



People's Choice: Sermons & Hymns

July 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

- GATHERING -

Prelude *This is My Maker's World* - arr. Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

*** Call to Worship** (from enfleshed.com) **Jackie Celin**
The Holy accompanies those who seek **and Cosmic Consolation befriends**
Wholeheartedness, **those facing sorrow.**
Divinity dances with those who love
Liberation, Let us worship God—the Web who
The Spirit of the Living Christ makes a Holds Together All Things,
home with those who practice **The Sacred Mystery who makes vivid**
Solidarity, **the ways of Compassion.**

*** Opening Hymn** **UMH #451 "Be Thou My Vision"**

*** Passing of the Peace** **Jackie Celin**

Welcome **Rev. Jeremy Smith**

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle **Jackie Celin**

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 *How Can I Keep from Singing?* - arr. Elisabeth Ellis
Tess Altiveros, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

Prayers of the People **Jackie Celin**

Prayer Response **TFWS 2025 "As The Deer"**

As the deer panteth for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

- PROCLAIMING -

Introducing the Scriptures		Rev. Jeremy Smith
New Testament Reading	Romans 12:1-8 (NRSVue)	Sean Canady
Gospel Reading	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (NRSVue)	Teresa Canady
	This is the word of Life. Thanks be to God.	
Sermon	“How do I Love People I don’t even Like?”	Rev. Jeremy Smith

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering		Jackie Celin
Offertory	<i>His Eye is on the Sparrow</i> - arr. Dr. Christopher T. F. Hanson	
	Tess Altiveros, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist; Dr. Christopher T. F. Hanson, violinist	

*** Offering Response *Offering Response UMH 92 “For the Beauty of the Earth”**
For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth,
over and around us lies. Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Call to Discipleship		Rev. Jeremy Smith
Prayer of Confession		Jackie Celin

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	TFWS #2222 - “The Servant Song”	
* Blessing & Sending		Rev. Jeremy Smith
Postlude	<i>Postludium</i> - Pachelbel	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; Sean Canady, Reader; Teresa Canady, Reader;
Teresa Canady, Communion Steward; Candy Bonham, Greeter; Laura Celin, Audio-Visual Operator

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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! Check our website for past sermon topics you might have missed!

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 & 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?"

Pride + Faith July Fellowship TODAY - Pride+Faith is an LGBTQIA+ and allies group at First Church in Seattle that meets for fellowship once a month. We welcome anyone who supports the LGBTQIA+ cause to join us for some good food and conversation! Join us for our July Fellowship Lunch on Sunday, July 30, 12 noon. We'll gather at Plaza Garibaldi Mexican Restaurant, 129 1st Avenue North, just two blocks west of First Church.

"Connect with First Church" TODAY - Join us for a Lunch and Learn on July 30th to learn about our new "Connecting our Communities" team. Come find out how we'll be working to support our congregation's wonderful communities and small groups, and plug new folks into them. Stick around after the service on the 30th, and join us downstairs at noon for lunch in the fellowship hall and learn how you can get involved. Sign up online: FirstChurchSeattle.org/upcoming-events

Class on Music and Spirituality: The Role of Music in Christian Liturgy and Worship. How does music affect you in church? What types of music connect you to God? What types push you away? In this interactive four-part series, you'll explore music and spirituality from early music to the great composers to John and Charles Wesley to contemporary Christian music. **Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. through August 6th**

Save the Date: First Church Women's Retreat - Join the amazing women of First Church at our annual Women's Retreat on October 20-22 at Camp Indianola for a time of reflection and worship, crafts and yoga, as well as unstructured time to simply breathe. We'll send out registration details later this summer.

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 offering plate during the Offertory. 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.*"

 FirstChurchSeattle.org  206-622-7278  @firstchurchseattle  @firstUMCseattle  @firstchurchseattle