

First Sunday of Epiphany



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 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* arr. by Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

* Call to Worship (Source: enfleshed) Claire Gebben

Community of faith, let us gather our courage

In God's company, we can do hard things

Brave things

Beautiful things

Risky and transformative things

God is with those journey toward
freedom

For the sake of collective life

For the sake of disrupting evil

For the sake of the human soul

God calls us and God accompanies us

Let us worship and be encouraged

Opening Hymn UMH #103, *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

* Passing of the Peace Claire Gebben

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 Claire Gebben

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle Claire Gebben

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 *Star of Wonder* - arr. Page and Shafferman
Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, director and pianist

Prayers of the People Claire Gebben

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Centering Prayer: These are times when we need to make time to pray. And it is good to pray together! Join us each Sunday in room 302 at 10:00 am for a short time of centering prayer. All are welcome.

Genocide in Gaza and Palestinians' struggle under Israeli occupation: What can we do?

On Sunday, February 23 after the morning worship service, join us in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and to hear from Amin Odeh with Voices for Palestine and Kayla Blau with Jewish Voice for Peace about their experiences in Gaza and the West Bank, challenges faced by Palestinians, American media bias, and what we can do to help. Register by scanning the QR code.



Adult Spirituality Group: Who Wrote the Bible? | Jan. 5- Feb.9: Come join us for a new video series by video essayist Matt Baker on 'Who Wrote the Bible?' Lunch will be provided, please rsvp so we have a headcount. Scan the QR code to the right to learn more.



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.*"

 FirstChurchSeattle.org  206-622-7278  @firstchurchseattle  @firstUMCseattle  @firstchurchseattle