

12 22 24

Welcome

All Souls, seeking to be a church not just for ourselves, exists to be a vibrant expression of who God is—gracious, present, hospitable.

Launched in 2010, we are a worshipping community rooted in the belief that the historic Christian gospel is true, compelling, and promises to change our lives powerfully, in the direction of freedom, wholeness, and hope.

We seek to embody and articulate this gospel of grace, bringing about spiritual, social, and cultural renewal in Seattle and, through it, the world.

Please feel the freedom to participate actively in worship or to just listen and observe at your discretion. It is a time to process freely and safely the audacious claims of Jesus, and the inevitable tension between the beauty and scandal of God's grace, freely given to you.

As a church, we are part of that historical, counter-cultural community that Jesus started and continues to build, sustain, and perfect.

Anyone is welcome in worship, and we encourage you to come as you are. We understand that visiting a church for the first time can be intimidating. So it's our commitment to walk you through each component of the worship service so no one feels like an outsider. There will be no obscure, tribal language. No 'in-house' moments.

Our worship is structured, with liturgy and rich music that connects us to the church of old and those who've gone before us—we are deeply rooted in something much larger than ourselves or our own cultural moment. But worship should be accessible and enjoyable if it's to be meaningful.

We haven't heard the gospel for what it really is if we don't find it at once horribly offensive and staggeringly beautiful.

It is both heart-breaking and heart-mending.

All Souls is a space to begin, or begin again, from anywhere. So let us explore. *Let us worship!*

Exploring?

Do you have questions about the Christian faith?

Do you wrestle with intellectual barriers that make belief seem implausible, even irresponsible?

Do you struggle to reconcile a good God with a hurting world?

We recognize that belief is hard. That's why:

- We value questions, and the people who ask them
- We prize being a community where you can belong before you believe
- We assume, each Sunday, that there are people present who are not convinced
- We desire to talk to skeptics not about them
- You are welcome here...

So, be curious. Doubt. Ask. Explore.

How do I get connected?

visit allsoulsseattle.org for the latest

All Souls Kids + Youth

allsoulsseattle.org/kids (/youth)

How can I serve?

allsoulsseattle.org/connect

Announcements p. 8

Home Group details + map p. 9

Kids + Youth on Sundays p. 10

Giving as part of worship p. 11

cover illustrations by David G. Klein

The song of Mary is the oldest Advent hymn. It is at once the most passionate, the wildest, one might say, the most revolutionary Advent hymn ever sung. This is not the gentle, tender, dreamy Mary whom we sometimes see in paintings; this is the passionate, surrendered, proud, enthusiastic Mary who speaks out here.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Our community gathers on Sundays to enter the presence of the Lord and offer him praise, as he graciously invites us to do. We come to sing, pray, encounter God's Word, celebrate Communion, and simply to be together. This is a space to begin, or begin again, from anywhere.

STANDING

Bold text is read together by the congregation. Plain text is read by the leader. Responsive readings remind us that during corporate worship God speaks to his people and we respond together as a community.

A "collect" is a collection of prayers into one short prayer on behalf of the community. The collects for Advent are prayers for living in the "meantime" - living between the coming of the Kingdom of God in Christ's ministry and the culmination of the Kingdom in Christ's coming judgement when he makes all things new.

If you, or someone with you this afternoon, has special needs we do not want to miss an opportunity to serve you.

Please introduce yourself and let us know how we can support you best.

SEATED

Call to Worship

Within Our Darkest Night / My Soul in Stillness Waits

In the Bible, God calls us to worship, because it is not our natural impulse to come to Him. But He calls, reminding us of His pursuing love, and we respond in gratitude.

Lyrics are provided on the screens for ease of singing and seeing in the candlelight.

Lighting the Advent Candle

Each Sunday in Advent, we light a candle on this wreath as a sign of the coming light of Christ, the hope that breaks apart the darkness and rescues the world.

Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Jesus said: "I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness." - John 12:46

O gracious Light,

Pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,

O Jesus Christ, Holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun,

and our eyes behold the vesper light,

we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,

O Son of God, O Giver of Life, and to be glorified through all the worlds. Amen.

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus / O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Lyrics are provided on the screens for ease of singing and seeing in the candlelight.

Advent Collect

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and as we are sorely hindered by our sins from running the race that is set before us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

the Lessons

It has been the practice of the church for thousands of years to have portions of the Bible read during worship. We do this because we are people who need to be shaped by all of God's Word.

