



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 *Meditation on "Be Thou My Vision"* Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

*** Call to Worship** Erin Elaine Gail

Leader: Happy are those who finds Wisdom,
who gain understanding,

**All: Long life is in Her right hand; in Her left
hand are riches and honor.**

**All: For the gain from Her is better than from
silver and its profit better than gold.**

Leader: Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
and all her paths are peace.

Leader: She is more precious than jewels, and
nothing you desire can compare with her.

**All: She is a tree of life to those who lay hold
of Her; those who hold Her fast are called
happy. Come let us trust in God with all our
heart.**

***Opening Hymn** UMH #405 "Seek Ye First"

*** Passing of the Peace** Erin Elaine Gail

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Jackie Celin

Land Acknowledgement Erin Elaine Gail

- CENTERING -

Lighting the Community Candle Erin Elaine Gail

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 *Fount of Every Blessing*
Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, Director and Pianist

Prayers of the People Erin Elaine Gail

Prayer Response UMH#393 "Spirit of the Living God"

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of
the living God, fall afresh on me.

Old Testament	1 Kings 17: 1-7	Violet Boyer
Gospel Reading	Matthew 7: 13-14	Bruce Hall
This is the word of Life. Thanks be to God.		
Sermon	Why Does the Path Appear Narrow and Dry?	Rev. Dan Wolpert
- RESPONDING -		
Invitation to the Offering		Erin Elaine Gail
Offertory Music	<i>Streams in the Desert</i> - Abigail Miller Tess Altiveros, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist	
Doxology	UMH #95 <i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i> 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		Rev. Wongee Joh
The Sacrament of Holy Communion		Rev. Wongee Joh & Rev. Dan Wolpert
Call to Discipleship		Rev. Jackie Celin
*Closing Hymn	TFWS #2223 "They'll Know We Are Christians"	
Benediction		Rev. Wongee Joh
Postlude	<i>Toccata in F Major</i> - Buxtehude	Elisabeth Ellis, organist

**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, Erin Elaine Gail; Readers, Violet Boyer, Bruce Hall; Communion Steward, Violet Boyer; Communion Assistant, Rev. Dan Wolpert; Front Door Greeter, Beth Snyder; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Church Seattle Concert Series with Benjamin Sieverding, Tess Altiveros and Elisabeth Ellis | May 22

at 7PM: Join us on Thursday, May 22nd, for a recital featuring Benjamin Sieverding (Bass) and Tess Altiveros (Soprano). Experience an enchanting selection of songs spanning nearly a dozen languages, celebrating the richness of musical expression across cultures. Invite a friend to join - parking will still be free in the garage, and this is an excellent opportunity to welcome people to our church via community programs. A free-will donation will be gathered to benefit the First Church Music Program. We look forward to sharing this unforgettable evening with you!

The Spiritual Practice of Social transformation with Dan Wolpert: In his revelatory new book *Looking Inward, Living Outward*, popular spiritual leader Daniel Wolpert calls us back to a life of prayer and twelve specific spiritual practices that re-orient our gaze outward in acts of social transformation. Join us before worship for a four part series: The Spiritual Practice of Social Transformation. Scan the QR code to register!



We're Hiring: The Youth and Children's Ministries Coordinator at First Church is responsible for executing educational and fellowship programs for young people from birth through the end of high school, under the direction of the Associate Pastor of Community and Congregational Engagement. If this position sounds like a good fit for you or someone you know, please forward this information!



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!



Connect with us!



Give



Need a nametag?



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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