

ALKI UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

January 3, 2021



The Second Sunday in Christmas

**We are a church where Jesus the healer meets Jesus the revolutionary,
and where together, we grow a just and peaceful world.**

Gathering Music	Betsy Stelzer, Accompanist	
Welcome	Rev. Steve Davis, Guest Pastor	
Call to Worship	Julia Peeler, Liturgist	
Opening Song	<i>We Three Kings</i>	John Henry Hopkins, Jr.
Scripture Readings	Old Testament: Jeremiah 31:7-14	

For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

New Testament: John 1:1-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Sermon	<i>Christian Considerations in Multi-Faith Spaces God's Bounty and Gathering for New Life</i>	Rev. Steve Davis
Communion	Words of Institution and Consecration Prayer of Thanksgiving	Rev. Steve Davis
Communion Music	<i>Lord, Speak To Me</i>	Frances R. Havergal

Offering Prayer

Please donate generously through alkiucc.org, through a mailed donation to the church office or through text-to-give by texting the word "AlkiUCC" to 44321 and a donation link will come back to you. Your support for Alki is more important now than ever as the church seeks to be a prophetic voice for all people in the year ahead.

Offering Music	<i>Joyful, Joyful</i>	Arr. Mervyn Warren; Adapted by Roger Emerson Performed by the Pacific Northwest UCC Chorus
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Closing Prayer

Moment of Ministry	Outreach/Social Justice	Cinda Stenger
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Announcements

Closing Hymn	<i>All Things Bright and Beautiful</i>	<i>Cecil Frances Alexander; Martin Shaw</i>
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Third Hymn	<i>This Little Light of Mine</i> Introduced by Nancy Hallberg	Traditional Spiritual
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Benediction

Postlude

Hospitality Hour/Facilitated Discussion

Important note: Alki UCC Sunday worship is recorded for posting on YouTube.

STEVEN DAVIS



Steven “Steve” Davis was raised in El Paso, TX, and came to faith early in childhood. At the age of 7, Steve first mentioned becoming a pastor, and at age 9 in 3rd grade, others prophetically shared of Steve entering into Christian ministry. At age 13, Steve came to embrace the gift of faith in Christ for himself, and the next year heard and embraced the call to ordained pastoral ministry as his own.

Rev. Steve Davis came to Plymouth Church UCC in downtown Seattle in July 2016 and served in co-leadership as the Executive Minister. He is now in Texas seeking God’s next place for life and ministry. Rev. Davis has been serving in ministry for 36 years, starting as a student/pastor at the age of 19 while going to undergraduate school at McMurry College in Abilene, Texas, with a double major in Religion and Psychology, earning a Bachelor degree in 1987, and a Master of Divinity from Emory University, Candler School of Theology, in Atlanta, Georgia in 1990.

For 26 years, Rev. Davis served in the United Methodist Church, as a leader in parish ministry of congregations from 20 to over 700 in weekend worship attendance. He has served on church staff as Associate Minister, as well as Pastor and Senior Minister, where he gave leadership and vision with large support and program ministry staffs. His work as Evangelism Coordinator in the New Mexico and North Texas Conferences of the UMC, and his work as Chair of the Pacific Northwest Conference UCC Church Development Committee were fueled by his passion to see congregations become healthy, vibrant places of ministry and outreach to serve the community and communicate faith with integrity, justice, grace and hope

Rev. Davis was forced to leave the UMC when he came out. He then continued to respond the God’s call on his life as he pursued ministry in a denomination where his whole life and experience could be lived in authenticity, acceptance and grace. While seeking ministerial authorization in the United Church of Christ through the South Central Conference, Rev. Davis worked in his local community as Project Coordinator for Process Improvement for a leading global company which produced radiation detection devices for many different industries. He has also served for 1½ years as the Supply Minister for The Gathering of San Angelo UCC, a new congregation start in central Texas, before his move to Seattle.

Rev. Steve Davis has 4 grown children, Erin, 30, Jacob, 25, Meagan, 21 and Jon, 20, a 7 year old grandson, Christopher, and is a dog lover and a growing fondness for some cats too! Steve and his husband, Bill, were married in Texas, May 28, 2017. Steve loves football and basketball, with interest in baseball and soccer as well. He enjoys music of many varieties, singing, musicals, choirs and orchestras, art and architecture, films, camping, walking and is an avid Coca-Cola memorabilia fan!