

# Moran United Methodist Church

December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Worship Bulletin

Third Sunday in Advent

## Welcome

Welcome to worship! Though we are unable to gather in person today, we can still worship together and celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, who keeps us connected even while we are apart. This service will be livestreamed on Sunday morning at 10:30am via Facebook Live ([www.facebook.com/moranchurch](http://www.facebook.com/moranchurch)) and on the front page of our website ([www.moranumc.org](http://www.moranumc.org)). The recording will be available immediately following the livestream.

## Call to Worship *(you are invited to read this responsively)*<sup>1</sup>

Betty Smith, Liturgist

Leader: God calls us and wakes us from our slumber.

**People: God has a plan; don't be afraid!**

Leader: We are a part of the plan. God needs each of us.

**People: Not to follow the rules, but to stand out in grace.**

Leader: Others may not understand. The world may judge us.

**People: But God's plan is growing and will soon come to life.**

Leader: God, strengthen our faith, make us merciful and kind,

**People: Stand with us when we stand out for you. Amen.**

## Lighting The Advent Candles: Joy

The Newman Family

## Hymn

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Lyrics: <https://bit.ly/AllYeFaithfulLyrics>

## Prayers of the People

*You are invited to offer your prayers aloud to God or share them in the video comments if watching on Facebook. Prayer requests can also be emailed to Pastor Cody at [PastorNatland@gmail.com](mailto:PastorNatland@gmail.com)*

## Pastoral Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## Special Music

"A Little Bit of Heaven Everywhere"

Lyrics: <https://bit.ly/HeavenEverywhere>

## Scripture

### **Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 (NRSV)**

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,

and the day of vengeance of our God;  
 to comfort all who mourn;  
 to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
 to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
 the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
 the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
 They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
 the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.  
 They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
 they shall raise up the former devastations;  
 they shall repair the ruined cities,  
 the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice,  
 I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
 I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
 and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.  
 Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
 and their offspring among the peoples;  
 all who see them shall acknowledge  
 that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.  
 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
 my whole being shall exult in my God;  
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
 he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
 as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
 For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
 so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
 to spring up before all the nations.

***Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSV)***

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
 and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

**Sermon**

"Be Not Afraid, Joseph!"

Rev. Cody Natland

*The sermon will be delivered during the livestream and on the video recording (Facebook and website); copies of the manuscript are available upon request and are included with the copy of the weekly bulletin mailed to those without access to our livestreamed services.*

**Invitation to the Offering**

We invite you to continue to give your pledged gifts, offerings, and tithes to support the church and its ministries. Though the building is empty, our ministries continue to be active, and many of our expenses continue during this season. Please give as your financial situation allows.

You can give online at [www.moranumc.org/give](http://www.moranumc.org/give), or you can mail your donation to the church at 3601 E 65<sup>th</sup> Ave / Spokane, WA 99223.

**Song**

"Joy, Unspeakable Joy"

Lyrics: <https://bit.ly/UnspeakableLyrics>**Benediction**

May the light of this Advent season shine in your hearts, on your path, and lead you into the resounding joy of God's love and service to the world. Go in hope, peace, and joy with the promise of Emmanuel, God with us always and everywhere. **AMEN.**

*<sup>1</sup>Call to Worship written by Rev. Corey Turnpenny, 2016, at Whitney Point UMC in Whitney Point, NY.*

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

**Virtual Coffee Hour**

Sundays at 11:30am on Zoom

*Immediately following the worship service*Join by Computer/Tablet/Smartphone: <https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/96460688631>

Join by Phone (home phone, landline, or cell – no internet required)

+1 (253) 215-8782 (Meeting ID: 964 6068 8631)

+1 (346) 248-7799 (Meeting ID: 964 6068 8631)

**Christmas Eve Services**Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm and 7:00pm**Drive-In/Outdoor Christmas Eve Service**December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm -- Please arrive between 3:30pm-4:00pm (Moran UMC)

Join us in person in your car in the parking lot or physically distanced on the lawn at Moran UMC for a short Christmas Eve Service beginning at 4:00pm, which will include the reading of the story of Jesus' birth, Christmas carols, a short message, and Holy Communion. We will end with "Silent Night" and sharing the Light of Christ.

As you arrive, you will receive a bag that will include the words to all of the service liturgy and the manuscript of Pastor Cody's message, a battery-operated candle, pre-packed Communion juice/wafer, and a bag of Christmas treats. Cars will be parked facing the gazebo, with shorter cars in front and larger vans/SUV's in the back. Space will also be available on the lawn, with anybody

outside of their vehicles wearing masks and keeping physical distancing. If you would like to sit on a chair in the lawn, please bring your own chair. The building will remain locked, with no bathroom access.

The service will be broadcast over speakers, so please dress warmly and be prepared to have your window rolled down to hear. Those who do not wish to stay for the service can pick up a worship bag from a bin in front of the church (curbside or under the covered entry, weather depending) between Noon and 3:00pm on Christmas Eve.

### **Live-Streamed Christmas Eve Service**

December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm on Facebook ([facebook.com/moranchurch](https://facebook.com/moranchurch))

Join us from home at 7:00pm for our full Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols, with both beloved carols and special music. Make sure you have a candle available, as this service will also include candle lighting as we remember the night of Jesus' birth and the light of God coming into our world.

### **Advent and Christmas With Moran UMC**

The season is here, and we are looking forward to lots of exciting programs, events, and other opportunities coming up throughout this month! More details will be coming soon, so stay tuned each week and check out your December Newsletter to learn more.

