



# Worship



## Worship with Blaine!

2 Learn more about Adam Manasra!

2 Due Today: Giving Tree Gifts! 4 Order Poinsettias, Today!

December 8, 2024 • 10:00am • Hybrid Worship • [blaineonline.org](http://blaineonline.org)

## How do we foster deep, meaningful connections with community during the season of Advent?

### Second Sunday of Advent

#### Prelude

**I Want to Walk  
as a Child of the Light**  
*By Kathleen Thomerson*  
Kathy Onishi

**Words of Grace and Greeting**  
Rev. Karen Yokota Love

**Call to Worship**  
Ron Nobuyama

**Opening Hymn**  
**People Look East**  
*(UMH #202)*  
Eugene and Kathy Onishi

**Opening Prayer**  
Ron Nobuyama

**Lighting the Advent Candle**  
Howard, Jill, Katelyn  
and Zach Nakase

**Special Music**  
**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**  
*Setting by Don Gillespie*  
Blaine Memorial Choir

#### Scripture Readings

ルツ記 / **Ruth 1 (CEB)**  
Tsutomu Nagoya, Ron Nobuyama

**Second Scripture Reading**  
伝道者の書 / **Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12**  
**(JLB, CEB)**  
Tsutomu Nagoya, Ron Nobuyama

**Sermon**  
**We Can't Go Alone**  
Rev. Karen Yokota Love

**Music of Reflection**  
**Toda la Tierra (All Earth is Waiting)**  
*(UMH #210)*  
Eugene and Kathy Onishi

**Offertory Invitation**  
Ron Nobuyama

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

**Prayer of Dedication**  
Ron Nobuyama

#### Announcements

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

#### Closing Hymn

**Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming**  
*(UMH #216)*  
Eugene and Kathy Onishi

#### Benediction

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

#### Postlude

**Some Children See Him**  
*(By Alfred Burt)*  
Kathy Onishi



#### [blaineonline.org](http://blaineonline.org)

Visit our website to view this bulletin with announcements!

**Today's Flowers**  
Carol Kastrup



## Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church



3001 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue South • Seattle, WA 98144

206-723-1536 • [blaineonline.org](http://blaineonline.org) • [blaineoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:blaineoffice@yahoo.com)

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

## Sermon Questions

- Ruth “should” go home to her family of origin. Why do you think she commits herself to Naomi? What risks does she take? What does she give up or gain?
- Ruth and Naomi travel together to Bethlehem paralleling Mary and Joseph’s journey. When has companionship helped you weather a difficult journey?
- What would it look like to foster deep connections in this Advent season - by sharing your messy, holy, complicated life? What might this look like for you and for the people at Blaine Memorial UMC?
- Bonding occurs between people who are alike. When have you experienced bridging? What would it look like for Blaine Memorial UMC to be a bridge-builder?

## Daily Lectionary Readings

Sunday, December 08, 2024

Second Sunday of Advent

Baruch 5:1-9 or Malachi 3:1-4 •  
Luke 1:68-79 • Philippians 1:3-11 •  
Luke 3:1-6

Monday, December 9, 2024

Psalms 126 • Isaiah 40:1-11 •  
Romans 8:22-25

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Psalms 126 • Isaiah 19:18-25 •  
2 Peter 1:2-15

Wednesday, December 11, 2024:

Psalms 126 • Isaiah 35:3-7 •  
Luke 7:18-30

Thursday, December 12, 2024

Isaiah 12:2-6 • Amos 6:1-8 •  
2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Friday, December 13, 2024

Isaiah 12:2-6 • Amos 8:4-12 •  
2 Corinthians 9:1-15

Saturday, December 14, 2024

Isaiah 12:2-6 • Amos 9:8-15 •  
Luke 1:57-66

## Announcements

### Special Talk with Bethlehem Native, Adam Manasra

Adam Manasra, guest speaker, is visiting us on Sunday (12/8) and will give a presentation in the Webb Room after worship. Adam is a Palestinian who lived his whole life in a village near Bethlehem in the West Bank, Palestine. He will provide reflections and life experiences with updates about the reality of life in the West Bank.



### Giving Tree, Wrapped Gifts • Due Today, 12/8

Thank you for providing your pre-wrapped gifts for the community of Kimball Elementary! If you have more questions about the Giving Tree, see Terri Adolfo for more info.

