

# CHRISTMAS EVE

## CAROLS & CANDLELIGHT

**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	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	Elisabeth Ellis, pianist
First Reading	Isaiah 9: 2-7 ( <i>translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney</i> )	Jackie Celin
* Processional Hymn	UMH 234 - "O Come, All Ye Faithful" verses 1,3,4	

**- CENTERING -**

Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Jeremy
Special Music	<i>A Christmas Blessing</i> - Purifoy Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, director	

**- PROCLAIMING -**

Second Reading	Luke 2: 1-14 ( <i>translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney</i> )	Janet Crawley
Third Reading	Luke 2:15-20 ( <i>translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney</i> )	Barbara Moreland
Sermon	"From the Margins to the Manger"	Rev. Jeremy

**- RESPONDING -**

Christmas Prayer		Jackie Celin
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Invitation to the Offering

Offertory	O Holy Night- Adolphe Adams Tess Altiveros, soprano; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist	
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Introduction to Carols	UMH 238 - "Angels We Have Heard on High" UMH 245 - "The First Noel" UMH 239 - " Silent Night"	Rev. Jeremy
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* Fourth Reading	John 1: 1-5,9,14 ( <i>translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney</i> )	Rev. Jeremy
* Blessing & Sending		Jackie Celin, Rev. Jeremy
* Closing Hymn	UMH 246 - "Joy to the World"	
Postlude	<i>Noël Parisien</i> - Charles Quef	Elisabeth Ellis, organist

*\*\*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, Jackie Celin; Reader, Janet Crawley; Reader, Barbara Moreland; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**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/](https://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/](https://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/](https://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/](https://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](mailto: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](https://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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