

# Moran United Methodist Church

November 14, 2021 – Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

## Prelude

Joanne Brown, Accompanist

## Welcome

Rev. Cody Natland

Welcome to worship! We are so glad that you have joined us to worship God today. Whether this is your first Sunday with us or you have been worshipping with us for many years, we want you to know that you are a beloved child of God and you belong here in our church family. If you are joining us in person, please be sure that you wear a face mask and that it covers your mouth and nose. We ask you to please refrain from singing, but invite you to hum, clap, or read along with the music.

## Stewardship Moment

Jeff Johnson and Patty Johnson

## Opening Prayer

Theresa Kamitomo

God of mystery and hope, who has made us to be salt and light in a broken and shadowed world, guide us in this time of worship. Speak to us as we commit ourselves to your ongoing work in our church and in the world. Grant us understanding and spiritual discernment so that others may see your good works through us, give you the glory, and be moved to serve you. **Amen.**

## Song

"We Are The Light Of The World"

Janice Wrhel with Crystal & Cody Natland

Every secret, every shame, every fear, every pain  
Live inside the dark, but that's not who we are  
We are children of the day

*Pre-Chorus:* So wake up, sleeper, lift your head  
We were meant for more than this  
Fight the shadows, conquer death  
Make the most of the time we have left

*Chorus:* We are the light of the world  
We are the city on a hill  
We are the light of the world  
And we gotta, we gotta, we gotta  
Let the light shine

We are called to spread the news, to tell the world the simple truth  
Jesus came to save, there's freedom in His name  
So let His love break through

*Chorus*

*Bridge:* We are the light, we are the light, we are the light  
So let your light shine brighter  
We are the light, we are the light, we are the light  
Jesus, You are the light, You are the light, You are the light,  
We lift You high and shine, shine, shine

*Chorus*

Chuck Butler, Ed Cash, Hillary McBride, & James Tealy © 2011 Centricity Music Publishing

## Prayers of the People

You are invited to offer your prayers aloud to God or share them in the video comments if joining us on Facebook. Prayer requests can also be emailed to Pastor Cody at [PastorNatland@gmail.com](mailto:PastorNatland@gmail.com)

## Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Cody Natland

## 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 "Breathe On Me, Breath Of God'

Janice Wrhel

Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,  
That I may love what Thou dost love and do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,  
Until with Thee I will one will to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly Thine,  
Till all this earthly part of me glows with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I never die,  
But live with Thee the perfect life of Thine eternity.

*Edwin Hatch & Robert Jackson © Public Domain*

## Scripture

Theresa Kamitomo

### **Ezekiel 37:1-14 (NRSV)**

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

**Matthew 5:13-16 (NRSV)**

"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

- - - -

*Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.      Response: Thanks be to God.*

**Sermon**                      *Our Firm Foundation: Being A City On A Hill*

Rev. Cody Natland

**Blessing Our Pledges & Offerings**

On this "Gathering In Sunday," we invite you to make a financial pledge to support the general budget of Moran UMC in 2021. Members/regular attendees should have received a pledge card in the mail this week. If you did not receive a pledge card, extras are available on the sign-in tables in the Fellowship Hall. Completed pledge cards can be placed in the offering plates in the Fellowship Hall or Sanctuary entryway. If you are not worshipping in person this morning, your pledge card may be dropped off curbside at the church this afternoon from 2:00-3:00pm, or mailed any time.

*We invite you to give as God leads you to support our church and ministries as we seek to embrace, inspire, and serve, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. You may place your gift in the offering plates in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, give online at [www.moranumc.org/give](http://www.moranumc.org/give), or mail your gift to: 3601 E 65<sup>th</sup> Ave / Spokane, WA 99223.*

**\* Hymn**                      "Take My Life And Let It Be"

Joanne Brown

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
 Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
 Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.  
 Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.  
 Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.  
 Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.  
 Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.  
 Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store.  
 Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

*Frances R. Havergal & Louis J. F. Herold © Public Domain*

**Benediction**

Rev. Cody Natland

You have called us, O God, to embrace the mission of Jesus as our own. Our sight is not equal to this vision, and our strength is not equal to this task. But you, O Lord, are a merciful God. You give light to those who walk in darkness, and you grant strength to those who carry heavy loads. As we commit our selves to your mission here at Moran UMC for the coming year, let us see your light before us and feel your strength within us. Amen.

