

Moran United Methodist Church

September 6th, 2020 Worship Bulletin

14th Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome

Welcome to worship! Though we are unable to gather in person today, we can still worship together and celebrate the gift of the Holy 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.

Call to Worship *(you are invited to read this responsively)*¹

Leader: How shall we live in the love of God?

People: We will treat each other with fairness and dignity.

Leader: How shall we witness God's forgiving love?

People: We will reach out to others with compassion.

Leader: Come, let us worship God who has always loved us.

People: Let our worship of God be reflected in our lives of hope and peace. AMEN.

Song "Come, Now Is The Time To Worship" <http://bit.ly/TimeToWorshipLyrics>

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.

Hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy" <http://bit.ly/LyricsHolyHolyHoly>

Scripture

Psalm 119:33-40 (NRSV)

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I will observe it to the end.

Give me understanding, that I may keep your law
and observe it with my whole heart.

Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for I delight in it.

Turn my heart to your decrees,
and not to selfish gain.

Turn my eyes from looking at vanities;
give me life in your ways.

Confirm to your servant your promise,

which is for those who fear you.
 Turn away the disgrace that I dread,
 for your ordinances are good.
 See, I have longed for your precepts;
 in your righteousness give me life.

Matthew 18:1-20 (NRSV)

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" He called a child, whom he put among them, and said, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea. Woe to the world because of stumbling blocks! Occasions for stumbling are bound to come, but woe to the one by whom the stumbling block comes!

"If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life maimed or lame than to have two hands or two feet and to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into the hell of fire.

"Take care that you do not despise one of these little ones; for, I tell you, in heaven their angels continually see the face of my Father in heaven. What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.

"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Song "Speak, O Lord" <http://bit.ly/SpeakOLordLyrics>

Sermon "Like A Child" Pastor 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 Surrender All"

<http://bit.ly/ISurrenderAllLyrics>

Benediction

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you. May He guide you through the wilderness and protect you through the storm. May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you. May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**²

¹Call to Worship written by Nancy Townley. Accessed at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/1588/worship-connection-september-6-2020>.

² Taken from Morning Prayer from Northumbria Community's Celtic Daily Prayer, published by Collins.

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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)

Monday Evening Vespers and Holy Communion

Just Once in September on Monday, September 7th at 6:30pm

Zoom and Facebook Live

Join us on Monday, September 7th at 6:30pm for an evening vespers service of scripture, prayer, and sharing Holy Communion. You can connect with the vespers service either through Zoom (which allows you to participate via home phone if you are not internet connected or have a weak connection) or on Facebook Live through our Facebook page.

You are encouraged to bring communion elements with you as you connect in to the service. The traditional elements are bread and grape juice, but other bread products (crackers, etc.) or juice/water will be fine.

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)

+1 669 900 6833 (Meeting ID: 971 5579 9598)

Remembering a Beloved Friend

It is with a heavy heart that we share that we have lost a member of our Moran UMC community. Doc (Duane) O'Connor passed away this past Tuesday morning. Doc worshipped regularly with us at Moran UMC before he became ill last summer and moved away to be closer to family who could help care for him. We pray for God's comfort for his daughter, Elizabeth Sanchez, his close friend Diane Van Leuven, and for all of the other friends he has left behind. We are thankful that Doc was such a special and faithful servant at Moran UMC. The Memorial Garden holds many of the beautiful rocks he collected over the years; may they bring peace and comfort to all who remember his gentle spirit.

Thinking About Advent

We have all had many "This is new!" moments during 2020. Doubtless, we will have many more before 2021 arrives. We long for the familiar ways that have been disrupted and we consider how these disruptions may impact the final months of the year, including the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

We may be wondering about some of the ways we, as a church, can ensure that we continue some of our most cherished Advent traditions. We may consider how we can reach every person and every family in a way that doesn't require internet, Zoom or any other electronic connection. One of our members, Joan King, is beginning a project to create a daily Advent devotional for our entire church family, with devotions written by our congregation.

Does this sound intriguing? Do you have a small amount of time that you could use to further this exciting project that is in the works? We'll have more information for you soon, so be watching!

School Supply Drive

Next Drive-Through Drop-Off Opportunity: Monday, September 14th from 10-11am

This year's school supply needs are a little bit different, since we now know that all of the students at Mullan Road Elementary and other Spokane Public Schools will begin the school year in a distance learning model. This means that young students will be needing some additional supplies that are typically provided by the school, since they will be doing their work from home instead of in the classroom.

We invite you to drop off your school supply donations at the church on Monday, September 14th from 10-11am, and they will be taken to Mullan Road Elementary School for distribution to students in need. We also invite you drop off donations for **Shalom Ministries** and **Second Harvest** at that time.

- Crayons (16 pack)
- Colored Pencils (8-12 pack)
- Markers

- Highlighters
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Glue Sticks
- Ruler
- Pencil Pouch
- Composition Books (wide and college ruled)
- Spiral Notebooks (wide and college ruled)
- Notebook Paper (loose leaf; wide and college ruled)
- White Copy/Printer Paper
- Portfolio Folders with Pockets
- Scissors
- 3-Ring Zippered Binders with dividers

Prayer Requests

- For all of Doc O'Connor's friends and family in their grief and celebration of his life.
- For Ralph and Eileen Kirby, who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on the 3rd.
- For Kim Newman as she continues to recover from her recent stroke, along with her family (husband Aaren, children Preston and Lily). Kim has returned home from the hospital and is making good progress.
- For continued healing and strength for Dennis Rainey, Jeff Johnson, Richard Smith, and Pastor Barbara Caviezel.
- For Karen Tauscher as she continues her cancer treatments.
- For Baby Jack's continued strength and recovery, and for his family as they care for him.
- For school districts, administrators, teachers, and families as prepare for the coming school year. Many area private schools have already returned, and Spokane Public Schools begin the school year on September 14th.
- For those who are working for change in our nation around issues of racial justice.
- For those who are experiencing loneliness and isolation.
- For our church leaders as they continue to envision a gradual, phased reopening process for our church. For our local church leaders and for our Bishop, Elaine Stanovsky.
- For our local, state, and national leaders.