



GOING THE M.I.L.E.

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 *Together We Serve* arr. by Elisabeth Ellis, Pianist

*** Call to Worship** (Source: Barbara Moreland) **Erin Elaine Gail**

We come to this place as individuals, each of us bringing our gifts and talents.

There are a variety of gifts, but they all originate within God's life-giving spirit.

Some possess the gifts of discernment, wise counsel, and wisdom.

Others have the gifts of teaching and preaching.

Some are healers of mind or body or spirit.

Others can create order where most of us see only chaos.

Some offer music or art or create beauty in unexpected forms.

Each person is given something to do, a gift to offer that shows who God is, a gift that enriches God's blessed community.

*** Opening Hymn** UMH 577 "God of Grace and God of Glory," vv. 1, 2, and 4

*** Passing of the Peace** **Erin Elaine Gail**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Jeremy**

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle **Erin Elaine Gail**

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 today.

Special Music *Amen is Where We Begin*
- words and music by Pepper Choplin, quoting *Amen, traditional spiritual*
Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, Director and Pianist

Prayers of the People **Erin Elaine Gail**

Prayer Response UMH #473 "Lead Me, Lord"

Lead me, Lord,
lead me in thy righteousness;
make thy way plain before my face.

For it is thou, Lord,
thou, Lord only,
that makest me dwell in safety.

- PROCLAIMING -

Introducing the Scriptures

Barbara Moreland

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25: 31-40 (NRSVue)

Teresa Canady

New Testament Reading

Luke 25: 25-37 (NRSVue)

Bruce Hall

This is the word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Called to Laity Empowerment

Barbara Moreland

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering

Erin Elaine Gail

Offertory

It Is Well With My Soul

Cary Lee, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

* Offering Response UMH 399 "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated", v. 1

Take my life and let it be consecrated,

Lord, to Thee.

Take my moments and my days;

let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the

impulse of Thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and

beautiful for Thee.

Call to Discipleship

Rev. Jeremy

Prayer of Confession

Erin Elaine Gail

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

* Closing Hymn

TFWS #2197 "Lord of All Hopefulness"

* Blessing & Sending

Rev. Jeremy

Postlude

Pièce pour sortie - Louis Maingueneau

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, Erin Elaine Gail; Preacher, Barbara Moreland; Reader, Teresa Canady; Reader,*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Morning Class: Join us on Sunday mornings at 9am in discussing See No Stranger by Valerie Kaur. Register at firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/

Lunch & Learn: Get Out the Vote: The Church and Society/Social Justice Committee is sponsoring a Lunch and Learn on Sunday, February 4 from 12pm to 1pm with guest speakers Lisa Wyler and Megan Krampitz, the Washington State Organizers for Reclaim Our Vote (ROV). Learn more at firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/ or scan the qr code.



Sermon Series | Going the M.I.L.E.: Join us for four weeks of reflections on Bishop Cedrick's call to the northwest United Methodists to do Ministry that matters, practice Itineracy in locations, empower Laity, and End Racism. See you on Sundays at 10:30am!

Adult Confirmation Class for Lent! Open to adults seeking baptism or longtime members wanting a refresher on United Methodist basics, our Adult Confirmation Class will coincide with the youth class this Lent 2024 (February and March evenings). Register at firstchurchseattle.org/news/



Lunch & Learn | State of the Church: Our annual "State of the Church" forum offers global and local updates on our church. See what our joys and concerns are, and to share what is coming for the rest of the program year. Learn more at firstchurchseattle.org/upcoming-events/ or scan the qr code.



Pax Christi Yoga Our Saturday @ 9am classes are free, open to everyone. To join in, email Sharon at PaxChristiYoga@firstchurchseattle.org

Food Services Volunteers Needed: If you are interested in volunteering for hosting opportunities for Coffee Hour and Lunch and Learn activities, scan with the QR code or visit firstchurchseattle.org/news/



Thank you for your offerings and Communication Cards! You can drop them in the offering plate or make a gift online by using the QR code 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 206-622-7278 [@firstchurchseattle](https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchseattle) [@firstUMCseattle](https://twitter.com/firstUMCseattle) [@firstchurchseattle](https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchseattle)