obituary for Bishop Wilbur W. Y. Choy

Bishop Wilbur W. Y. Choy was born in Stockton, CA, and died in Seattle, Washington. He was the first Asian American elected as a United Methodist bishop in the United States. As Bishop he was assigned to the Seattle Episcopal area 1972-1984, and the San Francisco Episcopal area 1980-1984.

He is known for inspiring the church to developing church leaders of diverse backgrounds, and worked for ethnic and racial justice across the church. He was known for his great sense of humor, and graciousness to all people.

He was pre-deceased by his parents, Lie Yen Choy and Ida Lee who were born in China, immigrated, and settled in Stockton, CA. Bishop Choy married Grace Ying Hom on September 26, 1940 who died of cancer in 1977. He was also pre-deceased by his sister, Monta Jean Koe on November 5, 1990.

He married the Rev. Nancy (Yamasaki) Adachi-Osawa, a United Methodist Clergywomen on December 29, 1982. Other survivors are brother Eddie Choy, sister Connie Young; four children: Randolph W. (Cheryl), Jonathan W. (Linda), Phyllis W. (the late LeRoy Siebert), and Donnell W. (LiangFeng Guo), Choy, and numerous grand, great-grand and great-great grandchildren, and step-children, Dennis and Tracie Yamasaki (Leo Dela Cruz) and three step-grandchildren.

Memorial gifts can be made to any of the following:

First United Methodist Church of Seattle,
PO Box 19596, Seattle, WA 98109

Bayview Manor Foundation,
11 W Aloha Street, Seattle, WA 98119

University of the Pacific,
3601 Pacific Ave., Stockton, CA 95211