



# Christmas Eve

**Traditional Service**  
**With Holy Communion**  
**and Candle Lighting**

**December 24th, 2021**  
**8:00 p.m.**



**Moran**  
**United Methodist Church**

*Embrace. Inspire. Serve.*

3601 E 65th Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99223

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[www.moranumc.org](http://www.moranumc.org)

*We are glad that you have joined us as we worship and celebrate the arrival of our Savior, Jesus Christ! Whether this is your first Sunday with us or you have been worshipping with us for many years, we want you to know that you are a beloved child of God and you belong here in our church family.*

*As you tune in to worship with us, we invite you to gather elements for Holy Communion, which we will share together during this service. The traditional elements are bread and grape juice/wine, but you are welcome to substitute whatever elements are available to you (water, juice, crackers, etc). We also invite you to have a candle ready for candle lighting and singing "Silent Night" at the end of the service.*

**Prelude**

Joanne Brown

**Welcome**

Rev. Cody Natland

**Call to Worship and Lighting the Advent Candles**

Dennis Kifer

Leader: In this sacred time and space, we are welcomed home. Here in God's house, there is hope.

**People: For God love us too much to leave us just as we are.**

Leader: In God's house, there is peace.

**People: For all that separates us from God falls away.**

Leader: In God's house, there is joy.

**People: Because God created music, and coffee, and dance floors, and laughter that is contagious, and peek-a-boos with babies; and if all those things have God's fingerprints, then God's house surely exudes joy.**

Leader: In God's house, there is love.

**People: Because God is love, from start to finish, and that love exists for us all.**

Leader: And in the center of our hope, our peace, our joy, and our love is God, Emmanuel — who entered our earthly home on Christmas to dwell among us. So tonight we light the Christ candle, for God's love just could not stay away. Family of faith, welcome home.

**People: Let us worship God. Amen.**

**Carol** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Janice Wrhel with Crystal and Cody Natland

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him, born the King of Angels;

*Refrain:* O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest; *(Refrain)*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing *(Refrain)*

*John F. Wade and Frederick Oakeley © Public Domain*

**Opening Prayer**

Rev. Cody Natland

**First Lesson**      Isaiah 9:2-7

Dennis Kifer

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.  
On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.  
You have made the nation great;  
you have increased its joy.  
They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as those who divide plunder rejoice.  
As on the day of Midian, you've shattered the yoke that burdened them,  
the staff on their shoulders,  
and the rod of their oppressor.  
Because every boot of the thundering warriors,  
and every garment rolled in blood  
will be burned, fuel for the fire.  
A child is born to us, a son is given to us,  
and authority will be on his shoulders.  
He will be named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.  
There will be vast authority and endless peace  
for David's throne and for his kingdom,  
establishing and sustaining it  
with justice and righteousness  
now and forever.  
The zeal of the Lord of heavenly forces will do this.

**Carol**      "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Joanne Brown

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;  
above the deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight  
  
How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given;  
so God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.  
  
O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
o come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

*Phillips Brooks & Lewis H. Redner © Public Domain*

**Second Lesson**      Luke 1:26-38

Dennis Kifer

When Elizabeth was six months pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee, to a virgin who was engaged to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David's house. The virgin's name was Mary. When the angel came to her, he said, "Rejoice, favored one! The Lord is with you!" She was confused by these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. Look! You will conceive and give birth

to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and he will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. He will rule over Jacob's house forever, and there will be no end to his kingdom."

Then Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen since I am a virgin?"

The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come over you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the one who is to be born will be holy. He will be called God's Son. Look, even in her old age, your relative Elizabeth has conceived a son. This woman who was labeled 'unable to conceive' is now six months pregnant. Nothing is impossible for God."

Then Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant. Let it be with me just as you have said." Then the angel left her.

### **Sign Presentation "Emmanuel" by Kathy Mattea**

*Song written by Janis Ian © 1997 Windham Hill Records*

### **Third Lesson**

Luke 2:1-7

Jacque Davis

In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

### **Carol "Away In A Manger"**

Joanne Brown

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;  
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray;  
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

*Words: Anonymous; Music: James R. Murray © Public Domain*

### **Fourth Lesson**

Luke 2:8-20

Jacque Davis

Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified.

The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth

peace among those whom he favors.”

When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go right now to Bethlehem and see what’s happened. Let’s confirm what the Lord has revealed to us.” They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw this, they reported what they had been told about this child. Everyone who heard it was amazed at what the shepherds told them. Mary committed these things to memory and considered them carefully. The shepherds returned home, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything happened just as they had been told.

