

CHRISTMAS EVE

CAROLS & COMMUNION

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 *Once in Royal David's City* Elisabeth Ellis, pianist
Lighting of the Christmas Candle Rhonda, Ash, and Chloe
First Reading Isaiah 9: 2-7 (translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney) Gregory Wallace
* Processional Hymn Songbook pg. 4 | UMH 234 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" verses 1,3,4

- CENTERING -

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Jeremy
Special Music *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing* - arr. Curry
Sanctuary Choir and Handbells; Elisabeth Ellis, director

- PROCLAIMING -

Second Reading Luke 2: 1-14 (translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney) Grace Kim
Third Reading Luke 2:15-20 (translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney) Reagan Page
Sermon "From the Margins to the Manger" Rev. Jeremy

- RESPONDING -

Christmas Prayer Gregory Wallace
Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *O Holy Night*- Adolphe Adams
Tess Altiveros, soprano; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

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

Carols UMH 238 - "Angels We Have Heard on High"
Songbook page 5 - "The First Noel"
Songbook page 11 - "Silent Night"

* Fourth Reading John 1: 1-5,9,14 (translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney) Rev. Jeremy

* Blessing & Sending

Gregory Wallace, Rev. Jeremy

* Closing Hymn

Songbook page 10 "Joy to the World"

Postlude

Noël Parisien - Charles Quef

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, Gregory Wallace; Reader, Grace Kim; Reader, Reagan Page; Communion Steward, Teresa Canady; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin

ANNOUNCEMENTS



12 Days of Christmas House Gatherings: We are happy to bring back our tradition of 12 Days of Christmas house gatherings! It's a great way to meet people! You're invited to attend as many as you'd like. Register with the QR code or firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/



The 12 Days of Christmas Reflections Guide: The season between Christmas and Epiphany is known as Christmastide, or the 12 days of Christmas. In our guide, you will find passages from the daily lectionary readings alongside reflections on social justice issues that are important to First Church, as we discuss how to engage in the work of Missions so that we can live out our faith by seeking peace and justice in the World. View with the QR code or at firstchurchseattle.org/news/



Family New Year's Retreat at Camp Indianola: Join us for an exciting getaway to start the new year! Register with the QR code or firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/



Youth Confirmation is happening in 2024! Confirmation is open to all youth aged 13+ (or 7th grade+). It is a multi-week program that introduces youth to faith topics as United Methodists, practices for spiritual growth, and real-world applications. Students are then "confirmed" in a special ceremony on Easter Sunday. Save the date for an info session for parents and youth on **Sunday, January 21st at noon** with Pastor Jeremy.

Adult Confirmation Class is happening too! Whether you are an adult seeking baptism or a longtime member wanting a refresher on United Methodist basics, we hope you sign up for an Adult Confirmation Class that will coincide with the youth class this Lent 2024. Register at firstchurchseattle.org/news/ to express interest and receive information for this February & March evening class.



Pax Christi Yoga begins again on January 6th. Yoga can be thought of as a prayer that you ‘say’ with your body: bringing calm to your mind, joy to your heart, and the Holy Spirit to comfort your soul. Our Saturday @ 9am classes are free, open to everyone. To join this class, email Sharon at PaxChristiYoga@firstchurchseattle.org



We’re Hiring | Director of Children and Youth Ministries: We are currently hiring for a children and youth ministries director at First Church. If you know someone who may be a great fit, please send them our way! More information at <https://firstchurchseattle.org/about/employment/>



Thank you for your offerings and your Communication Cards! 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.”

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