

Moran United Methodist Church

January 3rd, 2021 Worship Bulletin
Second Sunday of Christmas / Epiphany 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.

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

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come. The glory of the Lord has risen upon you!

People: **The glory of God shines in the darkness.**

Leader: Lift up your eyes and look around. Follow the star, wherever it leads!

People: **We take the journey that leads to the child.**

Leader: Let your hearts rejoice! Be overwhelmed with joy!

People: **We worship the Christ child, the hope of the world. AMEN.**

Song

"Here I Am To Worship"

<http://bit.ly/HereIAmLyrics>

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

"The First Noel"

<http://bit.ly/NoelLyrics>

Scripture

Isaiah 60:1-6 (NRSV)

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,

and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
 Then you shall see and be radiant;
 your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
 because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
 the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
 A multitude of camels shall cover you,
 the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
 all those from Sheba shall come.
 They shall bring gold and frankincense,
 and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Matthew 1:18-25 (NRSV)

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
 are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
 for from you shall come a ruler
 who is to shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Hymn "We Three Kings" <http://bit.ly/WeThreeKingsLyrics>

Sermon *Beyond The Manger: Go and Search Diligently* Rev. Cody Natland

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.

Hymn "We Are" <http://bit.ly/wearelyrics>

Benediction

The light of the star, the light of God's love, shines before you this day. Go in peace, go in joy, and go in love to meet God's people in the world and greet them with the good news of salvation. **AMEN.**¹

¹ *Benediction by Nancy Townley. Accessed at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4511/worship-connection-epiphany-sunday>*

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)

New Sermon Series

This Sunday, we will begin a new four-week worship series titled "**Beyond The Manger: The Early Life of Jesus.**" So often, we skip right past these stories or rush through them, moving quickly into Jesus' ministry. We'll get there, to be sure, but first we will spend some time exploring the (rather sparse) stories of Jesus' early life. This series will begin this Sunday with the visit of the Magi, continue with the family's flight into Egypt, hear the worry of Jesus' mother as Jesus is left behind in Jerusalem, and then it will culminate on January 24th with Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist in the Jordan River.

Epiphany Gathering

Wednesday, January 6th from 6:00-7:15pm on Zoom

Join Priscilla Bowen and Pastor Cody for an evening of learning, discussion, and celebration of the Feast of the Epiphany! We celebrate the arrival of the magi from the east to visit Jesus and his family each year on January 6th (or the closest Sunday)... But what does this story mean, and what difference does it make for our faith and our lives?

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)

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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 (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.

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.

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Wednesday Evening Bible Study: *The Book of Jonah*

Wednesdays from 6:00-7:15pm

Beginning January 13th (Zoom)

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!

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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)

Prayer Requests

- For **Penny Herold and her family**. Penny's step-mother, **Lou**, passed away on December 28th.
- Joy for the beginning of the Covid-19 **vaccine rollout**.
- Joy for **Debbie Maxson's newborn granddaughter, Riley Emma**. Riley was born on Christmas, and she and mom are both home and doing well.
- Joy for **Sally and Dennis Rainey's newborn grandson, Alex**, who went home from the hospital on Christmas Eve. We give thanks and praise to God!
- For our **family members, friends, and community members who are ill with Covid-19**.
- For **local families displaced and recovering** after an apartment fire at the Regal Ridge Apartments.
- 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.