

Second Sunday after the Epiphany
January 17, 2021

Welcome and announcementsRev. Andrew Heil

Prelude: *We All Are One in Mission* Finnish folk tune, setting by Mark Sedio (1998)

Call to worship

The Church Litany, pages 5-8

(The Litany is our church's great Prayer of Intercession. It may be used with any of the General, Seasonal, or Occasional Liturgies.)

(Sitting)

CHOIR ALL
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, hear us.

From all sin, from all error, from all evil,

Preserve us, gracious Lord and God.

From famine and disease,
From disaster by fire or flood, storm or earthquake,
From war and bloodshed,
From the violence of wicked people,
From pride and trust in our own wisdom and strength,
From needless worry and anxiety,
From the selfish desire of becoming great,
From hypocrisy and fanaticism,
From envy, greed, hatred, and malice,
From the deceitfulness of sin,
From the power and destructive ways of Satan,
From the influence of the secular spirit of this world,

Preserve us, gracious Lord and God.

By your holy incarnation and birth,
By your baptism, fasting, and temptation,
By all the merits of your perfect life before God and humanity,

Bless and comfort us, gracious Lord and God.

By your agony and bloody sweat,
 By your cross and suffering,
 By your sacred wounds and precious blood,
 By your dying words,
 By your atoning death,
 By your rest in the grave,
 By your triumphant resurrection and ascension,
 By your sending the Holy Spirit,
 By your prevailing intercession,
 By your holy sacraments,
 By your divine presence,
 By your coming again to your church on earth, or our being called home to be
 with you in heaven,

Bless and comfort us, gracious Lord and God.

EISLEBEN (519 A)

Most ho - ly Lord and God, ho - ly, al - might - y

God, ho - ly and most mer - ci - ful Sav - ior,

our e - ter - nal God! Grant that we may nev - er

lose the com - forts from your death. Have mer - cy, O Lord.

Head and Savior of your body the church, unite all the children of God in one spirit. Send us as faithful laborers into your harvest that all may be gathered into your family. Pour out your Spirit and power on those who preach your word. Prevent division and useless conflict in the church. Put far from your people all who deceive. Bring back all who have gone astray. Defeat the evil intentions of those who oppose and persecute your church, and help them to turn from the error of their ways.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Grant love and unity to all our congregations. Keep our bishops and ministers sound in doctrine and holy in life. May everyone who serves in the church be faithful, not only in great matters, but also in the smallest things. Grant that all of us may pattern our lives after your example, that we may be your holy people to our life's end.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Lord, supply the needs of your people. Bless our labor and make us diligent in our daily tasks. Do not let any of us become entangled by the affairs of this life, but may everything we do or think be for you. Help us to make proper use of your gifts, and make us generous in our giving. Help us to be loving and caring in all our relationships. Be present in our homes, and guide us to bring up our children to love and serve you.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

We pray for ourselves and for all Christians; for the people of Israel and Islam, who are close to us in heritage and faith; and for persons of every religion, that we all may come to a fuller knowledge of your truth and love. Grant success to the witness of your gospel throughout the world, that all people may come to know you as Savior and Lord.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Direct all governments in the way of justice and peace, that your will may be known and done among the nations. Bless those who hold office in our land; and may we lead under them a peaceable, godly, and honest life. Deliver us from the sins which lead to war and conflict, and strengthen within us the will to establish righteousness and justice on the earth. Enable us to make wise use of the world you have entrusted to us.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Good Shepherd, we commend to your care those of our congregation who are absent from us today. Watch over those who travel. Send help to all who are in danger, trouble, or anguish. Strengthen and support those who suffer persecution for the sake of the gospel. Protect and provide for the poor, the hungry, and the homeless. Support the aged. Bless and heal the sick and the afflicted, and in their suffering comfort them with your love. Enable the dying to put their trust in you as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Have mercy on your whole creation. Hasten the day when the kingdom of the world shall become your kingdom, and by grace make us worthy to stand before you.

(Standing)

INNSBRUCK (79 A)

Lord, for thy com - ing us pre - pare; may we, to meet thee
with - out fear, at all times read - y be; in
faith and love pre - serve us sound; O let us day and
night be found wait - ing with joy to wel - come thee.

Keep us in everlasting fellowship with the Church Triumphant in heaven, and let us rest together in your presence from our labors.

Scripture lessons: Psalm 139: 1-18

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

**You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.**

Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

**Where can I go from your spirit?
Or where can I flee from your presence?**

**If I ascend to heaven, you are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"
even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.**

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

**Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.**

My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.

**How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.**

John 1: 43-51

Unison

1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
 2 in your day of loss and sor - row, in your
 3 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
 4 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the

bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for
 day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a

peace and jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless:
 love re - treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.
 word of Je - sus, "I must work while it is day."
 world that spurns him, of - f'ring peace from Cal - v'ry's hill.

5 Risen Lord, shall yet the city
 be the city of despair?
 Come today, our judge, our glory;
 be its name, "The Lord is there!"

