



HOME MORAVIAN CHURCH

Welcome Home



HomeMoravian.org

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Founded 1771

Fulfilling Christ's call to love God, live in community, and serve our neighbor.

*"Let thine eye be opened toward this house night and day,
even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there."*

- Text for the day on which the Site of Salem was selected.

Salem Square
Winston-Salem, NC

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 21, 2025
MORNING WORSHIP – 10:00 A.M.

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: *Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we might be saved.* Psalm 80:19

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ...The Rev. Ginny Hege Tobiassen

PRELUDE: *I Wonder as I Wander*.....T. *Traditional*
Gregor BellChor and Jonathan Williams,
piano

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES.....The Vaala-Richardson Family

CALL TO WORSHIP

LITURGY: *Advent 2*, pp. 54-58

ADVENT 2

(Standing)

Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.

We will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and tell of God's deeds in songs of joy.

Awake, awake, you people of God, put on your festive garments.

For God has already clothed us with the garments of salvation and has covered us with the robe of righteousness.

The Holy One has delivered us and has become our salvation.

BRESLAU

All praise to you, e - ter - nal Lord, clothed in a
All this for us your love has done; by this to

garb of flesh and blood; choos-ing a man - ger
you our love is won; for this we sing through

for your throne, while worlds on worlds are yours a - lone.
all our days and shout our thanks in cease - less praise.

We give thanks to you, eternal God, for the Word in human form given to us in the child of Bethlehem.

The Word speaks to us in a way we cannot avoid:

Therefore, let us put aside the masks of pretended righteousness and confess our sins to God.

(Kneeling or sitting)

Gracious God, this Advent season stirs a longing to have Christ come alive within us, yet we allow ourselves to become enslaved to cynicism, selfishness, and greed. In a season for freely giving and receiving, we tend to live by debt and obligation. We rush from task to task, scarcely opening our eyes to the peace and beauty around us. We glory in the visions of the old man Zechariah in the temple, which were fulfilled in his wife, Elizabeth; but our ministry to the elderly in our midst falls short. We sing of One who was laid in a borrowed manger, but we ignore the poor and homeless among us. We decry the violence of a wicked king, yet we are too often silent in the face of abuse and injustice around us. For these and all our sins, forgive us, we pray, gracious God.

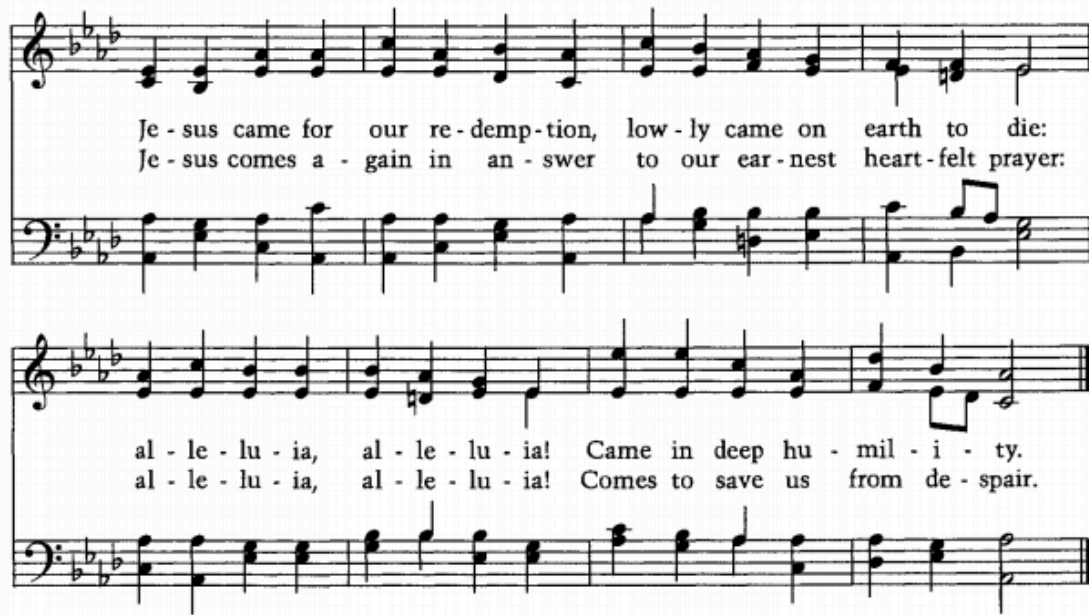
Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to them and proclaim that they have suffered long enough, that their penalty is paid, and their sins are forgiven.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. Christ Jesus gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify a people of his own. Thanks be to God!

