

Moran United Methodist Church

September 12, 2021 – Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Joanne Brown, Accompanist

Welcome

Rev. Cody Natland, Pastor

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.

Masks are optional at our outdoor worship services for those who are fully vaccinated, and continue to be required for those who are not fully vaccinated. Masks also continue to be required while singing and we will continue to observe social distancing.

Opening Prayer

Joanne Brown, Liturgist

Gracious God, renew our minds and cleanse our spirits, that we might rise above the things that divide us and keep us from full fellowship with you and one another. Part the waters of our worries and confusion, and save us from the tides that threaten to overwhelm us. Be merciful to us and protect us with your powerful hand, that we might sing and dance to your glory. Amen.¹

* Hymn

"We Gather Together"

Joanne Brown

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
He chastens and hastens his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!

We all do extoll thee, thou leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Written in 1626, translated Theodore Baker in 1894. Music is a 16th century Dutch melody, arranged Edward Kremser in 1877. © Public Domain

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** "You Never Let Go" Janice Wrhel, with Crystal and Cody Natland

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death
 Your perfect love is casting out fear
 And even when I'm caught in the middle of the storms of this life
 I won't turn back, I know you are near

Pre-Chorus: And I will fear no evil for my God is with me
 And if my God is with me, whom then shall I fear?
 Whom then shall I fear?

Chorus: Oh no You never let go through the calm and through the storm
 Oh no You never let go in every high and every low
 Oh no You never let go
 Lord You never let go of me

And I can see a light that is coming for the heart that holds on
 A glorious light beyond all compare
 And there will be an end to these troubles, but until that day comes
 We'll live to know you here on the earth

Pre-Chorus and Chorus

Bridge: Yes I can see a the light hat is coming for the heart that holds on
 And there will be an end to these troubles, but until that day comes,
 Still I will praise You
 Still I will praise You

Chorus

Beth Redman and Matt Redman © 2005 Thankyou Music

Scripture

Joanne Brown

Psalm 116:1-9 (NRSV)

I love the LORD, because he has heard
 my voice and my supplications.
 Because he inclined his ear to me,
 therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
 The snares of death encompassed me;
 the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
 I suffered distress and anguish.
 Then I called on the name of the LORD:
 "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"
 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;
 our God is merciful.
 The LORD protects the simple;
 when I was brought low, he saved me.
 Return, O my soul, to your rest,
 for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.
 For you have delivered my soul from death,
 my eyes from tears,
 my feet from stumbling.

I walk before the LORD
in the land of the living.

Exodus 14:10-14, 19-31 (NRSV)

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

* **Hymn** "Where He Leads Me I Will Follow" Janice Wrhel

I can hear my Savior calling (3 times)
Take thy cross and follow, follow me

Refrain: Where He leads me I will follow (3 times)
I'll go with him, with him all the way

I'll go with him through the garden (3 times)
I'll go with him, with him, all the way

Refrain

I'll go with him through the judgment (3 times)
I'll go with him, with him, all the way

Refrain

He will give me grace and glory (3 times)
And go with me, with me, all the way

Refrain

E.W. Blandy and John S. Norris © Public Domain

Sermon *Through The Wilderness: Into The Sea*

Rev. Cody Natland

Invitation to the Offering

We invite you to give as God leads you to support the church and its ministries as we seek to embrace, inspire, and serve, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. You can give online at www.moranumc.org/give, or by mailing your gift to the church at 3601 E 65th Ave / Spokane, WA 99223.

*** Song**

"The Table"

Janice Wrhel

I will feast at the table of the Lord
I will feast at the table of the Lord
I won't hunger anymore at His table (repeat)

Chorus: Come all you weary, come and find
His yoke is easy, His burden is light
He is able, He will restore
At the table of the Lord

There is peace at the table of the Lord
There is peace at the table of the Lord
I won't worry anymore at His table

There is healing at the table of the Lord
There is healing at the table of the Lord
Oh and I won't suffer anymore at His table

Chorus

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, and Wayne Jolley © 2014 Capital CMG Paragon

Holy Communion

Those who are worshipping outdoors should have received pre-packaged communion elements at the welcome tables where they received their bulletins. For those joining us virtually, we invite you to gather the elements for Holy Communion as we celebrate the Lord's extensive, welcoming table. The traditional elements are bread and grape juice/wine, but you are welcome to substitute whatever elements are available to you (water, juice, crackers, etc).

Benediction

Rev. Cody Natland

Go with the God who can part the troubled waters of your life and lead you through to dry ground. Go with the God who can scatter and subdue all that hinders you on your journey. Go forth in God's might and in God's peace. Amen.²

Postlude

Joanne Brown

¹ *Opening prayer copyright © 2016 by B.J. Beu. Used with permission.*

² *Benediction written by Matthew J. Packer and use with permission. Accessed at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/1652/worship-elements-september-13-2020>*

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)

Weekly Outdoor Worship Services (Weather Permitting)

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

Worship with us outdoors on Sunday mornings at Moran UMC near the gazebo! Masks are optional at our outdoor worship services for those who are fully vaccinated, and continue to be required for those who are not fully vaccinated. Masks will also continue to be required while singing. We will continue to observe social distancing.

Our services are also live-streamed on Facebook and our website at 10:30am.

If we need to cancel the in-person service due to weather or air quality concerns, a cancellation will be announced via email as early as possible (we aim for no later than Thursday). We will cancel for weather warnings issued by the National Weather Service; air quality cancellations will be made when the AQI is above 100 in our area as reported by the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency.

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

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)

Wednesday Bible Study: The Epistle of James -- Wednesdays from 6-7:15pm on Zoom

Join by Computer/Smartphone/Tablet: <https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/276855082>

Join 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 the **family of Kay Chinen**, Penny Herold's sister-in-law, who passed away on Thursday.
- For **Lis McCrea-Jones**, who is recovering from knee surgery. Her surgery was successful, but she anticipates a long road for recovery.
- For the **family of Jane Bates**, who passed away on August 31st.
- For the people of **Haiti** as they recover from an earthquake.
- For the people of **Afghanistan** as they face violence, oppression, and instability.
- For all recovering from the impact of **Hurricane Ida** across the southern and eastern US.
- For the **family of Sheri**, Dennis and Jana Kifer's niece, who passed away recently.
- For **Ardis Storms**, who is recovering at home from recent illness.
- For **Joanne Brown**, who has been having weakness due to low blood pressure.
- For **Gerald Bertram**, who is recovering from pancreas surgery and awaiting biopsy results.
- For **wildfire containment, firefighters**, and the **communities** impacted by wildfires and poor air quality across the western United States.
- For **Kelly Casto**, the Kifers' daughter, who is recovering from complications after surgery to remove kidney stones.
- For **Bob Thompson**, who is recovering at home from a heart attack and triple bypass surgery.
- For **Alex**, Sally and Dennis' grandson, who is struggling with eating.
- 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 **Christy Tweedy**, recovering from a stroke.
- For **Joni Swartout**, recovering from recent illness.
- For **Bill**, Harriet Van Wyck's childhood friend's brother, with terminal cancer.
- 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 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 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.