

# Moran United Methodist Church

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Worship Bulletin

Second 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 has brought us here today.

**People: We have shown up, saying yes to God's call.**

Leader: God is working to turn the world around!

**People: God is lifting up the lowly and filling up the hungry.**

Leader: Will you be a part of God's saving work?

**People: Yes! Even though we are afraid, we say yes to God.**

## Lighting The Advent Candles: Hope

The McEvoy Family

Hymn "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

<https://bit.ly/ComeThouLyrics>

## 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.who**

Hymn "Dona Nobis Pacem (Grant Us Peace)"

Lyrics: *Dona nobis pacem (repeat)*

## Scripture

### ***Isaiah 40:1-11 (NRSV)***

Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,  
and cry to her

that she has served her term,  
that her penalty is paid,

that she has received from the LORD's hand  
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,  
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
 Every valley shall be lifted up,  
 and every mountain and hill be made low;  
 the uneven ground shall become level,  
 and the rough places a plain.  
 Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
 and all people shall see it together,  
 for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,  
 their constancy is like the flower of the field.  
 The grass withers, the flower fades,  
 when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;  
 surely the people are grass.  
 The grass withers, the flower fades;  
 but the word of our God will stand forever.  
 Get you up to a high mountain,  
 O Zion, herald of good tidings;  
 lift up your voice with strength,  
 O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,  
 lift it up, do not fear;  
 say to the cities of Judah,  
 “Here is your God!”  
 See, the Lord GOD comes with might,  
 and his arm rules for him;  
 his reward is with him,  
 and his recompense before him.  
 He will feed his flock like a shepherd;  
 he will gather the lambs in his arms,  
 and carry them in his bosom,  
 and gently lead the mother sheep.

***Luke 1:26-38 (NRSV)***

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be

impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

**Special Music** "Gabriel's Message" <https://bit.ly/GabrielsMessage>

**Sermon** "Be Not Afraid, Mary!" 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** "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear" <https://bit.ly/MidnightClearLyrics>

### **Benediction**

God is bringing light to our darkness and comfort to our fears. We are called to go into the world, confident in God's loving presence, affirming God's invitation to be bearers of Christ into the world. Go in God's love. **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)

### **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*

- **Ugly Sweater Zoom Party** on Friday, December 4th at 4:00pm (Zoom)
- **Christmas Carol Sing-Along** on Saturday, December 12th at 4:00pm (Facebook)
- **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)

### **Christmas Carol Sing-Along**

Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm

On Facebook ([facebook.com/moranchurch](https://www.facebook.com/moranchurch))

Our annual Christmas Carol Sing-Along is going virtual this year! Since there's no place to go and we'll all be home for Christmas, we invite you to roast some chestnuts on an open fire, and sing some yuletide carols with your Moran family. So have yourself a delicious cup of cocoa or coffee, some figgy putting (or another favorite Christmas treat), and join us on Facebook Live on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm at our church Facebook page. Music will be provided by Joanne Brown and Janice Wrhel.

**Donations of Wrapped CHRISTMAS CANDY** for our traditional treat bags can be dropped off on Mondays at the church from 10:00-11:00am on November 30<sup>th</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup>. A family treat bag will be distributed at the Christmas Eve Drive-In Worship Service. They can also be left at the front door of the church on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday between 10:00am and 3:00pm.

### **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.

The video segments will be available for you to watch online each week in preparation for our study sessions, which will take place on Zoom. The accompanying book is optional, and can be found on Amazon or Cokesbury (or contact Pastor Cody if you would like him to order a copy for you).

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, Mitten Tree, & Christmas Candy*

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 **Ed Malcolm** who was in the hospital this week for pain in his esophagus. He is now home and resting and is doing well.

- For **Jeannie McDermott**, who learned about complications with her cornea and will have a more extensive treatment and recovery than anticipated.
- For the **Berry family (Joe, Lynn, and Ezekiel)** as they are on the road moving to Arkansas.
- For **Constance**, a friend of Sandy Westrand, who fell and broke her ankle last week.
- For **Evangeline Johnson**, daughter of Eunice Johnson.
- For the **McCrea-Jones Family**.
- For continued healing and strength for **Kim Newman, Jeff Johnson, Richard Smith, and Pastor Barbara Caviezel**.
- For **Karen Tauscher** as she continues her cancer treatments.
- For our **local, state, and national leaders**. We pray for those newly elected as they prepare to step into leadership, and those continuing in their positions.
- For those **recovering from recent natural disasters and ongoing wildfires**. For both first responders who are providing for emergency needs, as well as for long term recovery efforts.
- For all around the country and world who are sick, recovering, and grieving deaths from **COVID-19**. For those who are experiencing **loneliness and isolation** with the long term impact of the pandemic.
- For **residents and health professionals in Spokane County as our COVID-19 numbers continue to be elevated**. For the challenges that our **Spokane Regional Health District** are facing, and for their ability to help keep our community healthy.
- For those who are working for change in our nation around issues of **racial justice**.
- For those who are experiencing **loneliness and isolation**.
- 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.

### Advent Candle Reading 2

*Reader 1:* O God, we light the second candle of Advent.

*(Two purple candles are lit.)*

**Reader 2:** We seek your comfort and peace. Both mighty and tender, you come to us. Prepare our hearts and our world to be transformed by you.

**Reader 1:** Isaiah announced God's coming to a people exiled in a broken and parched wilderness. He declared that God's redemption would make a highway in the desert and change the rough places into plain. God would come as a shepherd—feeding, leading, and cradling the weary flock. This Advent, we seek such a God.

**Reader 2:** Let us pray. Saving God, look upon your world and heal your land and your people. Prepare us to be changed. This Advent, teach us to be tender and just, as you are. Amen.

*Source: [www.ucc.org/worship\\_worship-ways\\_year-a\\_ace\\_advent-liturgy-for](http://www.ucc.org/worship_worship-ways_year-a_ace_advent-liturgy-for)*