### Holiday Card Signing in the Social Hall until Sunday (12/8)!

You’re invited to sign Christmas cards for our church members who are sick, recovering from being ill, grieving a loss of a loved one, or in a skilled facility home. The cards are in the Social Hall until Sunday (12/8). The Social Hall will be open during Church Office Hours (Tuesday-Friday, 10am-4pm). Please contact the Church Office at (206) 723-1536 if you’d like to sign the cards during the week. Let’s fill up each of the cards with Blaine love and hope for our loved ones!

### NJAUMC Caucus Advent Study Group • 12/10, 12/17 at 6:30pm-8:00pm

Members of the NJAUMC Caucus have put together an Advent study based on The Christmas Letters. All NJAUMC churches are invited to attend the study. The facilitators are US Navy Chaplain Rev. John M. Miyahara and Pastor Brian Lee from Simpson UMC in Denver, Colorado, Rev. Ki Choi from Centenary UMC and Rev. Karen Yokota Love from Blaine Memorial UMC. You don’t need to read the book to join the group.

## Advent & Christmas Worship Announcements

### Children and Youth Christmas Play

Sunday, 12/15, at 10am

All are invited to come to the Lee Activity Center to witness our children and youth perform in a special Christmas Play.

### Blue Christmas Service Wednesday, 12/18, at 7pm

Our Blue Christmas Service provides space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance for those grieving during this holiday season (Livestreamed)

### Christmas Music Sunday Sunday, 12/22, at 10:00am

Christmas Music Sunday will feature jams from our Blaine Memorial Choir, B.U.G.S., young adults, and more.



### Christmas Eve Service Sunday, 12/24 at 4pm

We will have one Traditional Christmas Eve Lesson and Carols Candlelight Service.



### Anniversary Aprons...Now Available!

Blaine Memorial UMC 120th Anniversary Aprons will be available for sale after worship on December 8. They are made from cotton rice bags from long ago. They make unique Christmas gifts, too. They are \$40.00 each. Please contact Dale Kaneko at [dkaneko@windermere.com](mailto:dkaneko@windermere.com) with questions.



## 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 mourning the passing of loved ones

- **Kenji Onishi**, 97, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, October 30, 2024. He lived life fully, grounded in faith, with practical optimism and a genuine love and respect for others. Predeceased by his loving wife, Martha, Kenji is survived by his four kids (Rob/Chris, Eugene/Kathy, Phil, and Leann), eight grandkids, one great-grandson, and numerous nieces and nephews. Remembrances may be made to Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church or FIUTS (Foundation for International Understanding Through Students). Kenji and Martha Onishi's public Celebration of Life service will be held at Blaine Memorial UMC on Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 1:00PM with a reception to follow in the LAC.
- **Toshiko "Toshi" Okamoto**, 101, a beloved church member, passed away peacefully on Sunday, October 27, 2024 at Nikkei Manor. She is survived by her sister Kachi; her four children Joyce, Susan, John and Sheila; her nine grandchildren; and her nine+ great-grandchildren. A private family Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Remembrances may be made to Keiro NW, Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church or NVC Foundation.
- **Sumiko "Sumi" Kono Yoshioka**, 89, went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, September 15, 2024. A lifelong Blaine Memorial church member, she faithfully served as the choir and handbell choir directors, organist and pianist. She was known for her kindness, grace, and was an island girl at heart. Sumi is predeceased by her husband Art; survived by her children • Tom (Roberta) Yoshioka, Ann Yoshioka, Steve (Beverly) Yoshioka, and Lynn (Stephen Cavit) Yoshioka. Sumi is also survived by her grandchildren Misa Yoshioka, Alex Yoshioka, Emily Yoshioka, Caleb Yoshioka, and Maddie Cavit; sister Midori Thiel, sisters-in-law Barbara Kono and Helen Kono, and many nephews and nieces. A public Celebration of Life will be held at Blaine Memorial UMC on Sunday, January 19, 2025 at 1:00PM with a reception to follow in the LAC.
- **Sumi Minato**, 103 and seven months-old, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 12, 2024 at Sunrise of Bellevue. She lived a long, fulfilling and active life. Well into her 100's, Sumi's days were filled with activities, friendships and a smile on her face. Predeceased by her husband Howard, Sumi is survived by her children: Michael Minato (Cheryl), Jeanne Yorozu (Kenny), John Minato (Teresa), seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren. A family Celebration of Life was held in June.

