

A silhouette of a person with a backpack stands on a dark, rounded hill against a vibrant night sky. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a soft purple and pink near the horizon, and is filled with numerous small, bright stars. The overall mood is contemplative and awe-inspiring.

# LOST IN WONDER, LOVE AND PRAISE

**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.



## Prayers of the People

Violet Boyer

**Prayer Response**      **UMH #204 “Emmanuel, Emmanuel”**  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called, Emmanuel.

- PROCLAIMING -

**Advent | Proclamation**      **Mark 13: 24-37 (NRSVue)**      **Erin Elaine Gail**  
This is the word of Life.  
Thanks be to God.

**Sermon**      **“Struggling with Wonderlust”**      **Rev. Jeremy**

- RESPONDING -

**Invitation to the Offering**      **Violet Boyer**

**Offertory**      ***Every Valley, from Messiah - G. F. Handel***  
**Cary Lee, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist**

**\* Offering Response**      **UMH 234 v1 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

O come, all ye faithful,	King of angels;
joyful and triumphant,	O come, let us adore him,
O come ye, O come ye,	O Come, let us adore him,
to Bethlehem.	O come, let us adore him,
Come and behold him, born the	Christ the Lord.

**Call to Discipleship**      **Rev. Jeremy**

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**      **Rev. Jeremy**

**\*\*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 #202- “People Look East”**

**\* Blessing & Sending**      **Rev. Rev. Jeremy**

**Postlude**      ***Improvisation on “Greensleeves”***      **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, Violet Boyer; Reader, Shawn Smith; Reader, Erin Elaine Gail; The Hanging of the Greens Readers, Communion Steward, Violet Boyer; Front Door Greeter, Candy Bonham; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celi*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Advent Events:** Join us during Advent as we offer ways to gather in wonder, love, and praise this season, promising a season of transformation for our homes, families, workplaces, and circles.

**Neighborhood House Drive:** Global Missions is excited to announce the upcoming “Hygiene Kit” drive for the Neighborhood House. We will gather on Sunday 12/17 after the service to assemble the kits. Look at the updated list under <https://firstchurchseattle.org/news/> or scan the QR code!



**Sermon Series | Lost in Wonder, Love and Praise:** Advent is a time for experiences that cause us to be lost in wonder. Tangible expressions of community centered on expecting the Christ Child remind us of our own journeys. Each week we will journey with a different character in the nativity, seeing how they were lost in wonder so that we might be as well.



**Lunch & Learn | Zero Waste:** Zero Waste: How can we get there? Join us Sunday, December 10 from noon - 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall or via Zoom to learn from Zero Waste Washington how we can advocate for a healthy and waste-free world. Register at <https://firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/> or scan the QR code!

**Fall 2023 Charge Conference:** Church leaders are expected to attend the annual Fall Charge Conference with our District Superintendent Derek Nakano. We'll gather in-person in Room 301 or on Zoom. Register at <https://firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/> or scan the QR code so we can plan for your attendance or to get the link!



**2024 Stewardship Campaign “Honoring our Past, Committed to our Future”:** Find out more information about Stewardship giving campaign this year, or make your pledge today by using the QR code or visiting [FirstChurchSeattle.org/give](https://FirstChurchSeattle.org/give)

**Earth Pledge 2024:** Commit to a livable future! Find out more information about creation care actions or make your pledge today by using the QR code or visiting [FirstChurchSeattle.org/give/earthpledge!](https://FirstChurchSeattle.org/give/earthpledge!)



**Food Services Volunteers:** As we continue to grow our church community and events, we are in need of volunteers to help us with hosting opportunities for Coffee Hour and Lunch and Learn activities. Find out more information by using the QR code or talk with Duuna Evans at coffee hour.

**Climate Justice Group:** The First Church Climate Justice Group urges you to sign a petition to tell Costco that it needs to drop Citi as its credit card issuer. Read more at <https://firstchurchseattle.org/news/> and to sign the petition.

**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://FirstChurchSeattle.org/give)



## ABOUT US

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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.”