



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.

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

May 3, 2026
Fifth Sunday of Easter

- GATHERING -

Prelude *Be Thou My Vision* Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

Greeting and Welcome Pastor Elizabeth

***Responsive Call to Worship** Ann Shaffer

In the beginning,
before time, before people, before the world began,
God was.

Here and now,
among us, beside us, enlisting the people of earth for the purpose of heaven,
God is.

In the future,
when we have turned to dust and all we know has found its fulfillment,
God will be.

Not denying the world, but delighting in it,
not condemning the world, but redeeming it,
through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,
God was, God is, God will be.
Let us worship!

***Opening Prayer** Ann Shaffer

***Opening Hymn** *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* (v. 1-5) **UMH #57**

- PROCLAIMING -

Prayer for Illumination Kathryn Everett

Hebrew Bible Reading: Psalm 19 Kathryn Everett

Special Music: *The Day is Coming* - Mark Miller
Sanctuary Choir; Elisabeth Ellis, Director and Pianist

Gospel Reading: Luke 4:14-21 Barbara Moreland

Sermon **What We Need Is Good News** **Pastor Elizabeth**

- RESPONDING -

Moment for Reflection

Take a moment now to reflect, pray, or simply be still.

Pastoral Prayer **Pastor Elizabeth**

Passing of the Peace

The Offering **Ann Shaffer**

Offertory Music ***Give Me Jesus - arr. by Moses Hogan***
Ibidunni Ojikutu, soloist; Elisabeth Ellis, pianist

Doxology** ***Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow **UMH #94**

***Prayer of Dedication** **Pastor Elizabeth**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion **Pastor Elizabeth**

- SENDING FORTH -

Call to Discipleship **Pastor Elizabeth**

Closing Hymn ***Spirit of God*** **TFWS #2117**

Benediction **Pastor Elizabeth**

Song of Blessing ***The Lord Bless and Keep You*** **TFWS #2280**

**Please rise in body or spirit*

***Our thanks to those helping in worship: Worship Leader, Ann Shaffer; Scripture Readers, Teresa Benedict & Barbara Moreland; Communion Steward, Peter Jabin; Altar Guild, Craig Matthews; Audio-Visual Operator, Laura Celin*

Today's call to worship is adapted from A Wee Worship Book (1999).

NOTES & DOODLES:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's Group No Host Lunch, Tuesday, May 5th, 11:30am at the Armory:

Invitation to all women- Join us for lunch on First Tuesdays of each month at 11:30 at the Seattle Center Armory. Come meet and visit with other women on a regular basis to get to know them better, broaden your support group, have fun, and just plain get out of your house or apartment. Join us this month on Tuesday, May 5th. You can bring or purchase lunch or coffee. We gather near the Ceres Roasting Company.



Women's Group: Picnic Potluck at Golden Gardens Park | May 16 at 11:30 am: Women of all ages are invited to a picnic potluck at Golden Gardens Park in Seattle on May 16 at 11:30 am. Bring a dish to share! Please check on the registration form if you will need a ride or can provide a ride. In case of rain, we'll meet at Debra Loacker's home.



Emergency Contact Info Needed: Does the church have your emergency contact information? You can enter your emergency contact information or update it on this Breeze form. If you live with a spouse or partner, consider adding a secondary contact. Thank you for helping us keep connected.

Upcoming Classes/Events:

- **April 26:** Newcomer's Lunch after Worship
- **May 1-3:** All Church Retreat at Camp Indianola
- **May 5:** Women's Group No Host Lunch, Tuesday, May 5th, 11:30am at the Armory
- **May 16:** Women's Group Potluck Picnic: Golden Gardens at 11:30 am
- **May 17:** Lunch & Learn: All Church Update on First Church Forward work after Worship
- **May 17:** Children & Youth Activity: Artwalk/Labyrinth at Seattle Center after Worship
- **May 24:** Pentecost Sunday!

Connect with us!



Give to First Church



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."