Micah 5:2-6, The Message

But you, Bethlehem, David's country,
the runt of the litter—
From you will come the leader
who will shepherd-rule Israel.
He'll be no upstart, no pretender.
His family tree is ancient and distinguished.
Meanwhile, Israel will be in foster homes
until the birth pangs are over and the child is born,
And the scattered brothers come back
home to the family of Israel.
He will stand tall in his shepherd-rule by God's strength,
centered in the majesty of God-Revealed.
And the people will have a good and safe home,
for the whole world will hold him in respect—
Peacemaker of the world!

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

And if some bullying Assyrian shows up,
invades and violates our land, don't worry.
We'll put him in his place, send him packing,
and watch his every move.
Shepherd-rule will extend as far as needed,
to Assyria and all other Nimrod-bullies.
Our shepherd-ruler will save us from old or new
enemies,
from anyone who invades or violates our land.

Psalm 80:1-7, CEB

1 Shepherd of Israel, listen!
**You, the one who leads Joseph
as if he were a sheep.**
You, who are enthroned upon the winged
heavenly creatures.
2 **Show yourself before Ephraim, Benjamin, and
Manasseh!**
Wake up your power!
Come to save us!
3 Restore us, God!
Make your face shine so that we can be saved!

4 Lord God of heavenly forces,
**how long will you fume against your people's
prayer?**
5 You've fed them bread made of tears;
you've given them tears to drink three times over!
6 You've put us at odds with our neighbors;
our enemies make fun of us.
7 Restore us, God of heavenly forces!
Make your face shine so that we can be saved!

Magnificat

text adapted music by Evan Wilson (2016)

My soul magnifies the Lord
My spirit rejoices in God
My soul magnifies the Lord, my savior (2x)

For He has done great things
For He has done great things for me
For He has done great things for me

39 At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, 40 where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. 41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! 43 But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

46 And Mary said:

"My soul magnifies the Lord

47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

48 for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed,

49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me—

holy is his name.

50 His mercy extends to those who fear him,

from generation to generation.

51 He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;

he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

52 He has brought down rulers from their thrones

but has lifted up the humble.

53 He has filled the hungry with good things

but has sent the rich away empty.

54 He has helped his servant Israel,

remembering to be merciful

55 to Abraham and his descendants forever,

just as he promised our ancestors."

56 Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

Magnificat

text adapted music by Evan Wilson (2016)

My soul magnifies the Lord

My spirit rejoices in God

My soul magnifies the Lord, my savior (2x)

For He has done great things

For He has done great things for me

For He has done great things for me

Homily

The Song of Mary

Rev. Kara Nichols Barrett

Prayers of the People

**O come, O come Messiah.
O come our Hallelujah!
O sing, O sing Hosannah
O come, Messiah, come.**

**Come verdant Joy,
Alpha, Omega, King,
Sorrow and toil
No longer rulers be.**

**O come, O come Messiah.
O come our Hallelujah!
O sing, O sing Hosannah
O come, Messiah, come.**

Prayer

**O come, O come Messiah.
O come our Hallelujah!
O sing, O sing Hosannah
O come, Messiah, come.**

**Come verdant Joy,
Alpha, Omega, King,
Sorrow and toil
No longer rulers be.**

**O come, O come Messiah.
O come our Hallelujah!
O sing, O sing Hosannah
O come, Messiah, come.**

We regularly pray for needs in our community, our city, and the world as an act of obedience and love, and to align our concerns with the Lord's. If you have children with you, please feel free to use this time to teach them to pray with us, as we ask God to honor our hope that we are becoming a vibrant expression of who God is—gracious, present, hospitable.

To make your prayer requests known, reach out to us prayer@alsoulsseattle.org

If you would like to pray with someone, R.J., Kara and Suzanne are all happy to pray with you.

Confession

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Receiving of Grace

John 3:16

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

the Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Grateful Giving

Freely you have received, freely give.

Matthew 10:8



Communion

Communion, also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist, is the family meal of Christians.

