



# Worship



## Worship with Blaine!

2 Tuesday: Christmas Eve Service 3 Thoughts & Prayers  
4 120th Anniversary Potluck, January 2025

December 22, 2024 • 10:00am • Hybrid Worship • [blaineonline.org](http://blaineonline.org)

What do you “hear” as you sing to the songs of Christmas?

## Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Music Sunday

### Prelude

**Carol of the Epiphany**  
*(Music by John Bell)*  
Kathy Onishi

### Words of Grace and Greeting

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

### Call to Worship

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

### Opening Prayer

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

### Congregational Hymn

**Angels We Have Heard on High**  
*(UMH #238)*  
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

### Contemporary Music

**Joy to the World**  
**(Unspeakable Joy)**  
*(By Isaac Watts, George Frederic Handel, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Matt Gilder)*  
Blaine Praise Band

### Special Music

**Baloo Lammy**  
*16th Century Scottish Christmas Carol*  
Leann Onishi

### Anthem

**Glory to God in the Highest**  
*(Words and Music by Jay Althouse)*  
Blaine Memorial Choir

### Congregational Hymn

**The First Noel**  
*(UMH #245)*  
Eugene & Kathy Onishi

### Special Music

**O Sanctissima**  
*Italian Carol*  
*arr. Linda Lowe Thompson*  
Leann Onishi

### Anthem

**How Far is the Star**  
*By Bradley Ellingboe*  
Blaine Memorial Choir

### Introduction to the Offering

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

### Doxology

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

### Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

### Special Ukulele Music

**What Child is This?**  
**Mary Did You Know?**  
**Mele Kalikimaka**  
Blaine Ukulele Group of Seattle

### Announcements

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

### Closing Music

**Sing We the Song of Emmanuel**  
*(By Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Stuart Townend, Keith Getty)*  
Blaine Praise Band

### Benediction

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

### Postlude

**In Silence We Wait**  
*Music by Lloyd Larson*  
Kathy Onishi

### Passing of the Peace

Rev. Karen Yokota Love

### Zoom Breakout Room

Rev. Jeney Park-Hearn

### Today's Flowers

Miriam Tong



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

Visit our website to view this bulletin with announcements!



## Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church



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## Sermon 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



### Tuesday: Christmas Eve Traditional Candlelight Lessons & Carols Service, 4pm

On Tuesday (12/24), we’ll celebrate the birth of Christ through the Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols. The Lessons & Carols tells the story of Christmas through a series of readings from the Bible. As the name of the service implies, every reading is followed by a response in the form of a carol or hymn. We’ll end by lighting candles in the darkness and remember the birth of Christ who brings light and life. We will end the service by singing Silent Night, Holy Night and share the light of Christ. This year, there will be one Christmas Eve service.

### Request for Homemade Cookies for Christmas Eve

Calling all cookie makers and bakers for Christmas Eve (12/24) 4:00PM service! This year, we are inviting all cookie makers and bakers to bring homemade cookies for Fellowship Time after our worship service. Please list your ingredients and please no nuts (no peanuts and tree nuts). Please drop off your baked cookies to the Social Hall before the Christmas Eve service at 4:00PM.



### Prayers and Coffee on Zoom Postponed; Will Return in 2 weeks!

Our prayers and community time over coffee on Zoom will be on hiatus for two weeks as we celebrate the holidays. Please enjoy this brief break with your loved ones as we celebrate the ending of 2024! Contact Rev. Karen if you have any questions.

## Daily Lectionary Readings

**Sunday, December 22, 2024:**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Micah 5:2-5a • Luke 1:46b-55 or  
Psalm 80:1-7 • Hebrews 10:5-10 •  
Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

**Monday, December 23, 2024:**

Psalm 113 • Genesis 25:19-28 •  
Colossians 1:15-20 •

**Tuesday, December 24, 2024:**

**Nativity of the Lord - Proper I**

Isaiah 9:2-7 • Psalm 96 • Titus 2:11-  
14 • Luke 2:1-14, (15-20)

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024:**

**Nativity of the Lord - Proper II**

Isaiah 62:6-12 • Psalm 97 •  
Titus 3:4-7 • Luke 2:(1-7), 8-20

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024:**

**Nativity of the Lord - Proper III**

Isaiah 52:7-10 • Psalm 98 •  
Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12) • John 1:1-14

**Thursday, December 26, 2024:**

Psalm 148 • 2 Chronicles 24:17-24 •  
Acts 6:1-7 • 7:51-60

**Friday, December 27, 2024:**

Psalm 148 • Proverbs 8:32-36 •  
John 21:19b-24

**Saturday, December 28, 2024:**

Psalm 148 • Isaiah 54:1-13 •  
Revelation 21:1-7



### Holiday Office and Campus Closure (December 26, 2024 - January 2, 2025)

The Blaine Memorial UMC Church Office and the ENTIRE CAMPUS will be CLOSED from Thursday, December 26, 2024 - Thursday, January 2, 2025. The Church Office and Campus will open on Friday, January 3, 2025. This time off gives our pastoral and church staff much needed time 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!



## 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 was held at Blaine Memorial UMC on Saturday, December 14, 2024.
- **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. 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.

### 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

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

### Celebrations

- Congratulations to all of our students who finished their studies for the year and have a well deserved winter break!
- Our hearts take hope from the winners of this year's Nobel Peace Prize – Japan's Hibakusha Group, whose members are survivors of atomic and hydrogen bombs. We pray that their suffering and service result in the elimination of nuclear war.
- 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

- We send our love to the children who were shot at the Abundant Life Christian School in Madison, Wisconsin, and for the 15 year old shooter who took her own life. We pray for her family to be wrapped in love even in the midst of questions and anger. We pray for the school to experience love in the midst of their heartbreak and fear. We pray for the administrators to be able to navigate this tragedy with empathy and discernment.
- We pray that justice will be done and that mercy will be extended to those involved in an alleged Venezuelan gang-related kidnapping in Aurora, Colorado, U.S.A leading to 19 arrests. We pray that even in the midst of this injustice, ethnic minorities will not suffer from undue racism and hatred as a result.
- While Christians celebrate Christmas, we also remember our Jewish siblings who will soon be celebrating Hannukah. We especially lift up the attack on the Beth Tikvah Shul in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, that was caused by an incendiary device damaging their windows and front doors—the second time this year that their community has been the target of hate crimes.
- 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.
- Our lips cry out in protest with those who escaped the firebombing of a synagogue in Melbourne, Australia. We pray for the end of violence against people for their religious beliefs.
- Prayers for the Ukrainian people, for protection and peace between Ukraine and Russia.



### Mochi Taste-Testing! • Saturday, January 4, 2025

In the Japanese tradition to celebrate the start of the new year, we will have a mochi testing event! Mark your calendar: Saturday, January 4, 2025 at 9:30am in the Social Hall. Come and taste freshly made mochi with kinako, shoyu, and other delicious flavors. Experience the best mochi in the Northwest!

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

On January 26, 2025, Blaine Memorial UMC will have a 120th 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.

We'll honor our church members and friends who have or will have reached by the end of January, the glorious age of 88 and older by reading their names aloud during worship. In addition, we will remember our saints who have passed away in the last year who were 88 and older by the reading of their names.

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, mission ministry, sports ministry, etc.

Please join us for the culminating celebration of our 120th anniversary and start of our 121st year! We look forward to celebrating with all our members new and old and our many community friends. All are welcome. We will also have a lunch celebration honoring our 88+ and our 120 years! Stay tuned for more information to come.



## Connect with Blaine!

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

