

Moran United Methodist Church

June 20, 2021 – Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Joanne Brown, Accompanist

Welcome

Welcome to worship! Whether you are joining us in person at our outdoor worship service or virtually on our livestream, we are glad you have joined us to worship God today. This service will take place both live at Moran UMC and livestreaming online 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.

Opening Prayer

Priscilla Bowen, Liturgist

God of small seeds and mighty plants, you take our lives and with your love cause them to produce acts of loving kindness for you in this world. You hear our cries and find us when we are lost and wandering in fear. You bring us home with you so that we may be made whole, rejoicing in your goodness. Help us to joyfully serve you all our days, knowing that you are always watching over us. Prepare our hearts to receive your word and our spirits to respond in eagerness to serve you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.¹

Hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
Crown Thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo the hosts of evil 'round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
For the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore,
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

Harry Emerson Fosdick & John Hughes © Public Domain

Litany For Fathers

One: For fathers everywhere, who have given us life and love, that we may show them respect and love.

All: Holy God, hear this prayer for our fathers.

One: For fathers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them.

All: Holy God, hear this prayer for fathers who mourn.

One: For men who may or may not have children of their own, but act like a father to someone in need of advice, support, nurture, and love.

All: Holy God, hear this prayer for our father figures.

One: For step-fathers who have assumed that role with love and joy, who have loved the children of another as their own, and created a new family.

All: Holy God, hear this prayer for step-fathers.

One: For adoptive fathers, who have heard the call of God to lovingly step forward for those who need their care.

All: Holy God, hear this prayer for adoptive fathers.

One: For fathers who have been unable to be a source of strength, who have not responded to the needs of their children, and have not sustained their families.

All: Holy God, have mercy on absent fathers.

One: For fathers who struggle with temptation, violence, or addiction. For those who do harm, and for those whom they have harmed.

All: Holy God, have mercy on fathers who struggle.

One: For those that have shaped our lives without claim of family or kinship. For those who have taught us, guided us, shaped us and molded us into servants of Christ our Lord.

All: Holy God, hear our prayer for the fathers of our faith.

One: God our Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their children, honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.¹

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 "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Lift ev'ry voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring
 Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
 Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies
 Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
 Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
 Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
 Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
 Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;

Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
 Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
 We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
 We have come treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
 Out from the gloomy past till now we stand at last
 Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
 Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
 Thou who hast by thy might led us into the light
 Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
 Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
 Lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world we forget thee;
 Shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,
 True to our God, true to our native land.

James Weldon Johnson & J. Rosamond Johnson © Public Domain

Scripture

2 Corinthians 5:6-17 (NRSV)

We are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— ⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view,¹ we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Mark 4:26-34 (NRSV)

He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Song "Sanctuary"

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary
 Pure and holy, tried and true
 With thanksgiving, I'll be living
 Sanctuary for you *(Repeat 3 times)*

John W. Thompson & Randy Scruggs © 1982 Full Armor Publishing Company

Sermon *Like Scattered Seed*

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 "Speak, O Lord"

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
 To receive the food of Your holy word
 Take Your truth, plant it deep in us
 Shape and fashion us in Your likeness
 That the light of Christ might be seen today
 In our acts of love and our deeds of faith
 Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
 All Your purposes for Your glory

Teach us, Lord, full obedience
 Holy reverence, true humility
 Test our thoughts and our attitudes
 In the radiance of Your purity
 Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
 Your majestic love and authority
 Words of power that can never fail
 Let their truth prevail over unbelief

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds
 Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us
 Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
 That will echo down through eternity
 And by grace we'll stand on Your promises
 And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us
 Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built
 And the earth is filled with Your glory

Keith Getty & Stuart Townsend © 2005 Thankyou Music

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.**²

Postlude

Joanne Brown

¹ *Opening Prayer* from <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/05/opening-prayer-mark-4.html>

² *Litany* written by Rev. Robb McCoy; modified and used with permission. <https://fatpastor.me/2009/06/21/litany-for-fathers/>

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

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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)

Schedule Changes

- **Pub Theology:** Due to some scheduling conflicts and travel plans for Pastor Cody and some of our group members, we are taking a break for the next two weeks. We will resume on Tuesday, July 6th.
- **Wednesday Bible Study – Micah:** Due to some scheduling conflicts and travel plans for Pastor Cody and some of our group members, we are taking a break for the next two weeks. We will resume on Wednesday, July 7th.
- **Monday Anti-Racism Study Group:** Our Anti-Racism Study Group, which has been taking place on Monday afternoons, is taking a break for the summer months, though we are hoping to be able to partner with some community groups for a few special programs during the summer. We will pick back up in the fall, so watch for updates, and let Pastor Cody know if there is a particular day/time you would prefer when we start back in the fall.

