

Spokane Valley United Methodist Church

December 31st, 2023 – Watch Night Service - First Sunday of Christmas

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 Greeting Time. (indicates "Please rise in body or spirit")*

Gathering Music

Welcome & Introduction to the Tradition of Watch Night

Pastor Alissa

*Call to Worship

Bruce Butler

We have welcomed the Christ child and declared the glory of God's salvation that comes to live among us.
And yet, still, we wait.

We watch and work for God's kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven.

We prepare to welcome a new year, thankful for how God has brought us through the past year
and anxious to discover what the new year might bring.

We watch and work for God's kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven.

We join generations of faithful matriarchs and patriarchs who learned and taught us how to listen,
notice, and discern divine love at work in the world.

We watch and work for God's kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven.

Come, let us worship God, whose love endures from generation to generation, guiding us from one year to the next.

Come, let us worship as we live in anticipation of God's kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Star-Child" - TFWS #2095

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Alissa

Announcements

Choir Anthem

"Look to the Rose" from *The Winter Rose* Cantata

Luke Henderson

*Greeting Time & Gloria Patri - UMH #70

First Scripture Lesson & Meditation – Isaiah 61:10-62:3 (CEB)

Peggy Self

First Hymn of Response "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" - UMH #206

Second Scripture Lesson & Meditation - Psalm 148 (Response) UMH #148

Bruce Butler

Second Hymn of Response "All Creatures of Our God and King" - UMH #62 (vs. 1, 4, 5, & 7)

Third Scripture Lesson & Meditation - Galatians 4:4-7 (NRSVA)

Bruce Butler

Third Hymn of Response "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" - UMH #140

Fourth Scripture Lesson & Meditation - John 1:1-18 (NRSVA)

Peggy Self

Prayer of Self-Commitment

Pastor Alissa

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

Fourth Hymn of Response "Take My Life, and Let It Be" - UMH #399

Invitation to the Offering

Pastor Alissa

Offertory

*Doxology

UMH #95

*Offering Prayer

Pastor Alissa

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Pastor Alissa

*Closing Hymn

"Joy to the World" - UMH #246

*Sending Forth

Pastor Alissa

Sending Forth Music

Staff

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Sunday News

December 31st, 2023

9:00 am	Worship	Sanctuary
9:00 am	Children's Sunday School	Room 210
9:00 am	Nursery	Nursery
10:10am	Coffee Chat	Fellowship Hall
10:45 am	Confirmation Class	Youth Room

Meditations and Journaling

First Meditation

As you think upon the past year, what experiences led you to rejoice in God? When did God "wrap you in a robe of righteousness" and help you shine like a light?

Second Meditation

As you think upon the season of Advent and Christmas we have just been through, what experiences of praising God are still resonating with you? What is your favorite way to show God praise?

Third Meditation

As you think about where you are right now, in this moment of life, what do seek liberation or freedom from? What "enslaves" you and keeps you from living fully into your belovedness as a child of God?

Fourth Meditation

As you think about the year ahead, what do you desire God to bring into being for you? What personal commitment can you make to God today to testify to the grace and truth of Christ in the coming year?

This Week

01/01 Monday
Office Closed

01/02 Tuesday
9:00 a.m. Huddle
6:00 p.m. Disciple 1 Rm 115

01/04 Thursday
9:00 a.m. Thursday Crew

01/06 Saturday
9:00 a.m. Bells
10:00 a.m. Choir

01/07 Sunday
9:00 a.m. Traditional Service
Liturgist:
9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday
School and Nursery
10:10 a.m. Coffee Chat
10:30 a.m. Adult Sunday
School FPR