Old Testament Lesson: 1 Samuel 3: 10-20..... Rev. Ginny Hege Tobiassen

Sermon - *Let the Light In*

Unison

1 How like a gen - tle spir - it deep with - in God
 2 Let God be God wher - ev - er life may be, let
 3 God like a moth - er ea - gle hov - ers near on
 4 When in our vain pre - ten - sions we con - spire to

reins our fer - vent pas - sions day by day, and gives us strength to
 ev - 'ry tongue bear wit - ness to the call; all hu - man - kind is
 might - y wings of pow - er man - i - fest; God like a gen - tle
 shape God's im - age as we see our own, hark to the voice a -

chal - lenge and to win de - spite the per - ils of our cho - sen way.
 one by God's de - cree; let God be God, let God be God for all.
 shep - herd stills our fear, and com - forts us a - gainst a peace - ful breast.
 bove our base de - sire; God is the sculp - tor, we the bro - ken stone.

5 Through all our fretful claims of sex and race
 the universal love of God shines through,
 for God is love transcending style and place
 and all the idle options we pursue.

Reflection on giving

The offertory provides an opportunity to reflect on the many ways that we can express our gratitude in response to God: with time, treasure, talents, and testimony.

For financial giving online:

Click the "Give Now" button on any page of the Home Church website. For more information, go to HomeMoravian.org/online-giving. You can make one-time or recurring gifts.

Use the Moravian Ministries Foundation giving portal at <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/>

Text HOME to 73256 on your phone.

Anthem - *God Be In My Head*Andrew Carter (1991)

Doxology

Offertory Prayer

Prayers for the Church and the WorldRev. Heil

1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when
 2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your
 3 We mark your saints, how they be - came in
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to -

once we heed your call: to live ac - cord - ing
 yoke is hard to bear, if world - ly pres - sures
 hin - dranc - es more sure, whose joy - ful vir - tues
 geth - er or a - lone, in old rou - tines or

to your word, and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored, that
 fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind its
 put to shame the cas - ual way we wear your name, and
 ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you - the

you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
 tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.
 by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.
 cross you hung up - on - all you en - deav - ored done.

Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude - *Wir Christenleut (We Christians All)*.....Setting by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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*The flowers* are placed in the sanctuary today by Cheryl and Gray Wilson in honor of their granddaughter, *Mary-Elizabeth Clement "Birdie" Gommel*, daughter of Dan and Lindsey Gommel, who reside in Berlin, Germany.

***We embrace in sympathy***

...the family of Kiki Teague, who died on January 11.

...Rev. Lynnette Delbridge on the loss of her father, Matthew Gay Delbridge, on January 12 in North Carolina.

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Learning opportunities are available following worship this morning.

CHILDREN:

After morning worship, there is a continuation of children's programming:

11:45 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.: Upper Elementary *God sees us...knows us...loves us (Psalm 139)*

Tweens Sunday School breakout session with Kernersville Moravian

YOUTH:

Youth Fellowship gathering begins at 2:00 pm; please contact Margaret Norris

(mnorris@homemoravian.org) for zoom link and other information

ADULTS:

- **Mission Focus** (sponsored by Scripture Encore): *A brief history of Moravian Missions and the Board of World Mission. What were our motivations, where did we go, what went well, what did not? Where are we today?* Rt. Rev. Chris Giesler, Director of Mission Engagement, Board of World Mission
- **Bible Discussion:** Galatians 3:15 and following
- **Faith Journeys:** *Living Into Community*

Tuesday, January 19:

Prayers for the Day, 8:00 am

Wednesday, January 20:

Wednesday Night Fellowship program: Racial Equity Panel: Health and Education

6:30p gather; program from 6:45p-7:45p

Thursday, January 21:

Prayers for the Night, 8:00 pm

To join by video,

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7460335693?pwd=NOs4Yk5yQktwbW9HM2xNUk5KYi9SQT09>.

To join by phone, call 1 (929) 205-6099 (Meeting ID: 7460335693; Passcode: 34568983).

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank our members for their financial commitment to support our church's ministries and programs. We are happy to report that as of January 10th, 272 commitments totaling \$698,865 have been made for 2021. Home Church is blessed by the generosity of its members. Your pledge allows the Board of Trustees to create, with integrity, a budget for the new year. Thank you!

If you requested envelopes for 2021 please contact the church office to make arrangements for pickup.

Church Council to Be Reset Again; Boards to Extend Service

November 1, 2020, was the Sunday intended for the annual council of the Home Moravian Church. The pandemic, of course, made a general meeting of the congregation impossible; and so a non-quorum of ten members met in the sanctuary that day to reset the date of council to March 7, 2021.

This date, set with hope and optimism, now seems beyond reach as well. For this reason, the Board of Elders has voted that the church withhold its council until October 24, 2021. (A small number of members will meet on March 7 to officially reset the council date.)

As board elections will not be held until that new council date, *all current members of the Board of Elders and the Board of Trustees have agreed to extend their terms by one year.* Members scheduled to step down at the end of 2020 will instead serve through 2021; those scheduled to step down in 2021 will serve through 2022; and so on.

The Board of Elders has elected new officers for 2021. Sister Kaky Berry now serves as vice chair, and sister Betty Cole as secretary. The Board is grateful to Sister Robyn Goslen for her two years as vice chair, and to Sarah Durham for her two years as secretary.

We continue to hope for a better day. We note with excitement that Home Church members in health care fields have reported receiving COVID vaccines, and that vaccination is expected to soon become more broadly available. May the months to come lead us to hope, to health, and to reunion.

--Ginny