

SPOKANE VALLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 7th, 2025 – 2nd Sunday of Advent – *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes 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

Threshold Moment

Pastor Alissa & Tracey Partridge

Threshold Song

"Welcome Christmas" from *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas*

(See Grinch green sheet music in pews)

Advent Candle of Hope Prayer – based on Isaiah 60:3-6

Nancy Olds, Tracey Partridge,
Cassandra Partridge, & Cassian Lantzy

Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

Darkness has been banished!

God's light of hope floods the earth

God's light comes to us all.

Let us light the Advent Candles of Peace and Hope!

Lord, make us ready to journey to this Light.

Prepare our hearts to receive this Light. Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" – UMH #206

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Alissa

Traditional Choir

"As the Dark Awaits the Dawn" (Cherwien/Schalk)

Betsy Pletscher

***Greeting Time & Gloria Patri**

UMH #70

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:7b-12 (NRSV)

Tracey Partridge

Message

"Looking the Part"

Pastor Alissa

***Hymn of Response**

"Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice" – TFWS #2089

Invitation to the Offering

Pastor Alissa

Offertory

***Doxology**

UMH #95

***Offering Prayer**

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor Alissa & Tracey Partridge

Follow along with the words onscreen.

Receiving the Elements

"God Almighty, We Are Waiting" – W&S #3047

"Time Now to Gather" – TFWS #2265

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel" – UMH #204

Prayer After Communion

Tracey Partridge

***Sending Forth**

Pastor Alissa

Sending Forth Music

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Office Hours:

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8 am – 2 pm F

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SUNDAY NEWS

December 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, we are collecting \$10 gas cards for Family Promise of Spokane at the Connect Desk. For questions, see Madelyn Bafus.

Our youth are hosting a food drive in December! They will be collecting cans and shelf-stable food through the month; in particular, they will create "Birthday in a bag" kits (disposable tin, cake mix, frosting, can of 7-Up, birthday candles, and a few birthday balloons). These kits allow families an easy way to celebrate each other in challenging times, allowing simple pleasures we sometimes take for granted.

Youth Present Wrapping Station Our youth are available to wrap Christmas presents for you in Room 115 directly after service today and December 14th until 10:45 am each Sunday. They will have wrapping paper and bows to choose from, or you can bring your own. To reserve a spot for gift wrapping, text or email Jen Price.

December's Youth Schedule Today, December 7th, there will be no youth group. December 14th there will be youth group, as well as the Children's Sunday School Grinchmas from 2-4:30 pm. On December 21st the youth are hosting Coffee Chat and will have a Youth Grinchmas Party. For questions about the youth schedule, see Jen Price.

Join us Sunday, December 14th from 2-4 pm at 45 Degree Brewhouse for the fourth annual Holy Pub Christmas Singalong! This is a 21+ event; children will have a simultaneous Sunday School Grinchmas at the church.

Our Advent series books for the all-church study, *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes* by Matt Rawle, will go on sale starting today. The suggested donation for each book is \$10.

To replace *The Upper Room*, we will be taking orders and selling a daily devotional called *Walking in Grace* that will last the entire year of 2026. Hardback books are \$19, large print books are \$20, and pocket-sized books are \$10. To view the book or place an order, see the display by the Connect Desk. This will be the last week to order them!

Come enjoy the sounds of the season with the Bella Christo Bell Choir at SVUMC on Saturday, December 13th at 7 pm! This concert is free; freewill donations will be accepted at the event.

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

12/8 Monday

9:30 am Shirley Small Group
10:00 am Walkers
10:00 am Prayer Shawl & Lap Blanket Ministry
6:30 pm Trustees Meeting

12/9 Tuesday

9:00 am Hospitality Huddle

12/10 Wednesday

9:30 am Disciple 3
10:00 am Walkers
11:15 am Marlene's Small Group

12/11 Thursday

9:00 am Thursday Crew
1:00 pm Lois' Small Group

12/13 Saturday

10:00 am Choir Practice
7:00 pm Bella Christo Handbell Concert

12/14 Sunday

9:00 am Traditional Service
Liturgist: Ali Norris
Lighters: Amy Norton & Brian Hoyt
10:00 am Coffee Chat Choir
10:30 am Adult Sunday School

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.

