

Moran United Methodist Church

May 10, 2020 Worship Bulletin

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

This morning, we begin a new series called "A New Thing." We will be exploring the book of Acts and the many challenges, struggles, and blessings of the early Church as they worked with God, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to begin a brand new thing.

Opening Prayer *(you are invited to read this aloud in unison)*

We gather this day, O Lord, as people who seek your guiding love. Open our hearts and make us ready to stand firm in the faith that leads to loving service. Work with us to make us new as you work with us to do a new thing in our lives, in our church, and in our world. Meet us here today and fill us with your grace and strength for this journey. AMEN.¹

Litany For Mothers

Leader: Mothers come in many different forms, and today we celebrate them all!

People: Thank God for mothers!

Leader: Everyone here is somebody's child.

People: Thank God for our mothers, who gave us life.

Leader: For women who have joined God in Heaven and whom we miss dearly here on earth.

People: Thank God for the mothers of the past.

Leader: For every woman who is working day and night to raise her children right now.

People: Thank God for the mothers of today.

Leader: For all the women who are expecting, but are yet to give birth.

People: Thank God for first-time mothers.

Leader: For the women who have taken in and loved children born by others through adoption and foster care.

People: Thank God for the mothers with hearts so big.

Leader: For those women who have lost a child and must carry on.

People: Thank God for the mothers who show such strength.

Leader: For all the women who have wanted to have children of their own but have faced infertility and other challenges.

People: Thank God for the mothering heart within them.

Leader: For women who never had children of their own, but who still offer so much love and nurture to the community.

People: Thank God for the mothers in spirit.

All: We thank you, Lord, for the women who have influenced our lives in so many ways. We pray that we will honor them in everything we do. Amen.

Hymn "This is a Day of New Beginnings" <https://bit.ly/DayOfNewBeginnings>

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.

Song "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" <https://bit.ly/BreathOfGod>

Scripture

1 Peter 2:2-10 (NRSV)

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"

and

"A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Acts 1:1-11 (NRSV)

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Hymn "I Surrender All" <https://bit.ly/SurrenderAllLyrics>

Sermon "A New Thing: The Story Continues" 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, or you can mail your donation to the church at 3601 E 65th Ave / Spokane, WA 99223.

Song "I Will Trust In The Lord" <https://bit.ly/IWillTrust>

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.

¹ Adapted from Nancy Townley, "Worship Connection: May 10, 2020." Accessed at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/4945/worship-connection-may-10-2020>