

# Moran United Methodist Church

June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Worship Bulletin

Trinity Sunday / Peace With Justice 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 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.

This morning, we continue through the book of Acts in our current worship series, "A New Thing." We come to the story of Saul, a Pharisee and a persecutor of the followers of Jesus, who has an experience of the presence of Christ as he walks on the road to Damascus and is converted. It's amazing what God is doing, even when we cannot see the hidden activity – much like Ananias, who is skeptical when God sends him to visit Saul. Where is God calling us to see things in new ways today, and where are we reluctant or skeptical to welcome God's activity?

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

Leader: Welcome this day to a celebration of God's creative work!

**People: Thanks be to God the Creator, who has breathed life into the world.**

Leader: Welcome this day to a recognition of God's redeeming love!

**People: Thanks be to God the redeemer who has given us God's only Son as our Example and Teacher, our Savior and Redeemer.**

Leader: Welcome this day to the joy of God's Holy Spirit of truth and power!

**People: Thanks be to God the Sustainer who walks with us every day, guiding and guarding our steps. AMEN.<sup>1</sup>**

**Song** "Open the Eyes of My Heart" <https://bit.ly/OpenTheEyesLyrics>

## 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.**

**Hymn** "Take My Life and Let It Be" <https://bit.ly/TakeMyLifeLyrics>

## Scripture

### ***Psalm 8 (NRSV)***

O LORD, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.  
Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;  
what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honor.  
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,  
all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O LORD, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

### ***Acts 9:1-20 (NRSV)***

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell

from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

**Hymn** "Open My Eyes That I May See" <https://bit.ly/OpenMyEyesLyrics>

**Sermon** "A New Thing: Expect the Unexpected" Rev. Cody Natland  
*The sermon will be delivered during the livestream and on the video recording (Facebook and website); it will be mailed to those without email/internet access in the coming week.*

### **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** "God Of This City" <https://bit.ly/GodOfThisCityLyrics>

### **Benediction**

Go forth from this time of worship with your eyes wide open as you journey into the week ahead. Love God and seek Christ in each person you meet. Give thanks to God always, looking for the ways that God is making all things new and revealing the light in unexpected ways. **Amen.**

### ***Virtual Coffee Hour***

Sundays at 11:30am on Zoom  
*Immediately following the worship service*

After the worship service is over, you're invited to join your church family for "Virtual Coffee Hour" on Zoom for a time of fellowship and open-ended conversation. This is a great opportunity to connect and check-in with one another without any specific agenda.

Join by Computer/Tablet/Smartphone: <https://greater-nw.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)

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Nancy Townley, "Worship Connection: June 7, 2020." Accessed at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8213/worship-connection-june-7-2020>. Used with permission.