

Moran United Methodist Church

September 19, 2021 – Seventeenth 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 online 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

Dennis Kifer, Liturgist

Liberating God, we seek the journey you have set before us. With parted waters, set us free. With cloud and fire, guide our feet. With gushing waters, quench our thirst. With food from heaven, feed us. As we gather to worship, draw us to your presence with joy and singing, that we might know and faithfully follow your ways. Amen.¹

* Hymn

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Janice Wrhel

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him! Alleluia!

Thou rising morn in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening, find a voice
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou flowing water pure and clear, make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou fire so masterful and bright, thou givest man both warmth and light
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!

Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on him cast your care
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, three in one.
O praise him! O praise him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Francis of Assisi, ca. 1225; translated by William H. Draper, 1925 © Public Domain

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

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

"Speak, O Lord"

Janice Wrhel

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 and Stuart Townsend © 2005 Thankyou Music

Scripture

Dennis Kifer

Psalm 105: 1-6, 37-45 (NRSV)

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
Seek the Lord and his strength;
seek his presence continually.
Remember the wonderful works he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he has uttered.
O offspring of his servant Abraham
children of Jacob, his chosen ones.
Then he brought Israel out with silver and gold,
and there was no one among their tribes who stumbled.
Egypt was glad when they departed,
for dread of them had fallen upon it.
He spread a cloud for a covering,
and fire to give light by night.
They asked, and he brought quails,
and gave them food from heaven in abundance.
He opened the rock, and water gushed out;
it flowed through the desert like a river.
For he remembered his holy promise,
and Abraham, his servant.

So he brought his people out with joy,
 his chosen ones with singing.
 He gave them the lands of the nations,
 and they took possession of the wealth of the peoples,
 that they might keep his statutes
 and observe his laws.

Exodus 16:2-15 (NRSV)

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days. So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

* **Hymn** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" Janice Wrhel with Crystal and Cody Natland

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
 Thou changest not, thy passions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
 Morning by morning new mercies I see;
 All I have needed thy hand hath provided;
 Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
 Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
 Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Refrain**Thomas O. Chisholm and William M. Runyan © Public Domain***Sermon** *Through The Wilderness: What Is This?*

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** "Great Is The Lord"

Janice Wrhel

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just
By his power we trust in his love
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true
By his mercy he proves he is love

Great is the Lord and worthy of glory
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice
Great is the Lord, great is the Lord

*(Repeat both verses)**Deborah D. Smith and Michael W. Smith © 1982 Meadowgreen Music Company***Benediction**

Rev. Cody Natland

By the provision of God, we have been equipped to walk through the wilderness this day and the days ahead. Go into this world confident in Christ's love and God's eternal presence with you. Go be a witness for good and a bearer of peace to all you meet. Go in peace! AMEN.

Postlude

Joanne Brown

¹ *Opening prayer adapted from Hans Holznagel. Accessed at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/1663/worship-elements-september-20-2020>*

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 our outdoor services for weather that is unsafe or very uncomfortable, both for our attendees and our electronic equipment.

All-Church / Charge Conference – Holy Conferencing Gathering

Tuesday, September 5th at 5:00pm on Zoom

This year, our Charge Conference gathering will be broken up into two separate meetings, both to be held on Zoom. The first meeting will be a time of Holy Conferencing to meet and get to know our new District Superintendent, Rev. Daniel Miranda, and to hear what he has to share to encourage, challenge, and strengthen us in this year of ministry. For this meeting, we will be joined by the congregations of Manito UMC and Highland Park UMC. The Zoom link for this meeting will be shared as soon as it is available.

Our Charge Conference Business Meeting, where we will vote to approve the Pastor's Salary, Nominations Report (church leadership positions for 2022), and other important business items will be held sometime in November.

Welcoming Refugees – Linen Welcome Kits for World Relief

The Missions Team is asking for your help in creating Linen Kits to welcome refugees who are being resettled in the Spokane area through World Relief. Refugees often flee from their homes at a moment's notice, and they arrive in Spokane with very few belongings to begin a new life. These welcome kits will help to ensure that the family has some of their most basic necessities for getting settled into their new homes.

Donations can be brought to the church on Sunday mornings, during our "Mission Monday" drop-off from 10am-Noon on Mondays, or during office hours (Mon, Wed, and Thurs from 10am-3pm). Please donate only new, unused items.

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|---------------------------------|---|
| - Bed Linens: Twin or Queen | - Blankets: Twin or Queen |
| - Comforter: Twin or Queen | - Pillows |
| - Towel Sets (bath, hand, face) | - \$25 gift cards to Dollar Tree, Amazon, Walmart, Winco, or Target |

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 ZoomJoin 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 ZoomJoin 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 **Maddie**, Harriet Van Wyck's granddaughter's friend, who has serious and extensive injuries from a car accident.
- For **Dennis Rainey**, who is having health problems and awaiting diagnosis.
- For many in our church and community who have family, friends, and other loved ones who have been **diagnosed with COVID-19**.
- For **Gerald Bertram**, who has been diagnosed with cancer in his pancreas and liver and will begin chemotherapy soon.
- For the **family of Kay Chinen**, Penny Herold's sister-in-law, who passed away last week.
- For **Lis McCrea-Jones**, who is recovering from knee surgery.
- For all recovering from the impact of **natural disasters**.
- For the people of **Afghanistan** as they face violence, oppression, and instability.
- For **Ardis Storms**, who is recovering from recent illness.
- For **Joanne Brown**, who has been having weakness due to low blood pressure.
- 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 **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 **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.