Pastor Cody on Vacation June 24-30

I will be on vacation from Thursday, June 24th through Wednesday, June 30th. While I am away, I will not be able to receive phone calls, check my voicemail, or read my emails regularly. I will check and return messages once I return to the office on Thursday, July 1st.

On Sunday, June 27th, Rev. Betty Smith will be preaching and we will continue to offer worship services both outdoors and live-streamed.

If you or a loved one are in need of pastoral care while I am on vacation, or if you have a prayer request for the prayer chain, Rev. Betty Smith will be available on an on-call basis during the week. Pastor Betty can be reached by phone at (509)951-8347 or (509)467-0786. Non-emergency

needs or questions can be directed to Jacque Davis, our Administrative Assistant, at (509)448-7102 or moranumc3601@live.com

-- Pastor Cody Natland

Weekly Outdoor Worship Services

Sundays at 10:30am on the lawn at Moran UMC & Virtual via Live-Stream (Facebook & Website)

Join Sunday mornings at 10:30am as we gather outdoor worship services on the lawn (with space available for chairs on the flat parking lot, as well) at Moran UMC near the gazebo. Mask wearing and social distancing are required for all attendees, regardless of vaccination status.

Our services also continue to be live-streamed on Facebook and our website at 10:30am, and you can access those virtual services in the same way that you have throughout the past year.

Weekday Morning Prayer Group

Weekdays at 9am

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>

Join by Phone (dial any of these numbers):

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

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

Monday Vespers and Holy Communion

Mondays at 6:30pm -- *Note: There will be NO Vespers & Holy Communion on June 28th*

Join us for a short evening vespers service of scripture, prayer, and sharing Holy Communion. You can connect with the vespers service either through Zoom (which allows you to participate via home phone if you are not internet connected or have a weak connection) or on Facebook. You are encouraged to bring communion elements with you as you connect in to the service.

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)

Lord, Hear Our Prayers...

- For Diane Van Leuven's sister, **Linda**, who broke her ankle.
- For Gail Allgood's friend, **Mark**, who is having surgery for colon cancer on July 8th.
- For **Izaak Westrand**, who had a root canal on Thursday. We pray for relief of his pain.
- For Sally and Dennis' grandson, **Alex**, who is still struggling with eating and is using a feeding tube. We pray for his growth and strength, for his parents **Mandy** and **Eric**, and for discernment for his doctors to find the reason for his difficulties.
- For the **family of Rae Jean Vail**, Ed Malcolm's sister, who passed away last week. We pray for Ed and for all of Rae Jean's family.

- For **Jane Bates**, who has returned home to South Hill Village under the care of hospice.
- For **Richard Smith**, who arrived in England and is getting settled into this new chapter.
- For **Gary Whrel**, Janice's father-in-law, who is recovering from surgery after a fall.
- For **Kathleen**, Susie Karnesky's sister, who is healing after surgery to replace broken vertebrae.
- For **Shirley and Roger**, step-mother and father of Sally Rainey's friend **Kerri**. Shirley is in the ICU and her health is in rapid decline.
- For **Vanessa**, Jacque Davis' grandson's wife, who is continuing to heal and adjust to life in a wheelchair. We also pray for her husband **Tony** and son **Jack** as they all adjust to these new limitations and realities.
- For the **McCrea-Jones Family**.
- For **Christy Tweedy**, recovering from a stroke.
- For **Penny Herold**, recovering from a fall.
- For Penny Herold's sister-in-law, **Kay Chinen**, who is managing several health issues and trying to be well enough to continue infusions for rheumatoid arthritis.
- For Ed Malcolm's brother-in-law, **Claude**, who fell down a flight of stairs and broke multiple bones. We also pray for his wife, **Fay**, as she cares for him.
- For **Sandra Prizeman**, continuing to recover from brain surgery.
- For **Joni Swartout**, recovering from recent illness.
- For **Bill**, Harriet Van Wyck's childhood friend's brother, with terminal cancer.
- For **Jana Kifer**, healing from a broken shoulder.
- For **those impacted by racism, discrimination, and racist violence**, and we pray for **change in our nation**.
- For **Karen Tauscher** as she continues her 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 and back.
- For all who are sick, recovering, and grieving deaths from **COVID-19**. For those experiencing **loneliness and isolation**.
- For our **church leaders** as they continue to support a safe reopening process for our church and those around our Annual Conference. For our local church leaders and our Bishop, Rev. Elaine Stanovsky.