# Worship with Blaine! 2 December Worship Times, Holiday Closures 3 Merry Swift-Mas Event! 4 Guatemala Mission Trip!

Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023, 10am • Third Sunday of Advent • Hybrid Worship





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Prelude Of The Father's Love Begotten By C. W. Douglas Kathy Onishi

Grace and Greeting Rev. Karen Yokota Love

Call to Worship Rev. Karen Yokota Love

**Opening Prayer** Rev. Mia MiKyung Park

**Congregational Hymn** People Look East • UMH #202 Eugene & Kathy Onishi

Lighting the Advent Candle George, Wendy, Jamie and Lily Yates

**Prayers of the People** Rev. Karen Yokota Love

Introduction to Christmas Music Sunday Eugene Onishi

**Special Ukulele Music** Jesus Loves Me, Twelve Days of Christmas, Mele Kalikimaka Blaine Ukulele Group of Seattle

**Congregational Hymn** O Come, All Ye Faithful • UMH #234, v. 1-4 Eugene & Kathy Onishi

Anthem I Shall Know Him When He Comes By D.E. Wagner Blaine Memorial Choir

**Special Music** God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen • By J. Wilsor Leann Onishi

**Special Music** Angels we Have Heard on High Hark! The Herald Angels Sing! **Tone Chime Ringers** 

Christmas Music Sunday

**Special Music** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Lisa Hirayama, Kathy Onishi

Introduction to the Offering Rev. Mia MiKyung Park

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

Prayer of Dedication Rev. Mia MiKyung Park

**Contemporary Music** All the World Awaits by Maher, Tomlin, Ingram **Blaine Praise Band** 

**Special Music** Christ Child's Lullaby Leann Onishi

Announcements Rev. Karen Yokota Love

**Closing Music** Glory to God in the Highest • By J. Althouse Blaine Memorial Choir

Benediction Rev. Karen Yokota Love

Postlude Glory to God in the Highest • By J. Althouse Kathy Onishi

Passing of the Peace Rev. Karen Yokota Love

**Zoom Break Out Room** Rev. Dr. Jeney Park-Hearn





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#### **Reflection Questions:**

What do you "hear" as you sing or listen to the songs of Christmas?
 How do these carols contribute to your celebration of Christ's birth?

#### Announcements

# **December Worship Dates**

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 7:00PM Blue Christmas Service in Kono Chapel



Sunday, Dec. 24, 10:00AM Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship Service

### Sunday, Dec. 24, 5:00PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Lesson and Carols Service

# Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday, Dec. 18, 2023: Psalm 125; 1 Kings 18:1-18; Ephesians 6:10-17

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2023: Psalm 125; 2 Kings 2:9-22; Acts 3:17-4:4

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023: Psalm 125; Malachi 3:16-4:6; Mark 9:9-13

Thursday, Dec. 21, 2023: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; 2 Samuel 6:1-11; Hebrews 1:1-4

Friday, Dec. 22, 2023: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; 2 Samuel 6:12-19; Hebrews 1:5-14

Saturday, Dec. 23, 2023: Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Judges 13:2-24; John 7:40-52



#### **Holiday Office and Campus Closure**

The Blaine Memorial UMC Church Office and the ENTIRE CAMPUS will be CLOSED from December 25-30, 2023 and January 1-2, 2024.

We will have worship on December 31, 2023. The Church Office and Campus will open on Wednesday, January 3, 2024. All groups may resume activities on Wednesday, January 3. This time away gives our pastoral and church staff the opportunity to spend Christmas and the New Year with their families. Thank you for your understanding and we wish you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!



#### Poinsettias on the Altar • Today

Advent season is here and it is time to sign up for poinsettias for the altar. You may dedicate a poinsettia in celebration of a person or an event, in memory of a loved one or to honor God's glory. Poinsettias may be taken home after our Christmas Eve services. Each plant is \$12.00. The deadline for Poinsettia Orders will be Sunday, December 17, 2023.

Visit blaineonline.org, pick up a form at the church office, or pick up the November issue of the Beacon newsletter for a copy of the poinsettia order form! The order form below should be filled out and mailed to: Blaine Memorial UMC, Attn: Poinsettias, 3001 24th Ave South, Seattle, WA 98144.



#### Merry Swift-mas! A Special Film Screening Event • December 22

Join us on Friday, December 22 at 7:00 PM in the Social Hall for a very special concert film screening in the Blaine Memorial Social Hall. Snacks and drinks will be provided. But please RSVP to the event through the QR code or link provided. Note: this film is rated PG-13 and may contain strong language not suitable for young children. Parental guidance is advised.

Contact Lynne Onishi with questions at lynneonishi@gmail.com Scan the QR Code or sign up here: https://forms.gle/rcN7Jsbk6yq1QDmNA



## In Our Thoughts and Prayers

As a Church and people who believe in the power of prayer, let us continue to lift up these persons in the joys and concerns that they are experiencing in their lives.

