



**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** *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love* Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

**\* Call to Worship** *Based upon Isaiah 43* Violet Boyer

But now thus says the God who created you,  
who formed you.

**For I am the God of Liberation, the God of  
Compassion And you are precious in my eyes,  
and honored, and I love you,**

**Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have  
called you by name, you are mine.**

Fear not, for I am with you.

When you pass through the waters I will be  
with you; and through the rivers, they shall not  
overwhelm you; when you walk through fire  
you shall not be burned, and the flame shall  
not consume you.

**God offers a gathering place, a place of love  
and care where we can be re-formed, and  
re-made with justice and peace.**

**\*Opening Hymn** **UMH #121 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"**

**\* Passing of the Peace** Rev. Wongee Joh

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

**Welcome and Announcements** Rev. Jackie Celin

**Land Acknowledgement** Violet Boyer

**- CENTERING -**

**Lighting the Community Candle** Violet Boyer

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** *Simple Gifts - Copland, arr. by Marie Poole*  
Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, Director and Pianist

**Celebration of Graduates from High School** Julius Perez, Polutele Richard Tu'ihalamaka

**Presentation by the Scholarship Committee** Jim Schone

## Celebration of Educational Milestones

Julius Perez, Olivia Canady, Hayden Dunham, Lorry Celin, Maeve Mastin, Grace  
Altiveros-Ritter, Elijah Walker & Polutele Richard Tu'ihalama

Prayers of the People

Violet Boyer

Prayer Response TFWS #2222 *"The Servant Song"* (verse 1 and 3)

Old Testament Jeremiah 31: 31 - 34 (NRSVUE)

Sheila Api

New Testament Matthew 5: 33-37 (NRSVUE)

Julius Perez

This is the word of Life.  
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Compassion is Liberation

Rev. Dan Wolpert

- RESPONDING -

Invitation to the Offering

Violet Boyer

Offertory Music *Be Not Afraid* - Craig Courtney  
Tess Altiveros, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

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

Rev. Wongee Joh

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Rev. Wongee Joh, Julius Perez, & Lorry Celin

Call to Discipleship

Rev. Jackie Celin

\*Closing Hymn UMH #386 *"My Hope is Built"*

Benediction

Rev. Wongee Joh

Postlude Improvisation on *"How Firm a Foundation"*

Elisabeth Ellis, organist

*\*Please rise in body or spirit*

*\*\*Our Thanks to Those Helping in Worship: Worship Leader, Violet Boyer; Readers, Sheila Api, Julius Perez; Front Door Greeter, Kris Henn; Communion Steward, Teresa Canady; Alter Guild, Barbara Moreland; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*



Scan the QR code for this week's newsletter!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**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!



**Pride 2025 with Guest Preacher | June 29:** Join us for Pride Sunday worship at 10:00 am on June 29 (note the time change for this Sunday only!). Our guest speaker, Gabrielle Claiborne, is Founder and CEO of Transformation Journeys Worldwide, an inclusion training and consulting firm with a transgender focus. Come worship with us at 10 AM on June 29th and hear how Gabrielle is making waves in communities, globally. Get ready to be inspired!



**Cookie Baking Event:** Duuna will be hosting a cookie baking event on Saturday 6/21 (10 am - 2 pm) and Sunday 6/22 after worship - 3:00 pm for Pride at First Church. Please sign up if you are interested!



## 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



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