

The background of the entire page is a dark, swirling mass of purple smoke or mist. In the center of this smoke is a large, glowing blue circle. Inside this circle, the text "Villains: Why do we Love to Hate?" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is arranged in four lines: "Villains:", "Why do we", "Love to", and "Hate?".

Villains: Why do we Love to Hate?

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 *“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”* arranged by Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

*** Call to Worship** (Source: enfleshed) **Barbara Moreland**

We gather in devotion to the One who is
Justice, Mercy, and Compassion

**We turn our hearts toward the One who
delivers us from evil**

Attuned to imbalances of power, God draws
near to those in struggle

**Empowering the people, God’s love is
manifest in action**

Challenging our complicity

Championing our capability

May the Spirit come and align our lives
with God

*** Opening Hymn** **UMH #707 - “Hymn of Promise”**

*** Passing of the Peace** **Barbara Moreland**

Welcome **Rev. Jeremy**

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle **Barbara Moreland**

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 Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy***
Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, director and pianist

Prayers of the People **Barbara Moreland**

Prayer Response **TFWS #2253 “Water, River, Spirit, Grace”**
Water, River, Spirit, Grace,
Sweep over me, sweep over me!

Recarve the depths your fingers traced in sculpting me,
In sculpting me.

- PROCLAIMING -

Introducing the Scriptures

Rev. Jeremy

Old Testament

Numbers 21: 4-9 (NRSVue)

Warren Askov

New Testament

2 Samuel 11: 1-6, 14-17, 26-27 (NRSVue)

Nickie Askov

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

Sermon

“The Problem of Power”

Rev. Jeremy

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering

Barbara Moreland

Offertory

Simple Gifts - Copland
Tess Altiveros, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

* Offering Response TFWS #2175 - *Together We Serve*, v.2

We seek to become, a beacon of hope
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.

We learn, year by year, to let love shine through,
until we see Christ in each person we meet.

Call to Discipleship

Rev. Jeremy

Prayer of Confession

Barbara Moreland

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Jeremy

Communion Hymns:

The Faith We Sing # 2257-a, b, d

****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 #384 - “Love Divine all Loves Excelling”

Postlude *Improvisation on "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee"* 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: Lay Worship Leader, Barbara Moreland ; Warren Askov, Reader; Nickie Askov, Reader; Laura Celin, Audio-Visual Operator.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October Sermon Series | Why do we Love to Hate?: Our culture loves to either vilify people or venerate the bad guys. During the month of October, we have the chance to expand our empathy and confront our prejudices by delving into the complexities of villains. By comprehending their intricacies, we can gain a valuable tool for personal spiritual growth and discipleship development. See you each Sunday at 10:30am!

Pride + Faith | October Fellowship: The Pride + Faith October fellowship lunch will be at Golden Singha Thai restaurant, on Sunday, October 29 at noon. Meet in the narthex by 11:45am to walk over together. Please RSVP online under "events" on our website. *All LGBTQIA+ folks and allies are welcome!*

TheoEd Sunday Class: Starting October 8, join us for four weeks of church TED talks as we watch TheoED talks (from Emory University in Atlanta) that tackle theological topics in 20 minutes or less. Class will begin at 9am in room 301.

Faith Action Network | Annual Dinner: Our theme United in Hope emerged because this is the year we know we need to gather in the midst of policy threats to communities we care about and to our democracy as a whole. Register at <https://fanwa.org/>

We're Hiring! We are hiring for two positions: Nursery Worker and Security Shepherd. If you know someone that would be a great fit, please send them our way! <https://firstchurchseattle.org/about/employment/>

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."