

Carols & Candlelight



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 *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree* Cecilia Archuleta, violinist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

Land Acknowledgement Rev. Jackie Celin

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Wongee Joh and Rev. Jackie Celin

* Processional Hymn Songbook pg. 4 | UMH #234 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Lighting of the Advent candles & Christ-candle Vi Boyer, Roman and Danil Basenko

Opening Prayer: Barbara Moreland

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7 (translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney) Kurt Armbruster

Children's Message Rev. Jackie Celin

- CENTERING -

Second Reading Luke 2:1-14 (translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney) Kristina Gonzalez

Special Music *Wexford Carol* - arr. Elaine Hagenberg
Sanctuary Choir; Cecilia Archuleta, violin; Minh-Thi Butler, oboe; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist and director

Third Reading Luke 2:15-20 (translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney) Teresa Benedict

Sermon Luminescent Presence Rev. Wongee Joh

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering Barbara Moreland

Offertory Music *O Holy Night* - Adolphe Adam, arr. Ellis
Tess Altiveros, Cary Lee, and José Rubio, soloists; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

* Prayer of Dedication Rev. Wongee Joh

Introduction to Carols and Candle Lighting

UMH #238 "Angels We Have Heard on High" (verses 1, 2 and 3)

UMH #245 "The First Noel" (verses 1, 2 and 3)

UMH #239 "Silent Night"

Fourth Reading John 1:1-5,9,14 (translated by Rev. Dr. Wilda Gafney) Barbara Moreland

Blessing and Sending Lorry Celin, Rev. Wongee Joh, Rev. Jackie Celin

*Closing Hymn UMH #246 "Joy to the World"

**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, Barbara Moreland; Readers, Kurt Armbruster, Kristina Gonzalez, Teresa Benedict; Helping in Worship, Vi Boyer, Roman Basenko, Danil Basenko, 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".



Collection Drive for Blaine Veterans Center: This year, during Advent, we will be collecting donated items for the Blaine Veterans Center that provides transitional housing to Veterans, located at First Church and operated by Compass Housing Alliance. Thank you for taking care of our Veterans this Holiday Season!



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.*"

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