#### Those in cancer treatment or remission

- Katie Tat, Rev. Karen and Jesse's niece
- Jennifer Lew 
  Tony Yasuda
- Lesley Cunninham 
  Duong Nguyen
- Quy Phi Nikki Palmer Linda Perry
- Doris Fraley KT Aegerter
- Chuck Sitkin 
  Dean Tsuchida

#### Those in nursing homes or care facilities

Dorothy Akiyama

#### Those with health concerns, recovery

- Madison Kelly 
  Bernie Pitts 
  Greg Ogata
- Suma Yagi · Connie Sekijima · Wyman Martin
- Marcia Takahashi Rev. Shigeharu Ago

#### Celebrations

- Congratulations to all who are celebrating December birthdays and anniversaries!
- Congratulations to Blaine Memorial UMC on voting on a welcome statement that affirms LGBTQIA+ people and to commemorate the Blaine Memorial UMC joining the Reconciling Ministries Network. Celebrate our newly minted proclamation with a celebratory curry lunch and ube cake after worship!
- Congratulations to our children, BYG, and to all of our volunteers for preparing an abundance of Thanksgiving meals for our Kimball Elementary School and Concord Elementary School families.

#### For our United Methodist Church

• We continue to pray for the safety of our LGBTQIA+ siblings and for a just, inclusive future within The United Methodist Church. We pray that we are guided by love and the hope for a world where all people are celebrated and loved, where their rights are secured and where their sexual and gender diversity is valued.

#### For our community, nation, and world

- Prayers for all of our friends, family members and neighbors who are currently awaiting medical test procedures or results. We ask that you help our loved ones find peace and strength in you. Grant emotional resilience as a loved one may face a test result. May you provide comfort and support and surround them with your love.
- Prayers for all of our friends and neighbors who struggle with addiction. We pray that you give them the courage and strength to face their struggles so they can be free from the sickness and pain that keeps them in bondage. May you restore their sense of self-worth, may they find redemption and restoration in you, dear Lord.
- Prayers for comfort and relief for those challenged by serious and chronic mental and emotional illnesses. We ask that they receive help and support. Give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care.
- Prayers for our planet and for the severe weather changes due to climate change. May we know the error of our ways and work towards a new sustainable lifestyle.
- Prayers for our unhoused siblings in our neighborhood, in the City of Seattle, in our state, and across the country. May we improve systems so that our unhoused can be housed. May they receive the care and support necessary to find adequate housing.
- Prayers for our elected leaders in government positions. Fill our leaders with wisdom, understanding, discernment, and knowledge. Give them the strength to make good decisions both in and out of the public eye.
- Prayers for the people of Israel and Palestine amid the violence and war. We pray for peace and reconciliation between Israel and Hamas. We pray for those who are dead and for the families who grieve. We pray for peace between the two regions.

#### 'Tis the Season and the Place: Calling for Haiku and Senryu • Deadline: December 22

This year the special Advent and Christmas "ornament" for Blaine MUMC is a haiku contest dreamed up by Shig Nishida. Not just haiku, but also senryu.

Haiku is a 17-syllable poem, conventional in Japanese, in three lines of 5-7-5 syllables. Senryu, like Haiku, are 17-syllable poems about insights into society, people, rather than about perceptions of nature. Senryu are social commentary or criticism, or personal self-reflections. The poem should imply or suggest the season it occurs in, should be focused on the immediate setting or place where the poem occurs, and should try to show a spontaneous insight.

Submit your entry on a 5x7 index card (available in the entrance of the Sanctuary and in the church office) with bold and large font or handwriting in drop boxes or the office by the deadline of December 22. A panel of judges will select poems in each category submitted in Advent and the poets and their poems will be announced in church. This contest is open to members of all ages, and you may submit multiple entries with prizes awarded to winners.



#### **Guatemala Mission Trip Info Meeting** January 21, 2024

Are you interested in going on a mission trip this coming August? Do you have a desire to serve others in an underdeveloped country? Are you not sure about going, but want to learn more?

Blaine will again partner with Mission Guatemala and send a mission team to San Andrés Semetebai, Guatemala. Please join us for a short informational meeting Sunday, January 21 in the Webb Room at 12:00. If you have any questions, please contact Bob or Donna Sekijima at b\_d\_sekijima@comcast.net.

# Connect with Blaine! 🗿

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#### All are welcome here!

Our core belief is that each person is a beloved child of God - whose giftedness we value and whose presence and participation are a blessing to our community, and to the Kin-dom of God in the world.

Blaine Memorial UMC celebrates God's gift of diversity and values the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more.

We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.

**Ministry Staff Team** Senior Pastor, Editor Associate Pastor Choir Director Church School Superintendent Sai Hanaoka BYG Director BYG Associate Directors

Pianist Office Assistant Bookkeeper

Lay Leadership Team Administrative Board Ad-Board Vice-Chair Staff Parish Relations SPRC Vice-Chair Board of Trustees Finance Committee Lav Leaders Annual Conference Delegates

Rev. Karen Yokota Love Rev. Mia MiKyung Park Eugene Onishi Lynne Onishi Kai Yamamoto Kaylee Yokoyama Kathy Onishi Yuki Sofronas Mimi Mar

Brad Miyake Lisa Mar Sally Sekijima Arlene Naganawa Ron Nobuyama, Brian Okura Bob Sekijima, Gayle Miyake Eugene Onishi, Kathy Onishi Ron Nobuyama, George Yates



- Ways to Give "Every person must bring a gift in proportion to God's blessings upon you." (Deut. 16: 17) ONLINE: Click the Realm logo at blaineonline.org or scan the QR code on the left.
- MOBILE: Download the free "Realm Connect" app. Use your sign-in and click GIVING. Contact the Church Office, blaineoffice@vahoo.com. for a Realm sign-in.
- TEXT: Text BLAINE to 73256. Click the link you receive and follow the prompts. MAIL: Mail a check to: Blaine Memorial UMC at 3001 24th Ave S. Seattle, WA 98144. realm