INVITATION + THANKSGIVING

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. We give thanks to you with those who have gone before us, and with brothers and sisters around the world, and along with the angels and all the company of heaven, we praise you with one voice:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lo - rd, God of pow
5 hea - ven and ear - th are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na ir
9 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of
12 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in

BREAK BREAD

For as often as we eat this bread and drink the cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Cor 11:23-26)

Therefore, together, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast. **As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world, for by him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

DRAW NEAR

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us;

Therefore, let us keep the feast.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING

Because All Souls is a church not only for the convinced but also for those journeying toward trust in Jesus, we gladly extend room for you to consider and dialogue. Use the prayers below during Communion as guides to reflect upon and respond to what God is doing in your life.

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, and yet, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sin and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

** Hosanna means "save me!" but with Jesus came to mean "salvation is here!"*

Trinity Song

Music by Sandra McCracken (2016)

Holy Father, Son, and Spirit
Holy communion, Three in One
Holy Father, Son, and Spirit
Holy communion, Three in One

Come with Your peace, with Your invitation
Bind us together in holy love
Come with Your peace, with Your invitation
Bind us together in holy love

God Most High, **We thank you for welcoming us, teaching us and feeding us. We deserve nothing from you but in your great mercy, you have given us everything in your Son Jesus Christ. We love you and give ourselves to you to be sent out for your work. Grant us your blessing, now and for ever. Amen.**

Eternal Light

music by Paul Zach, Joshua Jay Miller, Kate Bluett (2021)

Eternal light, shine in my heart	Stand by my side and never let me go
Shine in my heart and drive the dark away	Eternal peace quiet my soul
Eternal hope, lift up my eyes	Eternal love never let go
Lift up my eyes to see your dawning day	You are the same
Eternal light shine in my heart	Yesterday, today, forever
Eternal hope lift up my eyes	You never change
Eternal peace quiet my soul	You have no beginning
Quiet my soul like the waters flow	And you have no end
Eternal love stand by my side	

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **Amen.**

Let us go forth and serve our world as those who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

All Souls welcomes all who are trusting in Jesus Christ for salvation, understand the meaning of the Lord's Supper, and are in good standing with congregations that proclaim the gospel to receive Holy Communion with us.

Please note that we use wine and non-alcoholic grape juice for Communion. For those with wheat allergies, a gluten-free cracker is available in place of the bread (ingredients: cauliflower, brown rice flour, tapioca starch, coconut milk powder, pumpkin seeds, sunflower seeds, sesame seeds, mustard powder, sea salt, garlic powder, onion powder).

A word to parents:

Children are welcome at the communion table. To receive the Lord's Supper, a child must have been baptized and received as a communing member by the leadership of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. If you have any questions about how this process works, please speak with one of our pastors.

Scripture appears in the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) or the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted.

Our pastoral staff and other leaders are available following the service for prayer or to answer any questions you may have about All Souls.

Announcements

Christmas 2024 This year, join us on **Christmas Eve at 5p at Westside Neighbors Shelter** for cookies and caroling. On **Christmas Day (Wednesday) at 4p at Trinity**, All Souls is hosting a Lessons and Carols with a potluck feast to follow.

Co-Work Fridays Bring your work to the All Souls offices the First Friday of each month—save the date for **Friday Feb 7**. Join us at 8:15a for coffee and stay for lunch, provided for you by All Souls. Bring a colleague or a neighbor who wants to work with you. Meeting rooms provided. Childcare provided from 2:30-5p and happy hour is from 4-5p. Questions? Contact R.J. (rj@allsoulsseattle.org).

New to All Souls? If you missed the orientation class in November and are interested in learning more about All Souls and becoming a member, reach out to R.J. this week.

Women's Bible study. A small group of women have been studying the book of Titus together this fall. We will resume in January, meeting mostly **every other Friday at Trinity from 9:30-11a**. Please contact Alissa Moor (alissamoor@gmail.com) or Lydia Peterson (lydia.s.peterson@gmail.com) for more information, to arrange childcare or to pick up a book.

Serve Together



There are three ways you can be involved with Westside Neighbors Shelter: pray, learn, and serve.

If you are interested in partnering with teens who serve a youth shelter called New Horizons, you can contact Suzanne (suzanne@allsoulsseattle.org).

Group Life



Home Groups — *find a group, p. 9. This season, we're practicing sabbath together using Practicing the Way (QR code).*

Youth Group —

Youth group meets Wednesdays at Trinity, 6:30-8p. Dinner included.

Youth group is **on pause and will resume Wednesday January 15th**.