## **Special Music**

“Messiah”

Janice Wrhel

Long awaited precious promise  
Son of God and Son of Man  
Heaven's glory in a manger  
Has come to us in Bethlehem

*Chorus:*     Messiah. Messiah, a baby born to save us all  
                  Messiah, Messiah, on our knees we fall

All we longed for, all we needed  
Shining in a child's eyes  
Hope forever, death defeated  
Because of this one only holy night

*Bridge:*     O come let us adore Him  
                  O come let us adore Him  
                  O come let us adore Him Christ the Lord

*Francesca Battistelli, Jeff Pardo, and Molly Reed © 2018 Da Bears Da Bears Da Bears Music*

## **Fifth Lesson**

John 1:1-14

Jacque Davis

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.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

## **Meditation**

Rev. Cody Natland

## **Holy Communion**

*United Methodists practice an open communion table. Christ invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another. You are welcome at the table, regardless of age or church membership.*

*Those who are worshipping in person should have received pre-packaged communion elements at the sign-in tables where you received your worship bulletins. For those joining us virtually, we invite you to gather the elements for Holy Communion as we celebrate the Lord's extensive, welcoming table.*

*At the end of the Great Thanksgiving liturgy, those gathered in person are invited to either lift up your mask briefly to receive the communion elements, or if you would be more comfortable, to hold onto your communion elements to receive them outside/after.*

## **Candle Lighting**

**Carol**

**"Silent Night"**

**Joanne Brown**

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,  
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;  
radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at the birth; Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

*Words: Joseph Mohr & John F. Young; Music: Franz Gruber © Public Domain*

## **Benediction**

**Rev. Cody Natland**

*We hope to see you again soon as we continue to share the joy of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and his life, ministry, death, and resurrection. You will find at Moran UMC a body of believers who are empowered by the Holy Spirit to embrace Christ, inspire others, and serve God as we make disciples or Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

*You can find more information about our worship services, ministries, and programming on the back of your bulletin or on our website at [www.moranumc.org](http://www.moranumc.org). To stay up to date with new events and programming, we invite you to sign up for our weekly e-newsletter at [moranumc.org/moranweekly](http://moranumc.org/moranweekly) and follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/moranchurch](https://facebook.com/moranchurch).*

***May you and yours have a blessed and very Merry Christmas!***

*Scripture readings are from the Common English Bible translation*

*Call to Worship adapted from Rev. Sara Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)*

*Permission for the use of the music in this service and livestream given by CCLI. CCLI License 1507867; CCLI Streaming License CSPL155631.*

## **Worship with us each Sunday morning!**

### ***Worship At Moran UMC***

Sunday Mornings at 10:30 am

We invite you to join us for worship on Sunday mornings at Moran UMC. Mask wearing and physical distancing are required by all participants, regardless of vaccination status. Children's Sunday School for children in Preschool through 5th Grade is offered in the Disciples/Shepherds Room during the worship service.

### ***Worship Online***

Sunday Mornings at 10:30 am

Our worship services are live-streamed online for those who are unable or not yet comfortable returning to in-person services. Our worship services continue to be live-streamed online for those who are unable or not yet comfortable returning to in-person services. You can join our worship service through our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/moranchurch](http://www.facebook.com/moranchurch)

***Children's Sunday School*** is offered in person each Sunday morning from 10:30-11:30 am during our worship service. The class is open to children Preschool age through 5th grade.

A ***Children's Moment*** is offered each Sunday morning at 1:00 pm on our Facebook page. Join Pastor Cody and his kids live as he shares a special message for our youngest disciples (and the young at heart!).

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**Our weekly programming is currently taking place both in person at the church and online via Zoom.**

- **Children's Sunday School** (Pre-5th) on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am (Disciples/Shepherds Room)
- **Virtual Coffee Hour** on Sunday mornings at 11:30am (Zoom)
- **Children's Moment** on Sundays at 1:00 pm (Facebook)
- **Morning Prayer** on weekdays at 9:00 am (Zoom)
- **Pub Theology** on Tuesdays from 6:00-8:00 pm (Zoom) — *Resumes January 11*
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Study** on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:15 pm (Zoom) — *Resumes January 12*
- **Helen's Quilters** on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am at Moran UMC (Disciples/Shepherds Room)
- Our **Cooperative Youth Group**, a partnership with other United Methodist congregations in the Spokane area, will meet next on Sunday, January 30th from 2:00-3:30 pm at Manito UMC.

### **Our Staff**

**Rev. Cody Natland** – *Pastor*  
**Joanne Brown** – *Accompanist*

**Jacque Davis** – *Administrative Assistant*  
**Janice Wrhel** – *Contemporary Worship Leader*