### Those in cancer treatment or remission

- Jerolyn Yoshihara • Jennifer Lew
- Quy Phi • Nikki Palmer • Chuck Sitkin
- Dean Tsuchida • Katie Tat

### Those with health concerns, recovery

- Kelly Nakata • Pui Chung Ngao Wong
- Greg Ogata • Sam Wakasugi • Alejandro Escalante
- Suma Yagi • Wyman Martin • Madison Kelly
- Marcia Takahashi • Rev. Shigeharu Ago

### Celebrations

- Congratulations to all who are celebrating December birthdays and anniversaries!

### For our United Methodist Church

- We continue to pray for The United Methodist Church's journey through a time of significant change as we navigate new ways to live into that new reality.

### For our community, nation, and world

- Prayers for people as they continue to recover from the cyclone bomb storm in the Pacific Northwest. We are grateful for Puget Sound Energy for working around the clock to restore power in all areas. Open our hearts in generosity to all who need help as they continue to restore areas that were damaged in the storm.
- Prayers after the presidential election for inspiration of the minds for all people who have committed the responsibility of government and leadership in the US. Give them the vision of truth and justice, that by their counsel all nations and peoples may work together. Forgive our shortcomings as a nation; purify our hearts to see and love the truth.
- Prayers for the 420,000 children in the Amazon Basin countries of Columbia, Peru, and Brazil who are affected by water scarcity and a drought made worse by global climate change. We pray for our world's children, that their future and health be protected.
- Prayers for Sudan as it continues to face massacres and extreme gender-based violence affecting over 400 women between the ages of 8-75. In the act of these atrocities, we pray for the many women who have been violated and are so humiliated and traumatized that they have considered ending their own lives.
- Prayers for the people of Israel and Palestine amid the violence and war. We pray for an immediate ceasefire, an end to the violence, and the release of all hostages.
- Prayers for the Ukrainian people, for protection and peace between Ukraine and Russia.



### 2024 Congregation Photograph

On December 15, 2024, we will be taking a 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemorative photo of our whole congregation in the Lee Activity Center after the children's Christmas program. Please stay for this photograph which will be a snapshot of our present 2024 congregation in our 120th year as a church family. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this Blaine Memorial UMC 120th Anniversary photo!



### Order Now: Poinsettias on the Altar

It's 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.

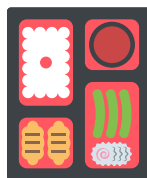


Each plant is \$12.00. The deadline for Poinsettia Orders is next Sunday (12/15).

Pick up a form at the Church Office. Scan the QR code to download an order form. Please share! You can also find a copy of the poinsettia order form in the November/December Beacon newsletter. The order form should be filled out and mailed to Blaine Memorial UMC, Attn: Poinsettias, 3001 24th Ave S., Seattle, WA 98144.

### 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sunday Service and Potluck

On January 26, 2025, Blaine Memorial UMC will have a 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary Sunday service with special guests to celebrate and reflect on its 120-year history and look forward to its further growth and development into the next 120 years of service in love. There will be a potluck gathering and program following the service. There will also be ministry table exhibits of past and present ministries of the church such as music ministry, Sunday School ministry, Youth ministry, missions ministry,



sports ministry, etc. Please join us for the culminating celebration of our 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary and start of our 121<sup>st</sup> year! We look forward to celebrating with all our members new and old and our many community friends. All are welcome.

## Connect with Blaine!

(206) 723-1536 • blaineonline.org • blaineoffice@yahoo.com • Instagram: @blaineumc\_seattle • onrealm.org/BlaineMemorial

### 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  
Choir Director  
Church School Superintendent  
BYG Associate Director  
Pianist  
Office Assistant  
Bookkeeper

Rev. Karen Yokota Love  
Eugene Onishi  
Sai Hanaoka  
Kaylee Yokoyama  
Kathy Onishi  
Yuki Sofronas  
Mimi Mar



### Lay Leadership Team

Administrative Board  
Staff Parish Relations  
Board of Trustees  
Finance Committee  
Lay Leaders  
Annual Conference Delegates

Brad Miyake  
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.

