



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	The Gift of Love	- arr. by Elisabeth Ellis, pianist
* Call to Worship	(Source: <i>enfleshed</i>)	Kurt Armbruster
Get behind us, empires and death-dealing politicians!	Guide the way, simplicity and generosity!	
Get behind us, consumerism and corporate greed!	Guide the way, devotion and mindfulness!	
Get behind us, ambivalence and numbing out!	Guide the way, courage and expansive dreams!	
Get behind us, excuses and rigid thinking!	We gather, rejecting what shrivels our souls,	
Guide the way, community and wise teachers!	and guided by Liberating Love.	
	Let us Worship God.	

* Opening Hymn	TFWS 2130 “The Summons”	
* Passing of the Peace		Kurt Armbruster
The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.		

Welcome and Announcements	Rev. Jackie Celin
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Land Acknowledgement	Kurt Armbruster
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- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle	Kurt Armbruster
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. There is nothing that can separate us from God’s all-embracing love. Christ invites you – Christ invites us – to find him in worship and celebration today.	

Special Music	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i> - arr. Dan Forrest	
	Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist and director	

Prayer for our Teachers and Students	Rev. Wongee Joh & Rev. Jackie Celin
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Prayers of the People	Kurt Armbruster
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Prayer Response

UMH 395 Take Time to Be Holy v3

Take time to be holy, let him be thy guide,
and run not before him, whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,
and, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.

- PROCLAIMING -

Psalm Reading

Psalm 19 (NRSVUE)

Teresa Benedict

New Testament Reading

Mark 8:27-38 (NRSVUE)

Violet Boyer

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

Sermon

Living the question

Rev. Wongee Joh

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering

Kurt Armbruster

Offertory

Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated
Cary Lee, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

Communion Hymn

TFWS 2165 "Cry of My Heart"

Teach me your holy ways, O Lord,
so I can walk in your truth.
Teach me your holy ways, O Lord,
and make me wholly devoted to you.
It is the cry of my heart to follow you.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to you.
It is the cry of my heart to follow
all of the days of my life.

Open my eyes so I can see
the wonderful things that you do.
Open my heart up more and more,
and make me wholly devoted to you.
It is the cry of my heart to follow you.
It is the cry of my heart to be close to you.
It is the cry of my heart to follow
all of the days of my life.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Wongee Joh & Peter Jabin

Our Father, Holy Mother,
Creator of the Cosmos, Source of Life,
You are in my mind, in my garden,
in my cup of wine and loaf of bread.
Blessed be your names:
Mother, Allah, Goddess, Beloved, Father,
Radiant One, Yahweh, HaShem, Sophia
Your presence has come, your will is done
on earth as it is in the cosmos.

and forgive each other's failures,
silence, pettiness, and forgetfulness
as we ask to be forgiven
by those we've hurt.

May we give each other strength, mercy,
tenderness, and joy

Lead us home
to ourselves, to You,
to clarity, to oneness
and deliver us from the darkness
of our ignorance and fear.

So we pray and so we receive. Amen

- SENDING -

* Closing Hymn

UMH 261 "Lord of the Dance"

Blessing and Sending

Rev. Wongee Joh

Postlude

Praeludium and Chaconne - Buxtehude

Elisabeth Ellis, organist

**Please stand if you are able, body and spirit*

***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, Kurt Armbruster; Reader, Teresa Benedict; Reader, Violet Boyer; Communion Steward, Violet Boyer, Assisting with Communion, Peter Jabin; Greeter, Diane White-Shaw; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Get to know Pastor Wongee: Pastor Wongee is doing a series of meet-and-greets in small groups at congregants homes. Sign up for dinners in October and November! Don't worry if you can't make it in person, there will be digital gatherings for those who can't make it in person.



We're Hiring | Bookkeeper/Office Manager: This position is responsible for accounting and financial reporting for First Church to assist the Director of Operations with fiduciary duties, as well as managing the front office to include communications, general office work, and supply level management. If this position sounds like a good fit for you or someone you know, please forward this information!



Guest Preacher & Teacher: Dan Wolpert | September 22: Join us on September 22 for a morning with Dan Wolpert. Dan will lead our 9:00 AM Adult Spirituality class in consideration of his new book *Looking Inward, Living Outward: The Spiritual Practice of Social Transformation*, helping us to reflect upon a series of practices that not only deepen our own spiritual life but also allow our communities to move out into the world to do justice and sow peace. Dan will extend his message during our worship time, preaching on "Spiritual and Social Transformation – Sowing Peace."



Rally Picnic Sunday: Join us Today, September 15th after service in the Narthex for our Rally Sunday Picnic for food and fellowship! Use the QR code to sign up. First Church will provide the main dish, congregants are asked to bring side dishes.



Need a Nametag?: Please scan the qr code and submit a request to receive a nametag! Once you fill out the request, you'll find your nametag on the welcome table in the Narthex.



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."