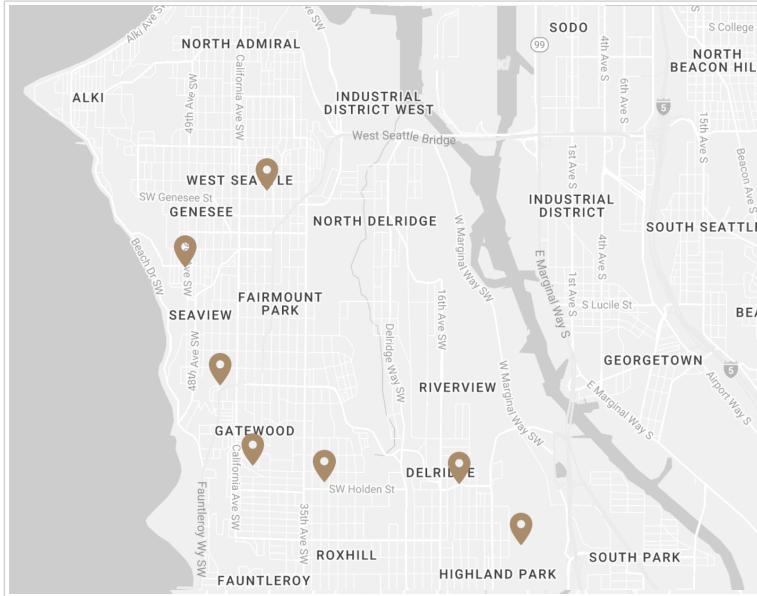
Upcoming: High school students are serving a meal at New Horizons youth shelter **Monday January 6th**. Contact Suzanne@ to join.

Sign up for our Weekly Friday email:



Home Group Map + Details

These are open groups anyone can join at any time, built to be a place to share—food, stories, hopes, and life.



ALASKA

Peter + Kara Barrett
Every other Sunday, 6-7:30p
indoors, mixed group of adults, kids welcome, meal included

GATEWOOD - NORTH

Andrew + Jen Eckert and Steve + MaryAnn Simmons
Every other Thursday, 6-7:30p
online, mixed group of adults, kids welcome, meal included

GATEWOOD - SOUTH

Luke + Terri Crook
Every other Sunday, 6-7:30p
mixed group of adults, meal included

HIGHLAND PARK - EAST

Jeff + Suzanne Case
Every other Sunday, 6-7:30p
indoors, mixed group of adults, kids welcome, meal included

HIGHLAND PARK - SOUTH

R.J. + Carolyn March
Every other Sunday, 10-11:30a
mixed group of adults, kids welcome, meal included

SEAVIEW

Dustin + Kelley Long
Every other Tuesday, 6-7:30p
mixed group of adults, kids + teens welcome, meal included

WESTWOOD

Thad + Lauren Williams and Erik + Nicole Bennett
Every other Wednesday, 6-7:30p
mixed group of adults, kids welcome

To connect with one of these groups,
visit: allsoulsseattle.org/connect



All Souls Kids + Youth on Sundays

Our ministry exists to help children in partnership with families to know Jesus, and experience his love.



Sunday School

Sunday school classes are offered during worship October through June. We currently have two classes: Lion Class (PreK-1st grade), and Bear class (2nd-5th).

Students will be signed in upon class arrival and signed out after dismissal back into worship.

First time here? Welcome! All Souls Kids staff and volunteers are here to greet you and answer any questions.

Kids will be dismissed from the service to their teachers prior to the scripture reading, and escorted to their classrooms. Teachers will bring students back to rejoin families just before the Lord's Supper.

Both classes will meet your teachers at the back of the sanctuary.

Nursery is provided for the entire worship service, ages 1-3. Parents: sign your little one in and out in the Giraffe (nursery) classroom. Nursing mothers are welcome to use the nursing mother's room as needed, located next to the sanctuary.

What happens in class

Classes begin with a greeting and lighting of the Christ Candle. Each student is invited to share a response to a question relating to the theme of the lesson.

Next, we dive into the story of the week, followed by discussion. Discussion questions point to God's character, His rescue plan for the world, and the unending hope and love available to us because of Jesus. After the discussion, students participate in a short activity like acting out the story or a simple craft.

This fall, we are practicing prayers of Help, Thanks, and Wow! Classes close the prayer time in the Lord's Prayer, together.

