



Pride Sunday is June 25

PRIDE



**Worship at 10AM followed by refreshments
and communion at the end of the Pride
Parade route. All are welcome!**

First United Methodist Church of Seattle is a progressive faith community offering a place to grow spiritually and a refuge of inclusive Christianity. We use our voices and energy to advocate for persons on society's margins and for all God's creation.

First Church

First United Methodist Church of Seattle

FirstChurchSeattle.org

- GATHERING -

Prelude

Blessed Assurance

arr. Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

* Call to Worship

Holy One, if every church were
more like the congregation that is
gathered here today—
**there would be no empty seats, no
one excluded, no one shunned.**
But for this one shiny moment
today, Holy One— we are church
together. We are a community.
**We are humans— authentically
ourselves here and now in this very
moment— not afraid of judgment
from one another in this room—
not bound to uphold someone
else’s expectations of us,
or how we love, or who we love.**
Today, may hopeless hearts find

Rev. Paul Ortiz, University Gathering
that spark that’s been missing, may
hurt souls find healing, and those
who are weary from having their
basic human rights voted on, taken
away, and given back again in tiny
portions with giant strings attached,
find a community right here.
**Here in this community, today —
not just for June, but 12 months a
year— we recommit ourselves to
the work — until we are all truly
free to love, to live, and to flourish.**
Today is the party. Tomorrow, the
work continues. But thankfully we
have each other for the journey.
AMEN.

* Opening Hymn

“Let Us Build a House” v. 1,2,5 (Projected)

* Passing of the Peace

Peter Jabin, Seattle First

Blessing of the Marchers

Rev. Katie Ladd, Queen Anne UMC

Welcome

Rev. Jeremy Smith, Seattle First

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle

Peter Jabin, Seattle First

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself today,
across the spectrum of human existence of sexuality, identity, ability, or privilege;
in a world full of questions, doubts, and a climate in crisis;
may this community be a place of companionship and healing for you.
Know this: There is nothing that can separate you from God’s all-embracing love.
Christ invites you – Christ invites us – to find him today in worship and celebration.

Special Music

He Never Failed Me Yet - Robert Ray

Sanctuary and Trinity Choirs

Todd Shively, conductor; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

- PROCLAIMING -

Introducing the Preacher	Joey Lopez, Church Council of Greater Seattle	
Old Testament Reading	Psalm 86:1-10	Nyx Lewis, Queen Anne UMC
New Testament Reading	Matthew 10:26-31	Rev. Ruth Marston-Bihl, Trinity UMC
	This is the word of Life. Thanks be to God.	
Sermon	“Mountains of Stuff”	Bishop Cedrick D. Bridgeforth

- RESPONDING -

Prayers of the People	Peter Jabin, Seattle First	
Prayer Response	TFWS 2236 “Gather Us In” v.1	
Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away, see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.	Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.	

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation	Rev. Jeremy Smith, Seattle First
Prayer of Confession	Rev. Yvonne Agduyeng, Redmond UMC
The Great Thanksgiving	Bishop Cedrick D. Bridgeforth Rev. Shalom Agtarap, Tacoma First

****The Lord’s Prayer:** 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, forever and ever. Amen.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Servers include: *Rev. Michele Campton-Stehr, Renton First*
 Rev. Laura Baumgartner, Haller Lake UMC

Prayer After Communion	Rev. Jeremy Smith, Seattle First
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* Closing Hymn	“Christ Has Broken Down the Wall” (projected)
* Blessing & Sending	Bishop Cedrick D. Bridgeforth

Postlude

**All may stand as able.*

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

ABOUT THE SERVICE

THANK YOU to the following churches for their participation today. Visit them to learn more about affirming presences in their communities, or visit RMNetwork.org to find reconciling communities in your area!

- Haller Lake UMC
- Queen Anne UMC
- Redmond UMC
- Renton First UMC
- Seattle First UMC
- Tacoma First UMC
- Trinity UMC, Ballard
- University Gathering, U District

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Call to Worship by Rev. David Wheeler, United Church of Christ. Used with permission.

Scripture Readings from the New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition.

Call to Confession adapted from a prayer by Karoline M. Lewis.

Communion Liturgy inspired by Union Coffee Shop, Dallas Texas.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Report now online - First Church's 2022-2023 annual report, including reflections from staff, leaders, and teams, is now available online after being affirmed by a June 4th Church Conference. The report includes updates on our Vision 2025 goals and a church reorganization that prioritizes congregational involvement. Read more at FirstChurchSeattle.org/news

July Sermon Series - "The People's Choice" Each week, the sermon topic and the pool of hymns were selected from responses to a congregational survey after Easter. See you each Sunday at 10:30am!

July 2 - "How do we find joy and love God in difficult times?"

July 9 - "What does Prayer Actually Do?"

July 16 - "What is the role of people of faith in a society?"

July 23 - "Christians and Atheists: Will we shake it off, or are we never, ever getting back together?"

July 30 - "How do you Love People You Just Don't Like?"

Pax Christi Yoga is Back! Yoga classes welcome both beginner and more advanced students to participate in this communion with God through the moving prayer of yoga. Pax Christi Yoga is now offered in-person and online at 9AM on Saturdays! To join this class, email Sharon at PaxChristiYoga@firstchurchseattle.org

Thank you for your offerings and your Communication Cards! Thank you for your support of First Church missions and ministries! You can drop your offering & communication card in the bowls by the door when you leave the sanctuary. Or you can make a gift online by using the QR code to the right with your smartphone, or at FirstChurchSeattle.org/give



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 "*committed to intersectional justice across and beyond the United Methodist connection, working for the full participation of all LGBTQ+ people throughout the life and leadership of the Church.*"

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