



**Rising from Ruin:
Crafting our
Communal Renaissance**

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

Amazing Grace

arr. by Elisabeth Ellis, Pianist

*** Call to Worship**

(enfleshed)

Barbara Moreland

Grace looks like a lavender sunrise,
like pale blue robin eggs.

Grace feels like hands resting kindly on
either side of your face,

like a deep, full inhale.

Grace sounds like the wisdom of
elders—a **tuning fork, a supper bell.**

Grace moves with the dreams of the
young—**dancing bodies, determined
feet.**

Grace is the reality that in this
moment, we can begin again—

**choosing the most compassionate
option at hand.**

Grace is that, amidst the turmoil of
dusty and depraved systems,

**New Worlds are ripening for the
picking.**

By Grace we have been saved.

**We worship together a Grace-Loving
God.**

*** Opening Hymn**

TFWS 2268 “As We Gather at Your Table”

*** Passing of the Peace**

Barbara Moreland

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

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jeremy

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle

Barbara Moreland

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

***Ubi Caritas* - Duruflé**

Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, Director and Pianist

Prayers of the People

Barbara Moreland

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 Preacher

Rev. Jeremy

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 84 (NRSVue)

Bruce Hall

Gospel Reading

Matthew 20:1-16 (NRSVue)

Teresa Canady

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

Sermon

Our Renaissance is...Equitable

Rev. Elizabeth Ingram Schindler

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering

Barbara Moreland

Offertory

Sicut Cervus - Palestrina

Tess Altiveros, Susanna Fenstermacher, Cary Lee, and Dana Birkby, quartet

*** 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

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Jeremy, Rev. Elizabeth

Communion Hymns: **The Faith We Sing # 2257-a, b, The Lord’s Prayer, d**

****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**

UMH 581 “Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service”

Postlude **Would I Have Answered When You Called? (Hymn tune: Kingsfold)**
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, Barbara Moreland; Reader, Bruce Hall; Reader, Teresa Canady; Communion Server, Violet Boyer; Front Door Greeter, Shawn Smith; Music, Elisabeth Ellis; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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/



Lenten Lunches each week with a common meal and spiritual enrichment opportunities!

Mission projects and opportunities during Lent!

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

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!

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 (March evenings). Register at firstchurchseattle.org/news/



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](http://FirstChurchSeattle.org) [☎ 206-622-7278](tel:206-622-7278) [📘 @firstchurchseattle](https://www.facebook.com/firstchurchseattle) [🐦 @firstUMCseattle](https://twitter.com/firstUMCseattle) [📷 @firstchurchseattle](https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchseattle)