



**COMMON HOME** **COMMON CALLING**

**Hope... navigates a way forward between the false certainties of optimism and of pessimism, and the complacency or passivity that goes with both. Hope calls for action; action is impossible without hope. ~Rebecca Solnit**

**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** *Great is Thy Faithfulness* - arr. by Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

**\* Call to Worship** *The Many/BTS Center* Ann Shaffer

We are here / **here we are,**  
on this planet / **at this moment**  
praying together / **breathing together,**  
**here.**

And God says this is good / **this is**  
**supremely good.**

We are here / **here we are,**  
we humans, not just on earth / **but of**  
**earth, of earth, of earth.**

Made from dust / **born of soil,**  
shaped of mud / **children of earth,**

siblings of soil / **together, here.**

And God says this is good / **this is**  
**supremely good.**

Here, together / **however we can be,**  
hands & hearts & heads / **humans of**  
**humus.**

Formed from living, breathing soil,  
**we are living, breathing souls.**

On and of the earth.

**And God says this is good / this is**  
**supremely good.**

**\* Opening Hymn** UMH 145 "Morning Has Broken"

**\* Passing of the Peace** Ann Shaffer

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

**Welcome and Announcements** Jackie Celin

**- CENTERING -**

**Lighting the Community Candle** Ann Shaffer

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** *Earth Song*  
- Frank Tichelli  
Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, Director

**Prayers of the People**

**Ann Shaffer**

**Prayer Response**      **UMH 578 "God of Love and God of Power" verse 1**

God of Love and God of Power, grant us in this burning hour  
Grace to ask these gifts of thee, daring hearts and spirits free.  
God of love and God of Power, Thou has called us for this hour

**- PROCLAIMING -**

**Introducing the Preacher**

**Tom Carlson**

**New Testament Reading**      **Psalm 24:1, 2 Corinthians 3:1-6 (NRSVue)**

**Violet Boyer**

**Gospel Reading**      **Matthew 7:24-27 (NRSVue)**

**Wally Shaffer**

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

**Sermon**      ***Defiant Hope - Our Faithful Response to the Climate Crisis***

**Rev. Jim Antal**

**- RESPONDING -**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Ann Shaffer**

**Offertory**      ***Al Otro Lado Del Rio (Row On) - Jorge Drexler***  
**Tom Carlson, vocalist and video creator**

**\* Offering Response**      **Christ has risen! Shout Hosanna! (Tune: Holy Manna)**

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!  
Celebrate this day of days.  
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder;  
all creation is amazed.

In the desert all surrounding,  
see, a spreading tree has grown.  
Healing leaves of grace abounding  
bring a taste of love unknown.

**Call to Discipleship**

**Jackie Celin**

**Prayer of Confession** (Attribution: Gail Bradbrook / Extinction Rebellion UK / June 2023)      **Ann Shaffer**

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Rev. Kathryn Everett**

**\*\*The Lord's Prayer (MAORI & POLYNESIA):**

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer,  
Life-giver, Source of all that is and that  
shall be, Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echo through  
the universe; The way of your justice be  
followed by the peoples of the world;  
Your heavenly will be done by all created  
beings; Your commonwealth of peace and

freedom sustain our hope and come on  
earth. With the bread we need for today,  
feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one  
another, forgive us. In times of temptation  
and test, strengthen us. From trials too  
great to endure, spare us. From the grip of  
all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power  
that is love, now and forever. Amen.

- SENDING -

\* Closing Hymn                      UMH 144 “This is my Maker’s World”

\* Blessing & Sending

Jackie Celin

Postlude                      Improvisation on “*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*” 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, Ann Shaffer; Reader, Violet Boyer; Reader, Wally Shaffer; Communion Steward, Violet Boyer; Greeter, Mona Tanaka; Music, Elisabeth Ellis; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Activating faith communities for climate justice: Meaningful Movies at First Church – Today, April 28 at noon.** Hear from two faith leaders about actions faith communities are taking to address climate change. Lunch will be served. The Letter, a film about the global impact of Laudato Si’, Pope Francis’s encyclical on the climate crisis, offers a backdrop to the discussion. To learn more and to register, see the church newsletter or website event page.

**Climate Justice Series: Common Home, Common Calling:** Through worship, guest preachers, and a number of educational opportunities, this series will focus on the common calling we have to restore creation and cultivate hope for climate justice. Special guests: Rev. Dr. Lisa Graumlich & Rev. Jim Antal!

**Climate Church, Climate World | Sunday Adult Class:** In follow-up to the April 28 worship service with guest preacher Rev. Jim Antal, please join us in room 301 on **May 12** and **May 19 at 9:00 AM**, for viewing of video recordings of Rev. Antal and further discussion led by Wally Shaffer.

**Bead Rope Jewelry Sale - Today, 28-April | After Service in Narthex**

With spring upon us, special days abound, come find a one-of-a-kind treasure for someone one-of-a-kind in your life. A gift of a handmade piece of jewelry will not only delight that special person in your life, but it supports First Church.

**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.”

🏠 [FirstChurchSeattle.org](http://FirstChurchSeattle.org) ☎️ 206-622-7278 📘 @firstchurchseattle 🐦 @firstUMCseattle 📷 @firstchurchseattle