

# Church for ALL OF US

June 2023

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](http://FirstChurchSeattle.org)



- PROCLAIMING -

Introducing the Scripture

Rev. Jeremy Smith

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, NRSVue

Tom Allen

Psalter Reading

Psalms 1, NRSVue

Teresa Canady

This is the word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Testimony

Dana Birkby

Sermon

“Vitality Through Vile-tality”

Rev. Jeremy Smith

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering

Erin Elaine Gail

Offertory

*O Trinity of Blessed Light* - Ambrose of Milan  
hymn tune ‘*O Lux Beata Trinitas*’  
Tess Altiveros, soprano; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

**\* Offering Response** TFWS #2238 - *In the Midst of New Dimensions v.1*

Through the flood of starving people,  
warring factions, and despair.

Who will lift the olive branches?

Who will light the flame of care?

God of rainbow, fiery pillar,  
leading where the eagles soar.

We your people, ours the journey,

now and ever, now and ever, now and evermore.

Call to Discipleship

Rev. Jeremy Smith

Prayer of Confession

Erin Elaine Gail

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Jeremy Smith

**\*\*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.

Prayer After Communion

\* Closing Hymn

UMH 451 “Be Thou My Vision”

\* Blessing & Sending

Rev. Derek Nakano

Postlude

*Postlude in B flat* - John E. West

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:** Erin Elaine Gail, Lay Worship Leader; Tom Allen, Reader; Teresa Canady, Reader; Teresa Canady, Communion Steward; Teresa Benedict, Greeter; Laura Celin, Audio-Visual Operator.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

**Peace with Justice Special Offering** - Today is one of our denomination's six Special Sundays, Peace with Justice Sunday, and the special offering we collect supports focus areas that include non-proliferation and disarmament, peace-building, gun violence prevention, and addressing ongoing conflicts throughout the world. Half of our gifts stay with local ministries and half support the work of Church and Society globally. As bearers of Christ's hope, we give today to work for real change in places that are hurting.

**End of the Ministry Year Celebration** - Everyone is invited to attend our End of Ministry Year celebration held today after worship. This is an all-church conference and all members are invited to attend. We will be celebrating all we have achieved this past year, and elect our congregational leadership for 2023-2024. Plus, Linda Allen will be selling her famous bead necklaces, benefitting the Homelessness Fund.

**Pride Sunday Volunteering, T-shirts & Offering** - Each year on Pride Sunday we serve cookies and water to marchers in Seattle's Pride Parade. Help support this special event as we celebrate the LGBTQ+ community at First Church, and in the greater Seattle community. Learn how you can be involved at <https://firstchurchseattle.org/gather/pride-at-first-church/>

**"The Spirit Leads us Forward: Towards a Debt-free First Church - The goal of "The Spirit Moves us Forward: Towards a Debt-Free Future" is to raise \$454,000 by the end of August 2025** to retire the mortgage. Generous church members have already come forward and committed \$420,000 toward this effort. **We need your help to raise the final \$34,000!** [firstchurchseattle.org/give/mortgage/](https://firstchurchseattle.org/give/mortgage/)

**Sunday Morning Adult Class: *Immigration and the UMC*** - Join our Sunday morning Adult class on **Sunday May 21 - June 11 at 9AM** for an overview and conversation around immigration and what United Methodism teaches about care for immigrants and refugees. [firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events](https://firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events)

**Bread for the World Offering of Letters** - Bread for the World is a Christian advocacy organization urging U.S. decision makers to do all they can to pursue a world without hunger. Join us as we join with many other churches across the country in writing letters to our U.S. Senators and Representatives. This year's Offering of Letters is focused on SNAP, a significant portion of the Farm Bill.

**Lunch & Learn: Nogales Mission Team Report** - Please join us for a Lunch and Learn on **June 11 at 12pm after the worship service** to hear about the recent experiences of our Nogales Mission Trip Team. Members from various United Methodist Churches in Washington traveled to the border town of Nogales, Arizona in April. Sue Porter, Cynthia Lockwood, and George Lockwood will share their experiences and their photographs. [firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events](https://firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events)

**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](https://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." [firstchurchseattle.org](https://firstchurchseattle.org) ☎ 206-622-7278 [f @firstchurchseattle](https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchseattle) [t @firstchurchseattle](https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchseattle) [@firstUMCseattle](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) [@firstchurchseattle](https://www.tiktok.com/@firstchurchseattle)