

Worship

Worship with Blaine

2 December Worship Times, Holiday Closures

2 Merry Swift-Mas Event! 3 Haiku and Senryu

Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023, 7pm • Blue Christmas Service



Order of Worship

Prelude Yuki Sofronas	Grounding Hymn O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH #211, Verse 1 Yuki Sofronas	Lighting the Candle of Peace Reflection by Rev. Karen Video Presentation Peace Bethel Music feat. We The Kingdom
Words of Grace and Greeting Rev. Karen Yokota Love	Lighting the Candle of Hope Reflection by Rev. Karen Video Presentation House on a Hill By Amanda Lindsey Cook	Prayers of the People by Rev. Mia Invitation to Individual Candle Lighting by Rev. Karen
Opening Prayer Rev. Mia MiKyung Park	Grounding Hymn O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH #211, Verse 2 Yuki Sofronas	Special Music Breath of Heaven By Amy Grant Marina Kozu
Lighting of a Candle to Symbolize God's Presence Rev. Karen Yokota Love	Lighting the Candle of Love Reflection by Rev. Karen Luke 7:12-13 (NIV) Rev. Mia	Final Prayer Rev. Karen Yokota Love
Scripture Reading Psalm 121 (NIV) Rev. Mia MiKyung Park	Grounding Hymn O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH #211, Verse 3 Yuki Sofronas	Benediction Rev. Karen Yokota Love
Scripture Reading Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV) Rev. Mia MiKyung Park	Lighting the Candle of Joy Reflection by Rev. Karen Grounding Hymn O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH #211, Verse 4 Yuki Sofronas	Postlude Yuki Sofronas



Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church



3001 24th Avenue South • Seattle, WA 98144

206-723-1536 • blaineonline.org • blaineoffice@yahoo.com

Instagram: [@blaineumc_seattle](https://www.instagram.com/blaineumc_seattle) • onrealm.org/blainememorial

December Worship Dates



**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

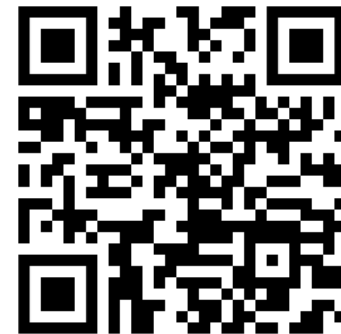
Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2023:
Psalm 125; Malachi 3:16-4:6;
Mark 9:9-13

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

We will be closed
for the holidays.



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!

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>

'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.



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
- Chuck Sitkin • Dean Tsuchida

Those in nursing homes or care facilities

- Dorothy Akiyama

Those with health concerns, recovery

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

Celebrations

- Congratulations to all who are celebrating December birthdays and anniversaries!
- Thank you to our congregation for purchasing and wrapping gifts for our children and families at Kimball Elementary School for the Giving Tree. Thank you to Terri Adolfo for being our fierce leader for this ministry! This year, Blaine Memorial provided gifts to 70 children and 28 families. Thank you for making a difference!
- 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.

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 for people in the Israel-Hamas War. We pray for those who are dead and for the families who grieve. We pray for peace between the two regions.

Save the date!



120

**Blaine Memorial
Anniversary Sunday**

Sunday, January 28, 2024



Sukiyaki Dinner Returns!



Saturday, March 2, 2024 • Blaine Memorial UMC
More information to come!

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
Associate Pastor
Choir Director
Church School Superintendent
BYG Director
BYG Associate Directors

Pianist
Office Assistant
Bookkeeper

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

Lay Leadership Team

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

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@yahoo.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.