#### *Weekly Opportunities:*

- **"Be Not Afraid"** Worship Series on Sunday mornings at 10:30am (Facebook)
- **"Incarnation" Advent Study** on Wednesdays from 6-7:15pm (Zoom)

#### *Other Events*

- **Christmas Pageant** on Sunday, December 20th during our live-streamed worship service (Facebook)

#### *Christmas Eve Services*

- **Drive-In / Outdoor Christmas Eve Service** on December 24th at 4:00pm (Moran UMC)
- **Livestreamed Christmas Eve Service** on December 24th at 7:00pm (Facebook)

### **Mitten Tree**

Throughout the month of December, we are collecting the following items for the Mitten Tree: Adult and children size hats, gloves/mittens, socks and scarves. Donations for the Mitten Tree can be dropped off during our "Mission Mondays" Drive-Through on Mondays from 10:00-11:00am. They can also be left at the front door of the church on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday between 10:00am and 3:00pm.

If you would prefer to have your Mitten Tree donations picked up from your home, please call the Church Office at (509)448-7102 and a volunteer will arrange pick-up.

## **Advent Study -- Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas** Wednesday Evenings from 6-7:15pm through December 16<sup>th</sup> (Zoom)

Please join us on Wednesday evenings throughout the Advent season, beginning on November 25<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:15pm on Zoom. We will be working through a study series by Rev. Adam Hamilton titled *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*. The study explore the meaning behind the many names and titles of Jesus Christ and the difference He makes in our lives, not only at Christmas but throughout the year.

To watch the video in preparation for each week's session, click here to create a free account on Amplify Media (part of Cokesbury): <https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify>. Click the circle icon in the upper right hand corner and click "**Enter Access Code.**" Our Moran UMC Access Code is: **BRTYDN**. Follow the instructions to "**Start a Free Membership.**" Once you have created your membership account, you can either find the "Incarnation" study by scrolling down the home page and looking under "Advent," or typing "Incarnation" in the search bar.

Pastor Cody created a video to show you how to create your Amplify Media account, which can be found at the following website (type this into your browser's search bar): <https://bit.ly/MUMCAdvent>

If all of this sounds too confusing, don't worry -- feel free to give Pastor Cody a call and he is happy to help. *Remember, you can join our Zoom meetings by phone even if you don't have internet!*

Join by Computer, Tablet, or Smartphone: <https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/276855082>

Join by Phone (home phone, landline, cell)

+1 (253) 215-8782 (Meeting ID: 276 855 082)

+1 (346) 248-7799 (Meeting ID: 276 855 082)

## **Monday Vespers and Holy Communion**

Monday Evenings at 6:30pm

Connect via Facebook Live: [www.facebook.com/moranchurch](http://www.facebook.com/moranchurch)

Connect via Zoom (computer/tablet/smartphone: <https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/97155799598>

Connect via Phone (home phone, landline, cell phone):

+1 253 215 8782 (Meeting ID: 971 5579 9598)

+1 346 248 7799 (Meeting ID: 971 5579 9598)

## **Mission Monday Drive-Through**

*Mondays from 10:00am - Noon at Moran UMC (New expanded hours!)*

*Shalom Ministries, Second Harvest, and Mitten Tree*

We invite you to curbside drop-off of any donations you have for Shalom Ministries, Second Harvest, or the Mitten Tree on Monday mornings from 10:00am - Noon at Moran UMC. Bins for donations to each of these organizations will be available along the curb at the front of the church building.

## **Prayer Requests**

- For our **family members, friends, and community members who are ill with Covid-19.**
- For the **family of Kathy Kramer**, pastor of Elmore UMC, who passed away. Prayers also for the **Elmore congregation** as they grieve the loss of their pastor.

- For **Lynley**, the daughter of a childhood friend of Harriet Van Wyck.
  - For **Andy**, a friend of the Thompsons and worship leader at Southside Christian Church, who is on hospice care.
  - For **Ed Malcolm** as he manages pain in his esophagus.
  - For **Jeannie McDermott**, who waits for more information about treatment for her eye.
  - For the **McCrea-Jones Family**.
  - For continued healing and strength for **Kim Newman, Jeff Johnson, Richard Smith, and Evangeline Johnson**.
  - For **Karen Tauscher** as she continues her cancer treatments.
  - For all around the country and world who are sick, recovering, and grieving deaths from **COVID-19**. For those experiencing **loneliness and isolation**.
  - For **residents and health professionals in Spokane County** as our COVID-19 numbers continue to be elevated.
  - For those **recovering from natural disasters and wildfires**.
  - For those who are working for change in our nation around issues of **racial justice**.
  - For our **church leaders** as they continue to envision a gradual, phased reopening process for our church and those around our Annual Conference. For our local church leaders and our Bishop, Rev. Elaine Stanovsky.
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### Advent Candle Reading 2

**Reader 1:** As we gather for worship this morning, we light the third candle of Advent, which symbolizes the gift of joy.

*(Light two purple candles and the pink candle)*

**Reader 2:** We look to John, the one you sent ahead of Christ, to point us to your light. The light will come into our world and enlighten everyone.

**Reader 1:** God sent John the Baptist to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus Christ, the true Light of the World. John called for people to repent of their sins and to live faithfully. He baptized with a cleansing water and proclaimed the new life that Christ, the one who would follow him, would bring. On this third Sunday of Advent, we ask for God's mercy and a joyful new beginning.

**Reader 2:** Merciful God, we give thanks that you send messengers like John to call us to greater faith. We ask that in these days you help us prepare for the coming of Christ with prayer and acts of holy compassion. Forgive us and lead us to your light. Amen.