

# SPOKANE VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost – The Heart of Christianity Series

*Thank you for joining us for worship today! We invite you to sign in on our attendance pads which will be passed out during the Choir Hymn. (\* indicates "Please rise in body or spirit")*

## **Gathering Music**

Zachary Bjurstrom

## **Welcome**

Pastor Alissa

## **\*Call to Worship** – based on Mark 12:28-34

Shawna Beese

Once upon a time a wise man offered a challenge to Jesus:

"What is the greatest commandment?"

The calendars on our desks share a vision of greatness;

bills to pay, phone calls to return, appointments to keep.

**Love the Lord your God.**

The cameras of our memories share what commands us;

children to raise and partners to help, parents calling and grandchildren hopeful.

**Love the Lord your God**

**with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.**

Still the Spirit lures us to new practices - open spaces to experience wonder,

strangers becoming friends, devotion to that which transcends.

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul,  
and with all your mind. Love your neighbor as yourself.**

## **\*Opening Hymn**

"Love, Love, Love"

Betsy Pletscher

## **Opening Prayer**

Pastor Alissa

## **Announcements**

## **Special Music**

Pavane (Gabriel Fauré, arr. Paul Plowman)

Cindi & Paul Plowman

## **\*Greeting Time & Gloria Patri**

UMH #70

## **Hebrew Bible Reading**

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (NRSVA)

Shawna Beese

## **Message**

"The Heart of the Matter: Practice"

Pastor Alissa

## **\*Hymn of Response**

"The Gift of Love – UMH #408

Zachary Bjurstrom

## **Invitation to the Offering**

## **Offertory**

Goodness of God (Johnson & others)

Cassandra & Tracey Partridge

## **\*Doxology**

UMH #95

## **\*Offering Prayer**

Pastor Alissa

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

Pastor Alissa & Shawna Beese

*Follow along with the words onscreen.*

## **Music During Communion**

"What Feast of Love" – W&S #3170

"I Love You, Lord" – TFWS #2068

"Love the Lord Your God" – TFWS #2168

Sue Magrath &

Raeann Ducar

Shawna Beese

## **Prayer After Communion**

## **\*Benediction**

Pastor Alissa

## **\*Sending Forth Music**

Zachary Bjurstrom

# STAFF

## Pastor

Rev. Alissa Amestoy  
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## Hospitality Director

Margie Manfred  
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## Church Secretary

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## Director of Music

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## Accompanist

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## Coordinator of Ministries for Young People

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## Lay Leader

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## Technical Ministries

### Co-coordinators

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## Missionary to Nepal

Katherine Parker

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### Office Hours:

8 am – 11:30 am M-Th

8 am – 2 pm F

Email: secretary@  
spokanevalleychurch.org

# SUNDAY NEWS

## September 7

9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 am	Children's Sunday School	Room 210
9:00 am	Nursery	Nursery

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**This month, SVUMC is collecting items for Shalom Ministries,** including coffee (ground or whole bean), juice boxes, sugar (brown or white), honey, and pancake syrup. Bring items to the Connect Desk throughout the month!

**Small Group Ministry Fair** Right after service today, join us in Room 115 for our Small Group Ministry Fair. Hear from group members what it means to them to be part of a small group, check out what the groups are studying, and snag some coffee or lemonade and a cookie! For questions, contact Lois Cwiek at lois.cwiek@hotmail.com.

**Disciple Bible Study begins again on Wednesday, September 10** with Orientation from 9:30-10:30am in Room 115. The first lesson will start at 9:30am the following Wednesday, September 17. It is not too late to sign up for the class either at the Connect Desk or by calling Madelyn Bafus at 509-869-8213. We'll see you there!

**Get ready for Coffee Chat to begin again soon!** Coffee Chat picks back up next week, September 14th, with the first Cinnamon Roll Sale of the season! Proceeds go to the Jamaa Letu Orphanage in the DRC. Please also bring cookies for future Coffee Chats!

**The next Heavenly Hikers adventure** will not be on September 10th due to a calendar conflict, so instead we'll meet on September 17th. We'll explore the Dishman Hills Conservation Area again, this time starting at the Iller Creek Trailhead (north). We will meet at 7 AM at the Iller Creek Trailhead parking lot, and depart at 7:15. We will plan on doing the Iller Creek west ridge trail to the Upper Valley Trail, and returning via the Iller Creek east ridge trail. This 4.25 mile loop is a moderate climb to the Upper Valley Trail, then a relatively flat section, and finally a moderate descent along the east ridge trail. The trail is mostly shaded until the east ridge, where you can expect plenty of sunshine and nice views of Spokane Valley. There is a port-a-potty in the parking area. Pets on a leash are OK. Directions and trail maps are at: dishmanhills.org/maps. No passes are required to park in the parking lot. Contact Brian Hoyt (brian.alan.hoyt@gmail.com, 602-376-0612) if you have questions.

*Spokane Valley United Methodist Church is here to invite people to follow Jesus, love others, and transform the greater community through the grace of God.*

*Love is the Spirit at Spokane Valley UMC –  
we are a weapons-free and drug-free community.  
Thank you for abiding by this policy and helping  
to make our church a safe space for all.*

# THIS WEEK

## 9/8 Monday

10:00 am Prayer Shawl & Lap Blanket Meeting  
6:30 pm Sarah Circle  
6:30 pm Trustees Meeting

## 9/9 Tuesday

9:00 am Hospitality Huddle  
12:30 pm Esther Circle

## 9/11 Thursday

9:00 am Thursday Crew  
11:00 am Rachel Circle

## 9/14 Sunday

9:00 am Traditional Service  
Liturgist: Joyce Johnson  
10:00 am Coffee Chat  
Mission & Service  
Cinnamon Roll Sale

*If you have a prayer request for our Prayer Team, fill out one of the cards in the pews and either place it in the plate on the back table or pass it to an usher when they come by during the choir anthem.*



SVUMC Giving QR Code