



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 *Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella* arr. by Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

*** Call to Worship** (Source: enfleshed) Kurt Armbruster

As Beloveds of the Cosmos,

alive at this time of sorrow & possibility,

we will clothe ourselves in:

Compassion

(for our hearts are bound up with all living things)

Kindness

(that moves the way liberation moves;

it is kind to keep one another safe)

Humility

(as in, *humus*, rich soil—

we all come from the earth and will return to the earth)

Gentleness

(We bend down to be face to face with children.

We witness in each other the children we once were.)

and patience

(Doesn't the tending of New Worlds take time?)

As beloveds of the Cosmos,

alive in this time of sorrow & possibility,

we gather today praising the work of Holy Love.

Opening Hymn **TFWS #2171, "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"**

*** Passing of the Peace** Kurt Armbruster

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 Kurt Armbruster

- 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 Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In* - arr. Reginald Jacques
Don Crawley, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

Prayers of the People Kurt Armbruster

Prayer Response **UMH #204 "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"**

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is
called, Emmanuel

New Testament Reading **Colossians 3:12-17** **Violet Boyer**

Gospel Reading **Luke 2:41-52**

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

Sermon *Preparing a Humble Heart* **Rev. Jackie Celin**
- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering **Rev. Jackie Celin**

Offertory

Doxology **UMH #95 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** Prayer of Dedication** **Rev. Jackie Celin**

***Wesley's Covenant Prayer** **Kurt Armbruster**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion **Rev. Jackie Celin and Violet Boyer**

Call to Discipleship **Rev. Jackie Celin**

***Closing Hymn** **UMH #383 "This is a Day of New Beginnings"**

Benediction **(Source United Church of Christ)** **Rev. Jackie Celin**

Postlude *Improvisation on "Love Came Down at Christmas"* **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: Worship Leader, Kurt Armbruster; Communion, Peter Jabin; Reader, Violet Boyer; Sanctuary Choir, Greeters, Beth Snyder; Altar Guild, Barbara Moreland; 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".



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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