**Postlude**

Joanne Brown

*As the service ends, we invite those seated in the Fellowship Hall to be dismissed first. Ushers will dismiss those seated in the Sanctuary by row/section. If you would like to greet one another, **we invite you to gather outside** on the entry patio for a time of fellowship, but please do not gather indoors.*

*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 11:30 am on Zoom

Those worshipping virtually are invited to join us on Zoom for a time of fellowship and connection 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)

---

**Worship At Moran UMC** -- Sunday Mornings at 10:30 am

We invite you to join us for worship on Sunday mornings at Moran UMC. Mask wearing and physical distancing will be required by all participants, regardless of vaccination status. Children's Sunday School for children in Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade is offered in the Disciples/Shepherds Room during the worship service.

**Worship Online** -- Sunday Mornings at 10:30 am

Our worship services continue to be live-streamed online for those who are unable or not yet comfortable returning to in-person services. Our worship services continue to be live-streamed online for those who are unable or not yet comfortable returning to in-person services.

---

**Children's Sunday School (Preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

*Sundays at 10:30 am in the Disciples/Shepherds Room*

**Sunday School will is currently offered during our worship service in the Disciples/Shepherds Room.** By opening the dividing wall between the two rooms, we will have plenty of space to socially distance children by families. There will be lots of windows to open, our HVAC system running, and a high-capacity air purifier. All children and adults must wear masks. Please bring your child straight back to the classroom when you arrive rather than entering the Sanctuary.

---

**Additional Special Charge Conference Meeting** -- Saturday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> on Zoom; time TBD

As was shared during our Charge Conference on November 14<sup>th</sup>, we were anticipating a potential third Charge Conference meeting to select a legal designee to cast an upcoming vote in response to the Boy Scouts of America's restructuring/bankruptcy. Guidance for the vote, itself, is expected to come from PNW Conference leadership, Council of Bishops, and denominational lawyers, but our Charge Conference must designate the person who will be authorized to cast the vote. The Charge Conference meeting to address this need will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup> via Zoom, with the time to be announced.

## "Gathering In Sunday" and Advent Devotional Pick-Up -- Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>

Today is our "Gathering In Sunday." Every year on the final Sunday of our Stewardship Campaign, we celebrate "Gathering In Sunday" where we bring forward our financial pledge cards and ask God's blessing upon our commitments to support Moran UMC through our financial pledge, along with our prayers, presence, service, and witness. We also offer non-perishable food items to support our ministry partners; this year, we ask for donations for Second Harvest Food Bank. We will also have our Family Advent Devotional booklet available to be picked up.

If you are not attending the in-person worship service this morning, we invite you to come by the church between 2-3pm for a curbside drop-off opportunity. You can also mail your pledge card to the church at 3601 E 65<sup>th</sup> Avenue // Spokane, WA 99223 or drop it off in person on Monday, Wednesday, or Thursday between 10am and 3pm. Advent Devotional Booklets will be available in the church office; if you need your booklet to be mailed, please call the office at (509)448-7102.

## Hanging Of The Greens

Sunday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> – Saturday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>

In the upcoming Advent season, we want to continue our long tradition of "Hanging of the Greens," which means decorating our church for the Advent and Christmas seasons. For the safety of our church family and friends during the lingering pandemic, we tried to think of ways to decorate in smaller groups of family, small groups, and various committees over a week's time frame. We have created a list of areas that you personally or as a group or committee might undertake. You can call the church office at 448-7102 or check the sign-up list in the Fellowship Hall to find out what decorating opportunities/needs are still available. After signing up, contact Jacque Davis to schedule when you'd like to decorate between Sunday afternoon, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> and Saturday morning, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>. The first Sunday of Advent is Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>. The items such as trees, garland, wall hangings, etc. will be staged downstairs for your convenience.

