

Moran United Methodist Church

January 10th, 2021 Worship Bulletin

Baptism of the Lord Sunday

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.

Because Pastor Cody is ill, we are worshipping this morning with the community of Cheney United Methodist Church, led by Rev. Alissa Bertsch. As we prepare to celebrate the Baptism of the Lord and to remember our own baptisms, you are invited to have a bowl of water with you in your worship space in preparation for the Baptism Remembrance.

Call to Worship *(you are invited to read this responsively)*

Leader: We gather to worship the Living Water!

People: Spring up, O Well, within our souls.

Leader: In our dry and arid places, Waters of Baptism, refresh us.

People: Stir up inside of us, renew us Living Water.

Leader: Burst forth within us, overflow, saturate the stagnant areas of our lives, reconnect us to you, our True Source of life.

People: Let us take to the waters and receive the gift of belovedness from our Lord who is well pleased with us!

Opening Prayer

God of all good things, you are Lord of our beginnings and our endings and all that lies between. We praise you for how you have poured out upon us blessing after blessing; for how you have reached out to us; for how you have come to us; for how you have spoken to us. Help us to live the faith you have given us.

Loving God, we thank you for how Christ Jesus came among us and identified himself completely with us, going so far as to take upon himself our sin, our suffering, and finally our death. Help us Lord to not hold back ourselves from identifying with him and with the church that he established. May we indeed be united with him in his death so that we might also share in his resurrection. Help us to commit ourselves to him and to the family he has called us to be a part of - to be members of his visible body wherever we worship this day, to be his disciples and his apostles, his evangelists and his teachers, his feet and his hands, his eyes and his ears, his light and his salt, day by day.

Anoint all the people of your church, O God, that your will may be done, and your name be glorified. Make us one as you are one and pour your love out upon us each day, O God of infinite mercy. We pray through Jesus, your Anointed One. Amen.

Scripture

Mark 1:4-11 (NRSV)

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their

sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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."

Acts 19:1-7 (NRSV)

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

Sermon

The Baptism We Received

Rev. Alissa Bertsch

Hymn

"O Church of God, United"

<http://bit.ly/ChurchOfGodLyrics>

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.

Prayer of Dedication

God of redemption and new life, we focus once more this day on the greatest gift ever given – Jesus, our Savior. As he was baptized by John in the Jordan, we were able to share in his baptism and receive the promise of sharing in Jesus' resurrection. As we leave a painful year behind and look with hope to the new year ahead, help us to live and give of ourselves as those who know every day what a great gift we have been given. May it move us to give our whole selves more freely! In the name of Christ, our Savior and Redeemer, we pray! Amen.

Baptism Remembrance

Introduction to The Service

Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ's holy Church. We are incorporated into God's mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God's gift, offered to us without price. Through the reaffirmation of our faith, we renew the covenant declared at our baptism, acknowledge what God is doing for us, and affirm our commitment to Christ's holy church. As we join in this remembrance of our baptisms today, we invite you, wherever you are worshiping today, to fill a bowl with water

(rainwater, melted snow, or naturally occurring water preferred but tap water acceptable) and join in. Take a moment now to prepare your at-home “font”.

Renunciation of Sin & Profession of Faith

Since the earliest times, the vows of Christian baptism and membership have consisted first of the renunciation of all that is evil and then the profession of faith and loyalty to Christ. On behalf of the whole Church, we, your pastors, invite you to renounce evil and profess your faith. If worshipping with others, please take turns reading through the traditional questions and speaking your response aloud. If worshipping alone, consider asking the question of yourself and offering God your response aloud.

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin? If so, please say, I do. **(I do.)**

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves? If so, please say, I do. **(I do.)**

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races? If so, please say, I do. **(I do.)**

According to the grace given to you, will you remain faithful members of Christ’s holy Church and serve as Christ’s representatives in the world? If so, please say, I will. **(I will.)**

You are now invited to profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments – as above, you may take turns if worshipping with others or convert the questions to a personal examination.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life
everlasting.**

Thanksgiving Over the Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, when nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah, you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.

* universal

When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea.
Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb.

