Epiphany Sunday



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. First United Methodist Church of Seattle 180 Denny Way Seattle, WA 98109

January 5, 2024 **Epiphany Sunday**

- GATHERING -

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

* Call to Worship (Source: Adapted from a	<i>liturgy by David W. Romig</i>) Barbara Moreland	
One: Wise men came from the East to worship	All: For them, a King had come that	
one they had	would not be a tyrant. The little child was for	
never seen. They brought rich gifts to one they	them the	
did not even	focus of all meaning. This King would make all	
know.	things new.	
All: They were not Jews, yet they came to	One: They were dreamers who saw beyond the	
worship the	facts to the reality, and they went home	
King of the Jews. They were outsiders, yet	changed. Come, come everyone, from the East	
their offerings	and from everywhere, Come and worship	
were accepted.	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

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

Land Acknowledgement

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle

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;

Barbara Moreland

Barbara Moreland

Barbara Moreland

Rev. Jackie Celin

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.		
Retirement Blessing for Kristina Gonzalez		
Special Music Mary Did You Know by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene Janet Crawley, Soprano, Don Crawley, Piano		
Prayers of the Peop	le	Barbara Moreland
Prayer Response WS #3051, "A Star Shone Bright" A star shone bright across the plain and calmed the earth so Love could reign. 'Twas in a child that hope was born, a dream fulfilled! O happy morn!		
New Testament Rea	ading Isaiah 60:1-6	Ann Shaffer
Gospel ReadingMatthew 2:1-12Wally ShafferThis is the word of Life.Thanks be to God.Value Shaffer		
Sermon	The Gift of God - RESPONDING -	Rev. Wongee Joh
Invitation to the Offering Barbara Moreland		
Offertory Music The Little Drummer Boy by Harry Simeone, Henry Onorati, and Katherine K. Davis; Janet Crawley, Soprano, Don Crawley, Piano		
DoxologyUMH #95 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings FlowPraise 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 Dedicati	ion	Rev. Wongee Joh
The Sacrament of Holy Communion Rev. Wongee Joh and Kristina Gonzalez		
Call to Discipleship		Rev. Jackie Celin
*Closing Hymn UMH #568 "Christ for the World We Sing"		
Benediction		Rev. Wongee Joh
Postlude Joy to the World, Isaac Watts and Lowell Mason; Arr. by Wilbur Held Don Crawley, Organ		

*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 Grega; 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 gr 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 Ў @firstUMCseattle 👅 @firstchurchseattle









