

# Moran United Methodist Church

## December 19, 2021 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Prelude

Joanne Brown and Patty Johnson

### Welcome

Rev. Cody Natland

Welcome to worship! We are so glad that you have joined us to worship God today. 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. If you are joining us in person, please be sure that you wear a face mask and that it covers your mouth and nose. We ask you to please refrain from singing, but invite you to hum, clap, or read along with the music.

### Call To Worship and Advent Candle Lighting

Priscilla Bowen

**Leader:** We come here this morning as seekers. We seek deeper faith, a place to belong, and the feeling that God is here in this room.

**People:** **We are seeking joy that overflows, the courage to love, the conviction to act in the face of injustice.**

**Leader:** We are seeking, but here in this time of worship –

**People:** **We are found. This is our sanctuary. God's love is here.**

**Leader:** God's love is like an open door, the roof over our heads and the floor beneath our feet.

**People:** **God's love is the streetlight that guides us home and a table with room for everyone.**

**Leader:** Today we light the candle of love to remind us of the truth that God's love is a home for all, for you and me, for neighbors and strangers.

**People:** **May this light of love burn brightly in this space and even brighter in our hearts. Let us worship God. Amen.**

### Hymn "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)*

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### Prayers of the People

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

### Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Cody Natland

## 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.**

**Song** "Be Born In Me"

Janice Wrhel

Everything inside me cries for order  
 Everything inside me wants to hide  
 Is this shadow of an angel or a warrior?  
 If God is pleased with me why am I so terrified?

Someone tell me I am only dreaming  
 Someone help me see with heaven's eyes  
 And before my head agrees my heart is on its knees  
 Holy is He, blessed am I

*Chorus:* Be born in me, be born in me  
 Trembling heart, somehow I believe that You chose me  
 I'll hold You in the beginning; you will hold me in the end  
 Every moment in the middle, make my heart Your Bethlehem  
 Be born in me

All this time we've waited for the promise  
 All this time You've waited for my arms  
 Did You wrap yourself inside the unexpected  
 So we might know that love would go that far

*Chorus*

*Bridge:* I am not brave, I'll never be  
 The only thing my hear can offer is a vacancy  
 I'm just a girl, nothing more  
 But I am willing, I am Yours

*Chorus*

Bernie Herms & Nichole Nordeman © 2011 Bernie Herms Music

## Scripture

Priscilla Bowen

### **Luke 1:39-55 (NRSV)**

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
 for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
 for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
 and holy is his name.  
 His mercy is for those who fear him  
 from generation to generation.  
 He has shown strength with his arm;  
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
 and lifted up the lowly;  
 he has filled the hungry with good things,  
 and sent the rich away empty.  
 He has helped his servant Israel,  
 in remembrance of his mercy,  
 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
 to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

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*Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.      **Response: Thanks be to God.***

**Sermon**            *Close To Home: Seeking Sanctuary*            *Rev. Kathy Barrick, Guest Preacher*

### **Invitation to the Offering**

*We invite you to give as God leads you to support our church and ministries as we seek to embrace, inspire, and serve, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. You may place your gift in the offering plates in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, give online at [www.moranumc.org/give](http://www.moranumc.org/give), or mail your gift to: 3601 E 65<sup>th</sup> Ave / Spokane, WA 99223.*

**Hymn**            "Love Came Down At Christmas"            Joanne Brown

Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love Divine;  
 Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love Divine;  
 Worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token love be yours and love be mine;  
 Love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.

*Christina G. Rosetti © Public Domain*

**Benediction**            Rev. Cody Natland

As *this* service ends, *your* service beings: Comfort the homesick. Open your doors to others. Seek sanctuary. Be brave enough to go home by another way. And remember that here in God's family, all are welcomed – so come back soon. In the name of our Foundation – God, Spirit, and Son – go in peace. Amen.

**Postlude**            Joanne Brown

*If you would like to greet one another, **we invite you to gather outside** on the entry patio for a time of fellowship, but please do not gather indoors.*

*Call to Worship and Benediction adapted from Rev. Sara (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctified art.org*

*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 11:30 am on Zoom

Those worshipping virtually are invited to join us on Zoom for a time of fellowship and connection 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)

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**Christmas Carol Sing-Along**

Sunday, December 19th at 11:30am – Outdoor

After worship this morning, we invite you to join us outside on our front patio after worship for fellowship and cookies, and then sharing together in Christmas joy as we sing some beloved Christmas Carols together. This is a great opportunity for fellowship, for safely singing together, and for sharing our church with your family and friends.

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**Christmas Eve Services -- Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>****4:00pm — Family Christmas Eve Service**

A shorter, family-oriented service that will include special music and a message for the young disciples in our midst. This service will conclude with gathering outside our front doors for candle lighting and singing "Silent Night."

**8:00pm — Traditional Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion (with Live-Stream)**

This will be our traditional Christmas Eve service, and will include Holy Communion. Special music will be provided by the Sign Choir. This service will conclude with gathering outside our front doors for candle lighting and singing "Silent Night."

