

Epiphany Sunday

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 Three Kings by John Henry Hopkins, Jr.; Arr. by Wibur Held* Don Crawley, Organ

*** Call to Worship** (Source: *Adapted from a liturgy by David W. Romig*) Barbara Moreland

One: Wise men came from the East to worship
one they had
never seen. They brought rich gifts to one they
did not even
know.

**All: For them, a King had come that
would not be a tyrant. The little child was for
them the
focus of all meaning. This King would make all
things new.**

**All: They were not Jews, yet they came to
worship the
King of the Jews. They were outsiders, yet
their offerings
were accepted.**

One: They were dreamers who saw beyond the
facts to the reality, and they went home
changed. Come, come everyone, from the East
and from everywhere, Come and worship
Christ, the new-born King.

One: They had strange ideas about stars, but
saw coherence in the
whole world's plan. They grew in wisdom.

Opening Hymn **UMH #242, "Love Came Down at Christmas"**

*** Passing of the Peace**

Barbara Moreland

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

Barbara Moreland

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle

Barbara Moreland

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;

**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, Barbara Moreland; Communion Assistant, Kristina Gonzalez; Communion Steward, Jane Gregg; Readers, Ann Shaffer and Wall Shaffer; Greeter, Beth Snyder; Altar Guild, Craig Mathews; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

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.

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?' We'll watch a six part series examining the historical and political underpinnings of the documents that make up the Bible, and discuss the implications that has for our understanding of it today. Lunch will be provided, please rsvp so we have a headcount.



Works of Christmas: Christmastide is the season between Christmas and Epiphany, the 12 days of Christmas. During this time, we remember that the Work of Christmas is just beginning anew as we reflect on the hope that comes with the birth of Christ on earth and remember that Christ taught us to care for the poor, free the oppressed, and to love God and neighbor. Each day, you are provided with an opportunity to study and reflect on the work of some of our partner organizations related to our priority areas as a faith community. 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."