

Moran United Methodist Church

February 21st, 2021 Worship Bulletin
First Sunday in Lent

Prelude

Joanne Brown, Accompanist

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) and on the front page of our website (www.moranumc.org). The recording will be available immediately following the livestream.

Call to Worship¹

Rev. Nico Reijns, Girdwood Chapel UMC in Girdwood, AK

Leader: God meets us in the night –

People: Before the sun rises, before the wound heals, before there are answers, before there is closure.

Leader: God meets us in the light –

People: Where joy is effervescent, where laughter is contagious, where flowers bloom from cracks in the sidewalk, and where people gather around the table.

Leader: God meets us at the threshold –

People: At the edge of the water, at the beginning of the wilderness, at the start of something new, at the edge of faith.

Leader: And if God meets us in all those places, then surely God meets us in between –

People: Staying with us through the wilderness.

Leader: We are not alone. God is all around.

People: Let us worship the God of the here and now. Amen.

Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

<http://bit.ly/LyricsImmortal>

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

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.

Hymn

"My Lighthouse"

<http://bit.ly/LyricsLighthouse>

Scripture

Genesis 9:8-17 (NRSV)

[When the flood was over,] God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many

as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

Mark 1:9-15 (NRSV)

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

Hymn	"Be Thou My Vision"	http://bit.ly/BeThouMyLyrics
Sermon	<i>Again & Again, God Meets Us</i>	Rev. Cody Natland
Prayer of Confession²	Rev. Evangeline Rand and members of Centralia First UMC in Centralia, WA	
Leader:	God who meets us where we are, there is nowhere we can go that you is not.	
People:	You were with Jesus at his baptism, you were with him in the wilderness, and even in between, you were there, saying aloud, "This is my beloved."	
Leader:	We know that you are with us, too. In the good, the bad, and everything in between; but so often we act like we are alone.	
People:	Instead of coming to you with our hurt, we hold it in or cast it onto others. Instead of coming to you with our joy, we credit ourselves and offer you nothing.	
Leader:	How can we long for a deeper relationship with you while living like you are nowhere to be found?	
People:	Forgive our self-centered ways. Remind us that in every breath, in every step, you are there.	
Leader:	You are the God who meets us where we are.	
People:	Before and behind, above and below, within and around. Amen.	

Words of Forgiveness

Leader:	Family of faith, if you hear nothing else today, hear this: God is here. God sees you. God knows you. God meets you at the edge of every new beginning, and God calls you beloved.
People:	We are washed by the water. We are called beloved. Thanks be to God for a love like that.

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, or you can mail your donation to the church at 3601 E 65th Ave / Spokane, WA 99223.

Song "Shine, Jesus, Shine" <http://bit.ly/LyricsShineJesus>

Benediction

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you. May He guide you through the wilderness and protect you through the storm. May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you. May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**³

Postlude

Joanne Brown

^{1, 2} *Prayers by Sara Are, A Sanctified Art LLC, www.sanctifiedart.org*

³ *From the Morning Prayer liturgy from Northumbria Community's Celtic Daily Prayer, published by Collins.*

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)

Grieving the Loss of Loved Ones

We lost two beloved members of Moran UMC this past week.

On Tuesday, **Bob Montgomery** suddenly passed away of an apparent heart attack. Eve and Bob were very active members of our church before they moved back to their home state of Texas. We pray for God's comforting embrace of Eve, their children, grandchildren, family and friends. May they know we are humbled and touched by Bob's time with us, and we offer our prayers during this time of grieving.

On Friday morning at about 1:30am, **Donna Hauser** passed away at Hospice House. I (Pastor Cody) had the honor of visiting Donna at about 4:30pm on Thursday, and while she was very weak, I could tell she was feeling at peace. Donna asked me to make sure that our Moran UMC church family — and she told me, "It really *is* a family, you know?" — knew just how important you all were to her and how much she loved all of you.

May God grant peace and comfort to Donna's kids and grandkids, and to all of the family and friends who grieve Donna's passing. We give thanks to God that we were able to receive and enjoy the light of Christ that Donna so freely and generously shared.

We do not yet have any details on memorial services for Bob Montgomery or Donna Hauser. We will share that information as soon as it is available.

Monday Vespers and Holy Communion

Monday Evenings at 6:30pm

Connect via Facebook Live: 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

Shalom Ministries and Second Harvest

We invite you to curbside drop-off of any donations you have for Shalom Ministries and Second Harvest 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.

Anti-Racism Book Study and Discussion

Monday Afternoons at 1pm (Zoom)

We wrapped up our discussion of the book *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates at the end of January. We will continue to engage in conversation and racial justice work together in February as we begin a new book together on Monday, February 8th. We will also continue to talk about how to implement what we are learning in this study in our everyday lives and in the life of our church.

Please join us on Monday afternoons beginning February 8th as we read and discuss the book *How to Be An Anti-Racist* by Ibram X. Kendi. Dr. Kendi is a professor of history and the director of the Boston University Center for Antiracist Research. The book is available at the library, from Amazon, or from other booksellers. If you would like to participate but are unable to get a copy of the book, please let Pastor Cody know and he will make sure you can fully participate.