**8:00pm -- Online Christmas Eve Service**

This will be a live-stream of our in-person service, happening at the same time. Rather than join us for "Silent Night" outside, the song will be offered at the end of the service livestream, and we invite you to light a candle wherever you join us from. If you need a candle, either a traditional flame candle or battery-operated candle, they are available at the church; just contact us to arrange a time to pick it up.

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**Christmas Treat Bag Stuffing**

Monday, December 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Volunteers are needed at the church on Monday, December 20th at 10:00 a.m. to help stuff 100 bags of Christmas treats to be given out to attendees at our Christmas Eve services.

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**Christmas Love Offering for MUMC Staff**

Each Christmas we take an offering for voluntary gifts for our Moran UMC staff members in appreciation for all they do throughout the year.

Gifts may be dropped off in the "Staff Love Offering" jar on Sunday mornings, or dropped off/mailed to the church. Please be sure that your gifts are marked "Staff Appreciation" if they are being dropped

off or mailed. The Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee will ensure that the gifts are shared with our staff members.

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### **Mitten Tree**

Through the end of December, we are collecting the following items for the Mitten Tree, in children's and adult sizes:

- Warm Hats
- Socks
- Mittens and Gloves
- Scarves

Donations can be placed on/near the Mitten Tree at the entrance to the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings, or during office hours throughout the week. Curbside donation drop-off is available on Mondays from 10am to Noon during our "Mission Mondays Drive-Through."

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### ***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 will be required by all participants, regardless of vaccination status. Children's Sunday School for children in Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade is offered in the Disciples/Shepherds Room during the worship service.

### ***Worship Online*** -- Sunday Mornings at 10:30 am

Our worship services continue to be 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.

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### **Children's Sunday School (Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

*Sundays at 10:30 am in the Disciples/Shepherds Room*

Sunday School is offered during our worship service in the Disciples/Shepherds Room. All children and adults must wear masks, and all teachers and other volunteers are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Please bring your child straight back to the classroom when you arrive rather than entering the Sanctuary.

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### **Weekday Morning Prayer Group** -- Weekdays at 9am on Zoom

We meet on Monday through Friday mornings for prayer, scripture, and a short meditation.

Join Morning Prayer by Computer/Smartphone/Tablet: <https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/349727648>

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

+1 (253) 215-8782 (Meeting ID: 349 727 648)    +1 (346) 248-7799 (Meeting ID: 349 727 648)

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### **Monday Vespers and Holy Communion** -- Mondays 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)

**Pub Theology** -- Tuesdays at 6pm on Zoom

Join by Computer/Smartphone/Tablet: <https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/794159957>

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

+1 (253) 215-8782 (Meeting ID: 794 159 957) +1 (346) 248-7799 (Meeting ID: 794 159 957)

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**Advent Study**

**Online:** Wednesdays from 6:00-7:15 pm on Zoom

**In Person:** Thursdays at 10:00-11:30 am in the Disciples/Shepherds Room

Join the Wednesday Evening Advent Study by Computer/Smartphone/Tablet:

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/276855082>

Join the Wednesday Evening Advent Study by Phone (dial either of these numbers):

+1 (253) 215-8782 (Meeting ID: 276 855 082) +1 (346) 248-7799 (Meeting ID: 276 855 082)

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**Lord, Hear Our Prayers...**

- For **Craig**, Joan King's friend, who is recovering from multiple broken bones from a car accident.
- For **Nancy Oberst and her family** as they grieve the death of her beloved mother.
- For Don Rodman's brother, **Chuck**, who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- For **Roseann Thornberry** who is home and continuing to recover from a stroke.
- For **Elizabeth Williams**, who has finally been able to come out of isolation after getting breakthrough COVID, and continues chemotherapy and radiation.
- For **Clara**, Debbie Arnold's mother, who had breast cancer surgery and is awaiting biopsy results.
- For **Jewel Nelson**, Lois Moller's friend, who is recovering from surgery on her knee cap.
- For **Dylan and Dean Robinson**
- For **Ralph and Eileen Kirby** who are recovering from breakthrough COVID-19.
- For **Mia**, Nola Lefler's granddaughter's friend, who is in a coma with liver failure.
- For **Martin Nelson**, Lois Moller's friend, recovering from serious burns.
- For **Richard Smith**, as he navigates health issues.
- For **Dennis Rainey**, who is having health difficulties.
- For **Lis McCrea-Jones**, who is recovering from knee surgery.
- For the **McCrea-Jones Family**.
- For **Joni Swartout**, recovering from recent illness.
- For **Gerald Bertram** as he continues cancer treatments.
- For **Karen Tauscher** as she continues cancer treatments.
- For **Avery**, Joan King's friend, who is battling cancer.
- For **Lynley**, the daughter of a childhood friend of Harriet Van Wyck.
- For **Ed Malcolm** as he manages pain in his esophagus, back, and hip.
- For **those impacted by bullying, racism, discrimination, and racist violence**, and we pray for **change in our nation**.
- For all who are sick, recovering, and grieving deaths from **COVID-19**. For those experiencing **loneliness and isolation**. For **hospitals, medical centers, and medical workers**.
- For our local church leaders, our District Superintendent Rev. Daniel Miranda, and our Bishop Rev. Elaine Stanovsky.