



*Right
to
(Soul) Repair*

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

What Gift Can We Bring

arranged by Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

*** Call to Worship**

Don Crawley

The earth was made for flourishing
Life longs to bloom and blossom
Created in God’s image, born of Love
itself
We each have a role, we each play a part
In service to each other and all our
creaturely kin

We trust in our offerings
We nurture each other
We take hope in our collective potential
May the Creator of Life come and
thrive among us

*** Opening Hymn**

TFWS 2175 - “Together We Serve”

*** Passing of the Peace**

Don Crawley

Welcome

Rev. Jeremy

- CENTERING -

Blessing of the School Teachers

Jonathyn Kraig & Rev. Jeremy

Lighting the Community Candle

Don Crawley

Whoever you are, wherever you find yourself today,
across the spectrum of human existence, 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 in worship and celebration.

Special Music

Come Thou Fount - arranged by Lloyd Larson
Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, director and pianist

Prayers of the People

Don Crawley

Prayer Response

This is God’s Wondrous World, v.3

This is God's wondrous world. O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong. God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world: why should my heart be sad?
Let voices sing, O let the heavens ring! God reigns, let earth be glad.

- PROCLAIMING -

Introducing the Scriptures		Rev. Jeremy
Old Testament	Isaiah 43:18-21 (NRSVue)	Janet Crawley
New Testament Reading	2 Corinthians 5: 16-21 (NRSVue)	Mona Tanaka

This is the word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon	“Renewal Notice”	Rev. Jeremy
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- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering		Don Crawley
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Offertory *The Earth is a Living Thing*- Deborah J. Anderson
Ibidunni Ojikutu, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

*** Offering Response UMH 400 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing v.2**
Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious love.

Call to Discipleship		Rev. Jeremy
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Prayer of Confession		Don Crawley
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The Sacrament of Holy Communion		Rev. Jeremy
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****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 2190 “Bring Forth the Kingdom”
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* Blessing & Sending		Rev. Jeremy
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Postlude	<i>Toccata in G Major</i> - Théodore Dubois	Elisabeth Ellis, organist
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**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: Lay Worship Leader, Don Crawley; Janet Crawley, Reader; Mona Tanaka, Reader; Laura Celin, Audio-Visual Operator.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessing of the Animals | October 1: Join us for a special service as Reverend Jeremy shares blessings and scripture for all of the animals. Guest preacher Peter Jabin will deliver a sermon on caring for God's world. *Pets of all kind are welcome, but please be sure to have your pet in a secure carrier or on a leash.*

Pub Theology | October 1: On October 1st, the Vintners (20s/30s fellowship group) invites you to Pub Theology at Queen Anne Beer Hall a few blocks from First Church. A group will walk over after worship, with the event to begin at noon on October 1st. See you there!

Prayer Class for "Help, Thanks, Wow!" by Anne Lamott: If you wonder about prayer or find prayer a challenge, Anne Lamott's book "Help, Thanks, Wow!" may be for you. Lamott is direct and funny. She doesn't pretend to be perfect and lets us in on her struggles. Let's talk about the book and where you are with prayer. The class will meet on Sunday mornings in room 301 at 9:00 am on Sept 17, 24 and Oct 1. *No book required!* To sign up, please visit firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/

Leaning Into Grief: Personal and Planetary Sorrows Retreat | Oct 13-15, 2023: Grief is an integral part of life that requires our attention if we want to be fully available to life. In our culture, however, we have forgotten how to share our grief with one another. This retreat will utilize Francis Weller's "Five Gates of Grief" to connect participants to their distinct and multifaceted experiences of grief. To register, please visit firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/ Registration ends on September 28.

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. To register, please visit firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/
Last day to register is September 30th.

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



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://www.FirstChurchSeattle.org)  206-622-7278  @firstchurchseattle  @firstUMCseattle 
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