- We will go deeper in faith as we do justice, love mercy, work for peace and walk humbly with God.
- We will be present to one another and our neighbors in our personal relationships and by creating venues for engagement where we can learn about viewpoints different from our own.
- We will respect all religions by learning about the beliefs, values and struggles of our neighbors and by demonstrating support for them.
- We will welcome the stranger, including immigrants and refugees, as our scriptures instruct. We will explore how to support their causes and advocate for justice, remembering that many of us are the children of immigrants and refugees.
- We will actively work to recognize and change our own biases and to fight racism, sexism, classism, homophobia, ageism and other systemic prejudices.
 - We will protect our environment and support preservation programs that are based on scientific data designed to improve our resources, enhance biodiversity, and reverse human-caused climate change.

Sunday Worship Sunday, August 20, 2023 11 AM

Pentecost 12 Seattle First Baptist Church www.seattlefirstbaptist.org We gather on the unceded ancestral lands of the Coast Salish people, past and present.

With gratitude, we honor the land itself and the legacy of the First People of Seattle, the Duwamish Tribe.

May we remember that the oppression of Native peoples is not a relic of the past but continues today.

And may we, through God's Spirit, repent and walk forward together,

changing systems that discriminate as we live into authentic diversity and healing.

Prelude

Prelude on Beach Spring – Charles Callahan

Christian Broughton

Gathering/Call to Worship

Margie Paynton

One: The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains, The world, and those who dwell in it.

ALL: Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour.

One: The earth does not belong to us; we belong to the earth.

ALL: Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days.

One: Preserve the land for all children, and love it, as God loves us.

ALL: Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, make our broken spirits whole.

One: "We are part of nature; included in it, and thus in constant interaction with it."

ALL: Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore.

Hymn

For the Beauty of the Earth

#28

Time with Children

Margie Paynton

Song

The Tide is Rising – Friedman

Ben Luedcke and Alex Katschke

The tide is rising and so are we (3X).

This is where we are called to be. (2X)

The task is mighty...

This land is holy...

The storm is raging...

The sun is shining...

The world is ready...

Invitations to Involvement/Call to Giving/Call to Prayer

Donna Ward

Hymn

Pray for the Wilderness

#557

Prayer

Linda Zaugg

Hymn

Touch the Earth Lightly Congregation sings verses 1, 3, and 4 - Soloist sings verse 2

#569

Scripture

Job 12: 7-10

Reflection

Grant us Wisdom, Grant us Courage

Margie Paynton

A Prayer for Our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace. Amen.

Hymn

God, Creation Sings Your Praises

see insert

Benediction

Isaiah 55: 12-13

Margie Paynton

Postlude

Prelude on Kedron – Gilbert M. Martin

Christian Broughton

Please join in the Fellowship Hall downstairs for coffee and conversation.

The Call to Worship includes words attributed to scripture, to Chief Seattle, and to Pope Francis.

For the Beauty of the Earth - Folliott S. Pierpoint/Conrad Kocher

Overwhelmed by the loveliness of the English countryside, 29 year-old Folliott S. Pierpoint was inspired to write For the Beauty of the Earth in 1864. Born in 1835 in Bath, England and educated at Queens' College, Cambridge, Pierpoint later became a classics schoolmaster and spent most of his life near his birthplace. Soon after it was written, the hymn appeared in print and became his most famous anthem, although the last lines were changed or replaced over time. Although the tune we sing is called Dix, which was composed in 1838 by Conrad Kocher, other tunes have been used, including one written by the famed contemporary British composer John Rutter. The hymn, sung in Columbia Pictures' version of Little Women in 1994 and performed on Thomas Kinkade's album Music of Light in 2000, is sung especially during the Thanksgiving holidays. Pierpoint died aged 82 in 1917.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUGUST 20, 2023

Party for Pastor Anita and Scotty: Sunday, August 27 after the worship service. We are celebrating the recent marriage of Pastor Anita and Scotty with a party in the Fellowship Hall following worship on August 27! We need volunteers to bring sides, desserts (anything but cake!), help with set up the day before (August 26), help with set up the day of the event, and help with clean up after! To sign-up to volunteer, please fill out the Google form (link in This Week and on Facebook). Between now and August 27, bring an 8.5x11 piece of paper (or multiple pieces of paper) with a recipe, blessing, or other message for Pastor Anita and Scotty. We will compile these papers in a binder to give to them as a gift from the congregation!

Young Adults Group Paint & Sip: Tuesday, August 22, 6:30pm at Tapster in South Lake Union, 1011 Valley St. You must register in advance by noon on Monday by emailing smallgroups@seattlefirstbaptist.org. Someone will contact you with the details. There is a sliding scale fee of \$0 to \$35 according to your ability to pay. Everyone ages 21-40 is welcome!

Please note that the Gay Men's Group is not meeting in August.

SFBC Women's Retreat: "Spiritual Companionship" October 20-22 at Rainbow Lodge.

SFBC CALENDAR THIS WEEK

For Zoom links, see our online calendar at seattlefirstbaptist.org

Sunday 8/20 **Choir Retreat** 12pm at Volunteer Park

Tuesday 8/22 SFBC Young Adults Paint & Sip 6:30pm at Tapster

Thursday 8/24 Small Groups Ministry Advisory Group 4:30pm on Zoom

Sunday 8/27 Party for Pastor Anita & Scotty 12pm in the Fellowship Hall