## Weekday Morning Prayer Group -- Weekdays at 9am on Zoom

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>

Connect via Phone (home phone, landline, cell phone):

+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

Connect via Facebook Live: [www.facebook.com/moranchurch](http://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)

## Pub Theology -- Tuesdays at 6pm on Zoom

Join by Computer/Smartphone/Tablet: <https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/794159957>

Connect via Phone (home phone, landline, cell phone):

+1 (253) 215-8782 (Meeting ID: 794 159 957)    +1 (346) 248-7799 (Meeting ID: 794 159 957)

## Advent Study

*One Study, Two Options:*

**Online:** Wednesdays from 6:00-7:15 pm on Zoom (beginning Dec. 1)

**In Person:** Thursdays at 10:00-11:30 am in the Disciples/Shepherds Room (beginning Dec. 2)

At the very start of December, we will begin a four-week study on the series "The Heart That Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of The Grinch." This book and video series is created by Rev. Matt Rawle, a United Methodist Pastor serving in Louisiana. There will be two options for how to attend this study, either on Zoom on Wednesday evenings or in person on Thursday mornings; the Wednesday and Thursday sessions will be (roughly) the same.

As usual, reading the book along with the study is encouraged, but will not be required. Pastor Cody has ordered four copies of the book that will be available after Thanksgiving; copies can also be ordered online from Cokesbury.com or Amazon. Those joining on Wednesday evenings are encouraged to watch the video clip (link will be provided when available) *prior* to our weekly sessions; those joining on Thursday mornings will watch the video clip as part of our time together.

**About the study:** "We don't know why the Grinch hated Christmas. We just know he did. In this new Advent study, Matt Rawle explores the faith themes in the Christmas classic, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* including, how did the Grinch's heart grow three sizes come Christmas morning? How did Christmas save the Grinch? Could it be that the very thing we think we hate is the one thing that changes our lives? This Advent season, look at a familiar classic through the lens of faith and see how Christ speaks to us through our culture."

Join the Wednesday Evening Advent Study by Computer/Smartphone/Tablet:

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/276855082>

Join the Wednesday Evening Advent Study by Phone (dial either of these numbers):

+1 (253) 215-8782 (Meeting ID: 276 855 082) +1 (346) 248-7799 (Meeting ID: 276 855 082)

## Lord, Hear Our Prayers...

- For **Jerry Oberst**, who will have cataract surgery on Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- For **Ben Moller**, who had a successful back surgery on Friday and is recovering.
- For **Roseann Thornberry** who now home and continuing to recover from a stroke.
- For **Elizabeth Williams**, who is undergoing radiation and chemotherapy, and is also fighting a breakthrough case of COVID-19.
- For **Clara**, Debbie Arnold's mother, who was diagnosed with breast cancer and will have surgery on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- For **Jewel Nelson**, Lois Moller's friend, who is recovering from surgery on her knee cap.
- For **Dylan and Dean Robinson and all of Courtney Nelson's family** as they grieve, remember, and celebrate her life.
- For **Luella Palmer**, who is at home recovering from an ulcer in her intestine.
- For **Ralph and Eileen Kirby** who have been diagnosed with breakthrough COVID-19. They are resting at home and managing their symptoms.
- For **Mia**, Nola Lefler's granddaughter's friend, who is in a coma with liver failure.
- For **Bob Tweedy**, who is recovering from a fall.
- For **Martin Nelson**, Lois Moller's friend, recovering from serious burns.
- For **Richard Smith**, as he navigates health issues.
- For **Dennis Rainey**, who is having health problems and awaiting diagnosis.
- For **Maddie**, Harriet Van Wyck's granddaughter's friend, recovering from serious injuries.
- For **Lis McCrea-Jones**, who is recovering from knee surgery.

- For **Ardis Storms**, who is recovering from recent illness.
- For **Kathleen**, Susie Karnesky's sister, who is healing after surgery for broken vertebrae.
- 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 together.
- For the **McCrea-Jones Family**.
- For **Joni Swartout**, recovering from recent illness.
- For **Gerald Bertram** as he continues his cancer treatments.
- 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, back, and hip.
- For **those impacted by bullying, racism, discrimination, and racist violence**, and we pray for **change in our nation**.
- For all who are sick, recovering, and grieving deaths from **COVID-19**. For those experiencing **loneliness and isolation**. For **hospitals, medical centers, and medical workers**.
- 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.