He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit.

He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death
and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

Declare Christ's works to the nations, his glory among all the people.

**All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Remember Your Baptism

And now, wherever you are worshipping this day, we invite you to dip your fingers into the waters, place the sign of the cross upon your forehead, remember your baptism and that God dearly loves you! If you are worshipping with others, take turns making the sign of the cross with water upon each other's forehead saying "Remember your baptism - God dearly loves you!"

Song

"Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"

<http://bit.ly/WashOGodLyrics>

Benediction

Go now and live in the spirit of your baptism! And may God enfold you in tender and lasting love. May Christ be beside you in times of struggle. And may the Spirit guide you back to the path whenever you stray, that you may keep the covenant. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, In the name of Christ. **Amen.**

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)

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)

Anti-Racism Book Study and Discussion – Continues!

Monday Afternoons at 1pm beginning January 11th (Zoom)

We took a break from this study during the month of December, but we will resume this month as we read and discuss the second half of the book *Between The World And Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates. We will begin on January 11th at the beginning of Part Two.

Want to join us but weren't a part of "Part One"? No worries! We'd love to have you join in. Copies of the book can be checked out from the library or purchased on Amazon for about \$13 new, or less for used copies. You can order a copy at <https://amzn.to/3kTUKfb>, or let Pastor Cody know and he would be happy to order a copy for you.

Join on Zoom by computer/tablet/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)

Wednesday Evening Bible Study: *The Book of Jonah*

Wednesdays from 6:00-7:15pm

On Wednesday evenings, we will be reading through the Book of Jonah, hearing the story of Jonah's calling by God to go to Nineveh – and Jonah's response to board a ship and flee to Tarshish, instead. This short book is just four chapters long, but it can teach us so much about what it means to be called by God, the kinds of things God calls us to do, and the places God sends us. We hope that you will join us as we engage this fascinating book of the Bible together!

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

Join by Phone (home phone, landline, cell)

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

Monthly Game Night

Friday, January 15th at 7:00pm on Zoom

All are invited to join their church family for a night of fun and fellowship on Friday, January 15th at 7:00pm. This month's games will be Scattergories and a Scavenger Hunt! If you don't know how to play Scattergories, don't worry – we'll teach you. All ages are encouraged to join us for fellowship, fun, and friendly competition!

Join Zoom Meeting by computer/tablet/smartphone:

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/98580880190>

Join by Phone (home phone, landline, cell)

+1 (253) 215-8782 (Meeting ID: 985 8088 0190)

+1 (346) 248-7799 (Meeting ID: 985 8088 0190)

Mission Monday Drive-Through

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

We invite you to curbside drop-off of any donations you have for Shalom Ministries and Second Harvest Food Bank 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 (or in the church doorway when there is snow or rain) with contact-free drop-off.

Prayer Requests

- For **our nation** as we heal, seeking peace and unity as we recover from Wednesday's attack on the Capitol and prepare for a peaceful transition of power in the White House.
- For **Joe Biden** and **Kamala Harris** as they prepare for their new roles as President and Vice President, and for **Donald Trump** and **Mike Pence** as they transition to private life.
- For **Pastor Barbara Caviezel** who is currently hospitalized with kidney issues.
- For **Debbie Maxson and her family**. Debbie's sister, **Barbara**, passed away on January 4th from complications of cancer.
- For **Richard Smith**, who learned this week that some cancer cells have cropped up and he will need to undergo radiation therapy. Richard has also shared that he plans to move back to England this spring to be closer to his sister.
- For **Beverly Polk and her family**. Bev's brother, **Bob**, passed away on January 1st.
- For **Crystal Natland** as she recovers from strep.
- For the **Natland Family** as they prepare to move to a larger home (a 3-bedroom duplex on 58th Lane)
- For a **family in the community** known to Joan King who lost their husband and father very suddenly on December 30th.
- For Joan King's friends, **Avery** and **Monica**, who are battling cancer.
- For our **family members, friends, and community members who are ill with Covid-19**.
- For **Penny Herold and her family**. Penny's step-mother, **Lou**, passed away on December 28th.
- 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 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 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.