

A hand is holding a large, green palm frond against a clear, bright blue sky. The frond is composed of many long, thin, pointed leaves that fan out. The hand is visible at the bottom right, gripping the stem of the frond. The overall image has a clean, minimalist aesthetic with high contrast between the green and blue.

# Palm Sunday

**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 *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* arr. by Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

\* Processional Hymn UMH #278 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” Erin Elaine Gail

\* Call to Worship (enfleshed) Erin Elaine Gail

Not lack of conflict peace  
Not avoiding hard subjects peace  
Not going along to get along peace  
But Real, Accountable, Liberation-Rooted  
Peace

Interdependence so vibrant,  
never a thought of punishment  
nor weapons nor me against you

**Blessed are the ones who come in the  
name of Peace!**

**Blessed are they who come in the name of  
Peace—**

Fan them with fronds of praise!  
Hosanna in the highest!

Inner Peace like a River,  
Justice like a mighty stream,

**Hosanna in the highest!**

\* 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 *What Wondrous Love is This* - Appalachian folk hymn, arr. Schrader  
Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, Director and Pianist

Prayers of the People Erin Elaine Gail

**Prayer Response**                      **TFWS #2179 “Live in Charity”**

Live in charity and steadfast love  
Live in charity, God will dwell with you.  
Live in charity and steadfast love  
Live in charity, God will dwell with you.

**- PROCLAIMING -**

**Introducing the Scriptures**

**Rev. Jeremy**

**Gospel Reading**

**John 12:12-16 (NRSVue)**

**Violet Boyer**

**New Testament Reading**

**2 Corinthians 4:8-9, 16-18 (NRSVue)**

**Shawn Smith**

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

**Sermon**

**From Renaissance to Ruin**

**Rev. Jeremy**

**- RESPONDING -**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Erin Elaine Gail**

**Offertory**

***Ride On, King Jesus* - arr. Hall Johnson  
Ibidunni Ojikutu, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist**

**\* Offering Response    “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful” (TFWS #2195)**

In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful,  
In the Lord I will rejoice.  
Look to God, do not be afraid.  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near,  
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

**Call to Discipleship**

**Rev. Jeremy**

**Prayer of Confession and Lord’s Prayer**

**Erin Elaine Gail**

**Prayer of Confession**

**\*\*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 #2111 “We Sang Our Glad Hosannas” (v.1-4)**

Postlude

*St. Theodulph* - arr. William

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; Reader, Violet Boyer; Reader, Shawn Smith; Communion Server, Violet Boyer; Front Door Greeter, Bruce Hall; Music, Elisabeth Ellis; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Lent Opportunities:** Lent is the annual observance of 40 days of reflection during the weeks leading up to Easter, including Holy Week that re-enacts the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have put together a guide to opportunities at First Church for this season. Scan with the QR code or visit [firstchurchseattle.org/news/](http://firstchurchseattle.org/news/)



**Mission projects** and opportunities during Lent!

**Special services** schedule, including Holy Week and Easter on March 31st!

### Holy Week Services:

**Maundy Thursday** - Thursday, March 28th at 6pm - Fellowship Hall

**Good Friday** - Friday, March 29th at 6pm

**Easter Sunday** - Sunday, March 31st at 10:30am

**Sermon Series | Rising from Ruin: Crafting our Communal Renaissance:** Lent this year feels like a time of starting anew from a state of ruin. Each week we will seek to be a community that is actively shaping our own future, seeking a new Renaissance period of revitalization and change in Seattle and beyond. See you on Sundays at 10:30am!

**Pax Christi Yoga** Our Saturday @ 9am classes are free, open to everyone. To join in, email Sharon at [PaxChristiYoga@firstchurchseattle.org](mailto: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/](http://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](http://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."

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