



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 -

by Paul Halley

Peter Jabin

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives
may be,

I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in its beauty on the water, and the great
heron feeds.

I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought of
grief.

I come into the presence of still water.

And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light.

For a time, I rest in the grace of the world,
and am free.

UMH #122 “God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale”

Rev. Wongee Joh

Beloved in Christ, God's love pours out from the grave of despair. The Risen One comes with hands full of love. He greets us with peace the world does not know, he gives us peace the world cannot give.

Alleluia! Christ's peace is ours forever!

Let us greet one another with Easter peace!

Rev. Wongee Joh

Peter Jabin

- CENTERING -

Peter Jabin

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.

Pianist, Shawn Schlogel; Vocalist, Tom Carlson

Joni Mitchell released Big Yellow Taxi in April 1970, the same month as the first Earth Day observance. The song became an anthem of the U.S. environmental movement. Today we are seeing the rollback of pretty much all environmental regulation dating back to 1970.

Prayers of the People

Dan Gustafson

Prayer Response UMH #92 “For the Beauty of the Earth,” verses 1 and 2

For the beauty of the earth,	For the beauty of each hour of the day and
for the glory of the skies,	of the night, hill and vale,
for the love which from our birth over	and tree and flower, sun
and around us lies; Lord of all, to thee we	and moon, and stars of light;
raise this our hymn of grateful praise.	Lord of all, to thee we raise this
	our hymn of grateful praise.

Old Testament

Isaiah 1:12-20

Bill Sherertz

Ecological Reading

From “*Love in a Time of Terror*,” by Barry Lopez

Peter Jabin

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-23, 30-31

Dale Alekel

This is the word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Introduction of the Speaker

Dan Gustafson

Climate Justice from the Frontlines of the Climate Crisis

Roishetta Ozane

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering

Peter Jabin

Offertory Music

People Get Ready by Curtis Mayfield

Shawn Schlogel, Pianist

Martin Luther King Jr. named People Get Ready the unofficial anthem of the Civil Rights Movement and often used the song to get people marching or to calm and comfort them.

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; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

(St. Basil the Great, c. 350 CE)

Rev. Wongee Joh

Call to Discipleship

Rev. Jackie Celin

*Closing Hymn

TFWS #2279 “The Trees of the Field”

Benediction

(by Rob Brezsny)

Rev. Wongee Joh and Peter Jabin

Postlude

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Shawn Schlogel, Pianist

**Please rise in body or 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, Peter Jabin; Readers, Dale Alekel, Peter Jabin, Bill Sherertz; Front Door Greeter, Kris Henn; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today | Guest Speaker, Roishetta Ozane: Guest speaker, Roishetta Ozane, will talk about what climate justice looks like in a frontline community. Ms. Ozane heads The Vessel Project, a grassroots organization she founded to help Gulf Coast Louisiana communities recover from back-to-back hurricanes. Now she's educating people about the deadly interconnections between gas export plants, climate disasters, and environmental racism.

Newcomer's Lunch | Today after Worship: Learn more about First Church at our Newcomer's Lunch on Sunday, April 27 at 12pm in Room 301. A light lunch will be served. Pastor Wongee and Pastor Jackie will lead attendees through the ministries and mission of First Church, with plenty of time for Q&A and conversation. Learn more by scanning the QR code.

Bead Jewelry Sale | Today after Worship: After worship on April 27th, Linda Allen will be holding her Annual Bead Jewelry Sale to benefit First Church's ministries. This year, all sales will go to support our Shared Breakfast food ministry.

Workshop: Deep Listening as an Act of Grace: In three lively and participative 1-hour sessions, come explore how we can use listening as a vehicle for bonding, understanding and healing. Learn "roadblocks" to avoid. Explore a better alternative: Deep Active Listening. Craft effective and helpful responses to problem messages from people you care about | 3 sessions after church: 4/27, 5/4 and 5/11 - Conf Rm 301 | Facilitator: Alex Smith | Scan the QR code to register!



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 from 10:00-10:15 AM for a short time of centering prayer. All are welcome.

Treats for Church: We cherish the moments of snacks and fellowship after the service. To help reduce costs for coffee hour, we're seeking 1-2 volunteers each month to contribute treats. Your support will ensure we can keep this special time going strong! Scan the QR code to sign up!



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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