



Rooted & Resolved

First Church

First United Methodist Church *of* Seattle

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.

- GATHERING -

Prelude

Jo Riedel, pianist

* **Call to Worship** (from enfleshed.com) **Tom Allen**
The Wisdom of God yearns for our attention
Though evil works to fool and sway us
In chaos and in quiet, She reaches for us
We are rooted in care for each other
She reveals the true sources of our hope
Grounded in a promise of love,
Made capable of brave and bold acts
And makes known the cause of our struggles
May God renew our faith

* **Opening Hymn** **UMH #545 “The Church’s One Foundation”**

* **Passing of the Peace** **Tom Allen**

Welcome **Rev. Jeremy Smith**

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle **Tom Allen**

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 ***Down to the River to Pray - tradional, arr. Sheldon Curry***
First Church Summer Choir, Directed by Dr. Glenn Gregg; Jo Riedel, pianist

Prayers of the People **Barbara Moreland**

Prayer Response **UMH 405 “Seek Ye First”**

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and God’s righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.
Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;
knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia.**

- PROCLAIMING -

Introducing the Scriptures

Rev. Jeremy Smith

New Testament Reading

Acts 8:26-39 (NRSVue)

Ann Shaffer

Gospel Reading

Matthew 16:13-20 (NRSVue)

Wally Shaffer

This is the word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Resolved on LGBTQ+ Inclusion, Rooted in Scripture”

Rev. Jeremy Smith

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering

Tom Allen

Offertory *Somewhere, from West Side Story - Sondheim and Bernstein.*
soloist; Jo Riedel, pianist

Tess Altiveros,

*** Offering Response** TFWS 2242 **“Walk with Me”** verse 4

**Walk with me, I will walk with you, and build the land
that God has planned where love shines through.**

**When you share your faith with me and work for life made new,
the witness of your faithfulness calls me to walk with you. *Refrain***

Call to Discipleship

Rev. Jeremy Smith

Prayer of Confession

Tom Allen

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 2238 “In the Midst of New Dimensions”

*** Blessing & Sending**

Rev. Jeremy Smith

Postlude

Jo Riedel, 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: Tom Allen, Lay Worship Leader; Ann Shaffer, Reader; Wally Shaffer, Reader;
Candy Bonham Communion Steward; Beth Snyder, Greeter; Laura Celin, Audio-Visual Operator

ANNOUNCEMENTS

August Sermon Series - "Rooted & Resolved" What are the Foundations of our Faith, and how do they help us stand firm in our convictions, even when controversial? This August series will be seeking Clarity in our Convictions through examining our four sources of authority as United Methodists.

August 6 - Resolved on Immigration, Rooted in Tradition

August 13 - Resolved on LGBTQ+ Inclusion, Rooted in Scripture

August 20 - Resolved on Reproductive Choice, Rooted in Experience

August 27 - Resolved on Gun Control, Rooted in Reason

See you each Sunday at 10:30am! Check our website for past sermon topics you might have missed!

Seattle Center Art Walk for Children & Youth TODAY! Pastor Jeremy invites church families on an Art Walk through Seattle Center. The 45-minute walk will teach us about a few public artworks and how they remind us of scripture and story. Depending on timing, we will end at First Church or the playground/fountain. A light lunch will be provided immediately after church, and the walk will begin promptly at noon. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged to ensure an accurate lunch count. Contact Jonathyn to register:

Jonathyn@FirstChurchSeattle.org

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.

Saturdays with Pax Christi Yoga! Yoga classes welcome both beginner and more advanced students to participate in communion with God through the moving prayer of yoga. Pax Christi Yoga is now offered in-person & 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](https://www.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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