Join on Zoom by computer/tablet/smartphone: <https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/276855082>

Join by Phone (home phone, landline, cell)

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Renewing Our Missionary Partnership with Katherine Parker

Katherine Parker will join us live on Zoom this Sunday, February 21st during our Virtual Coffee Hour to share more with us about her current work in Nepal, as well as to answer any questions that

we have. Please plan to attend the Virtual Coffee Hour gathering immediately after the worship service (See the Zoom information above).

We invite you to give a special gift this month as you are able to support our church's commitment to covenant with Katherine Parker in her missionary work. You can give to this special offering by mailing your gift to the church or giving online at moranumc.org/give and putting a note on your gift that it is for "Missionary Support: Katherine Parker."

Wednesday Evening Lenten Study

The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life

Wednesdays from 6-7:15pm, beginning February 24th (Zoom)

Please join us on Wednesday evenings beginning on February 24th from 6-7:15pm on Zoom. We will be working through a study series called *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life* by Rev. Adam Hamilton. In *The Walk*, Hamilton focuses on five spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Each of these practices is a part of our daily walk with Christ and an essential part of growing together in the church.

For the first session of the study, we will all watch the video clip together during our gathering on Zoom; Pastor Cody hopes to make the videos available to watch before the gathering in future weeks. The accompanying book is optional, and Pastor Cody has a few copies available for \$10 each. They can also be found on Amazon or Cokesbury. *If the cost of purchasing the book is a burden for you, but you would like a copy, please contact Pastor Cody and he will ensure that you are able to get a copy.*

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Covid-19 Vaccine -- Phase 1B

Washington State is now in Phase 1B of the Covid-19 Vaccine rollout. This means that current eligibility includes anyone who is over the age of 65, and all people 50 and older who live in a multigenerational household.

Some of our church members have shared that they have had success scheduling vaccinations through the **MyChart/Patient Portal** for both **Providence** and **Multicare**. **CHAS** is operating a mass vaccine clinic at the Spokane Arena, which has a limited supply of vaccines available daily. Vaccine appointment scheduling will reopen on Tuesday, February 9th at 5pm.

For those who are patients of Multicare, you can also call their automated vaccine information line at 833-770-0530 to be added to the vaccine waitlist and/or sign up for text updates.

If you are included in Phase 1B and need assistance with making an appointment for a vaccination, please contact the church office and we will try to help.

Prayer Requests

- For those in Texas and throughout the country who are **recovering from the recent storms and power outages.**
- For **Bonnie Presnell** and her family as Bonnie has entered hospice care.
- For the **family of Anne Marie**, who passed away from complications of covid-19 on Friday night. Anne Marie was the grandmother of Tian and a good friend of Lis McCrea-Jones, who are both a part of our Moran UMC family.
- For **Kim and Aaren Newman, Preston and Lilly, and the rest of Kim's family** as they grieve the death of her father on Thursday.
- For the **family of Donna Hauser**, who passed away peacefully on Friday morning.
- For **Eve and the rest of the family of Bob Montgomery**, who passed away on Tuesday.
- For **Leslie**, a friend of Jennifer Kendall, and Leslie's family. Leslie's husband passed away suddenly last week.
- For **Rovella Vawter**, who has been diagnosed with stomach cancer and entered hospice care at home this week.
- For **Shirley Malcolm** as her arm continues to heal.
- For Jacque Davis' daughter **Beth**, her husband **Mark**, and their daughter **Lainey**. Mark was diagnosed with covid this week, and the whole family will have to quarantine for 14 days.
- For **Alia Smith and her family**. Alia's Uncle **Jeff** passed away on Saturday, February 6th from complications from Covid-19. We pray for comfort, strength, and peace for Jeff, for his wife **Margie**, and for all of their family.
- For **Harriet Van Wyck**, healing from vertigo.
- For **Crystal Natland** as she continues to heal from an emergency appendectomy on Sunday, January 31st. Crystal is doing very well, and the Natlands share their thanks for all of the prayers and support from their church family.
- For **Ardis Storms**, who shares that she is feeling much better this week as she continues to recover at home from kidney failure.
- For Jane Bates' daughter, **Kyla**, who is home recovering from surgery after breaking multiple bones in January.
- For Lois Moller's cousin, **Randy**, who is recovering from heart surgery.
- For **Karen Tauscher** as she continues her cancer treatments.
- For **Barbara Caviezel** as she continues to recover from kidney failure.
- For **Richard Smith** as he prepares to move to England in May.
- For our **family members, friends, and community members who are ill with Covid-19.**
- For Joan King's friends, **Avery** and **Monica**, who are battling cancer.
- For **Lynley**, the daughter of a childhood friend of Harriet Van Wyck.
- For **Ed Malcolm** as he manages pain in his esophagus.
- For **Jeannie McDermott**, as her eye continues to heal and her vision is slowly improving.
- For the **McCrea-Jones Family.**
- For all who are sick, recovering, and grieving deaths from **COVID-19**. For those experiencing **loneliness and isolation.**
- 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.