After the worship service, children are offered a lollipop as part of the benediction, or blessing. When we hand them the lollipop we say "Peace be with you". The response is "And also with you"

F.A.Q.

child protection policies >>



Can I join my child in class, if they need me?

Absolutely! Parents may accompany children to class for as long as needed.

Can my child stay in the service with me?

Yes! Children of all ages are welcome in the service at any time. Clipboards with paper and WikiSticks are available for busy hands.

What's the curriculum?

Our lessons follow the big story of the Bible using content from Dwell, the Jesus Storybook Bible, and pastor created content.

Is there an at-home connection?

Yes! Each week's scripture passage will be included in the all church email, the Friday prior to class, to give families a heads up about what your child will be learning. Families are encouraged to talk about the story at home by asking children to retell the story and something new they learned about God.

Giving as Part of Worship

All we have is given to us by God. Our offerings express this joyful dependence and our commitment to join God in his work of renewal. Whether we have much or little, God calls us to treasure and trust Him above all. So we are to give as generously as we are able, knowing that He who met our most dire need through Christ will continue to provide for every need we have. All giving goes toward ministry initiatives of All Souls and the relief of those in need.

While there are many ways to contribute financially to God's Kingdom, scripture says the Church is the primary means by which that kingdom is established on earth. So, God calls us first and foremost to be faithful in the regular, ongoing support of one's local church body through tithes and offerings. If you haven't made tithing a practice, please consider adopting this as a spiritual practice—that you might grow in faith.

We recognize, too, that as the church, we must consistently remind one another of the truth that everything we have is a gift from the Lord.

The Bible says that 'we know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that we through his poverty might become rich' (2 Corinthians 8:9). Jesus' death on the Cross represents the most generous gift ever given—when he gave up everything in order to reconcile us to God.

Giving cheerfully, sacrificially, and consistently is a part of our worship—not because it's something churches do, but because giving in response to the gospel is intended to be worshipful. When we are generous with others we are reminding one another of the great generosity of God.

All Souls seeks to build community, love our neighbors, and work for peace and justice within Seattle. Our desire in giving is not only to meet our own financial needs, but to be able to serve those in need in our city and neighborhoods.

There are a few ways, in addition to during worship, that you can contribute financially to All Souls:

- ▶ Mail a check, or set up automatic bill pay through your bank, payable to:

All Souls
7551 35th Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98126

- ▶ Visit allsoulsseattle.org/give (ACH now available)




- ▶ For any assistance or questions about:

Giving on a recurring basis via EFT (electronic fund transfer), stock donation, or non-cash contribution options (e.g. property or vehicle donation) please contact bookkeeper@allsoulsseattle.org

The intentional financial participation of those who consider All Souls their church home is vital. If you are not already tithing regularly, please prayerfully consider doing so. If you have questions about tithing or biblical guidelines for giving, please ask. If you are our guest today, please feel no obligation to give.

We thank God for your partnership in this work, and invite you to ask him how you might best reflect his radical, sacrificial generosity with your own.

Fiscal Year 2024/25 began October 1, 2024 with the intention this year to invest in becoming “a countercultural community of the well-rested” through experiencing rest and extending rest to others. You can learn more by using the QR code >> 
Our new budgeted average expense is \$44,000/month.

All Souls

of The Diocese of Churches for the Sake of Others (C4SO)

PASTORAL

Rev. R.J. March, *rector*
Rev. Kara Nichols Barrett, *priest*
Suzanne Case, *pastor, community*
Steve Simmons, *prayer + listening*

VESTRY

Adam Aljets, *treasurer*
Corey Moraigh
Jen Eckert
Merrilee Thompson, *warden*
Nicole Bennett, *secretary*
Sonya Luchauer

vestry@allsoulsseattle.org

HOSPITALITY

Elle Case
Ethan Faunce

KIDS / YOUTH

Elba Martin

NURSERY

Anja Vander Hijde

OPERATIONS

Abby Hannifan

WORSHIP + OFFICE LOCATION

Trinity West Seattle - Sundays, 4p
7551 35th Ave SW

MAILING ADDRESS

7551 35th Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98126

info@allsoulsseattle.org

Instagram: @allsoulsseattle
Podcast: 'All Souls Church of Seattle'



It is the smallest of all seeds,
but when it has *grown* it is
larger than all the other garden
plants and becomes a tree, so
that birds of the air come and
make nests in its branches.

Matthew 13:32