



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 *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* arr. by Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

*** Call to Worship** (enfleshed) **Violet Boyer**

Thank you Oak Trees

Thank you Children

Thank you Land Protectors

Thank you Storytellers

Thank you Salamanders

Thank you Neighbors

Thank you Friends

Thank you Co-Dreamers

Thank you Moss

Thank you Organizers

Thank you Poets

Thank you Dusk

Thank you Wisdom

Thank you Rebellion

Thank you Chaos

Thank you Anger

Thank you Hope

Thank you Moonbeams

Thank you Mountains

Thank you Swamplands

Thank you Crickets

Thank you Pulse

Thank you God

Thank you God

Thank you

Thank you

*** Opening Hymn** TFWS #2182 “When God Restored Our Common Life”

*** Passing of the Peace** **Violet Boyer**

Hear the words of Jesus: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.”

The peace of Christ is ours, through the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.

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

Welcome and Announcements **Rev. Jackie Celin**

Land Acknowledgement **Violet Boyer**

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle **Violet Boyer**

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 *For the Beauty of the Earth* - arr. Joel Raney
Elisabeth Ellis, pianist and director

Prayers of the People

Violet Boyer

Prayer Response

UMH #140 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness; verse 2*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness to thy
great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

- PROCLAIMING -

Old Testament Reading

Joel 2:21-27

Ann Shaffer

New Testament Reading

John 18: 33-37

Wally Shaffer

This is the word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

A Cosmos of God's Love

Rev. Wongee Joh

Stewardship Moment

Jane Gregg and Cary Lee

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering

Violet Boyer

Special Thanksgiving Offering

Ayres Gipson

Offertory

Let All Things Now Living

Cary Lee, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

Doxology

UMH #95 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

* Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Wongee Joh

* Communion Hymn

WS #3173 Table of Plenty; verse 3 & 4

My bread will ever sustain you through days
of sorrow and woe. My wine will flow like a
sea of gladness to flood the depths of your
soul.

Your fields will flower in fullness; your
homes will flourish in peace. For I, the giver
of home and harvest, will send my rain on
the soil.

Holy Communion

Rev. Wongee Joh, Jane Gregg and Cary Lee

The Prayer of Jesus

(The New Zealand Prayer Book)

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 trial 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 -

Call to Discipleship

Rev. Jackie Celin

*Closing Hymn

UMH #89 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Benediction

Rev. Wongee Joh

Postlude

Improvisation on "Now Thank We All Our God"

Elisabeth Ellis, organist

**Please stand as 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, Violet Boyer; Reader, Ann Shaffer; Reader, Wally Shaffer; Communion Steward, Violet Boyer; Assisting with Communion, Jane Gregg; Greeter, Candy Bonham; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

True Thanksgiving: Stewardship 2025: During our Stewardship giving campaign this year, we invite all to prayerfully remember God's generosity and how we participate as co-creators with our community, as an urban church, and as caretakers of the cosmos. Let us be faithful to God, one another, and to the world we are called to serve, "so that together we sing a song of thanksgiving AS IF God's kin-dom is already here and still yet coming".



Today | Advent Prep: Today, First Church will be preparing for the Hanging of the Greens service on December 1. As with previous years, we'll be staying after church to bring out trees, hang the star, put up the Advent Banner, etc; and as previous years, many hands make fast work. We invite anyone willing and able to support us in this effort to lend a hand.

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](https://www.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](https://www.FirstChurchSeattle.org) 206-622-7278 @firstchurchseattle @firstUMCseattle @firstchurchseattle