(Standing)

JUDGMENT (585 A)

Je - sus came, a - dored by an - gels, came with peace from realms on high;
 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy, when our hearts are bowed with care;



Je - sus came for our re - demp - tion, low - ly came on earth to die:
 Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer to our ear - nest heart - felt prayer:

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.

55

ADVENT 2

We believe in Jesus Christ, God Incarnate, who lived among us as foretold by the prophets, who was descended from the royal line of David, and who was baptized in the Spirit of the Lord, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might.

He does not judge by what his eyes see, nor decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he judges the poor and decides with equity for the meek of the earth.

We believe in the coming reign of God when justice will be established in the earth.

How wonderful it is to see a messenger coming across the mountains who brings good news, the news of peace, who announces salvation, who says, "Your God reigns."

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

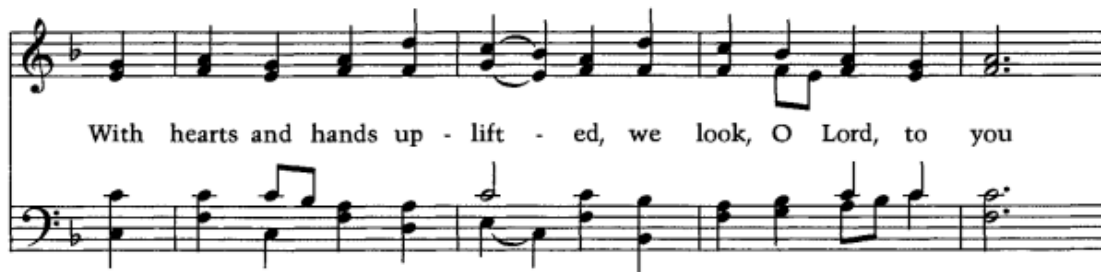
The earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

REJOICE [151 I]

Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear!

A - rise, the sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere!

ADVENT 2



With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we look, O Lord, to you

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in B-flat major (one flat). The treble staff contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.



for all the earth's re - demp - tion, cre - a - tion made a - new.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system, ending with a double bar line. The treble staff features a final melodic phrase, and the bass staff provides a supporting accompaniment.

(All may join in the following prayers of intercession,
or the service may proceed as the liturgist directs.)

(Sitting)

Christ, the Light of the world, empower us to shine as lights in this dark world of sin.

Christ, the Creative Word, by whom all things were made, lead us into good stewardship of creation that we and our children may preserve and enjoy the world entrusted to us.

Christ, the Living Truth, give us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that sees beyond temporal values to discern your truth and to declare it.

Christ, our Righteous Judge, give us courage to stand by the poor, the meek, and the oppressed; and strengthen our support for all who are their advocates.

Christ, the Lamb of God, send us forth as your ambassadors of reconciliation in a broken and troubled world; bring peace to the conflicts of nations, races, and tribes.

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that we might proclaim the mighty acts of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light. May our lives show forth that which we truly are. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.


ADVENT 2

(Standing)

May the Lord make us increase in love for one another and for all.

May the Holy Spirit strengthen us to become more like Christ as we eagerly await his coming.

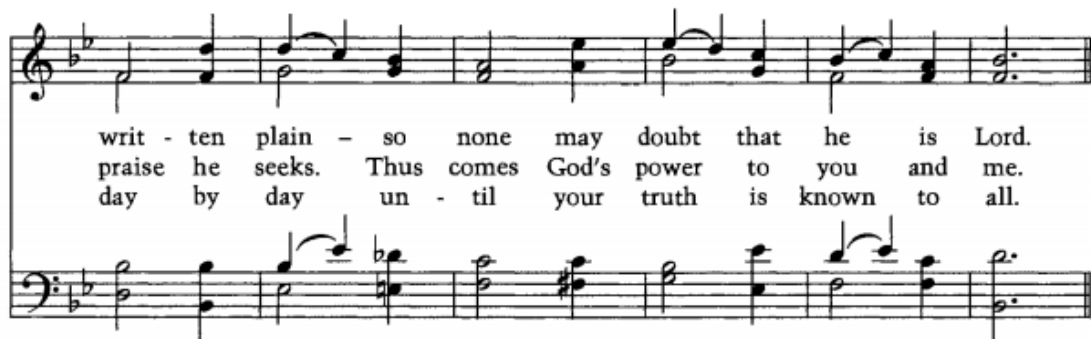
GERMANY (22 R)



We long for might - y signs of God - ca - the - dral,
But poor, in weak - ness, comes the Christ; his glo - ry
Not in our own strength, Lord, we move; your king - dom



mir - a - cle, and sword, his pow'r and glo - ry
gone, no king we see; a ser - vant Lord, no
falls not when we fall, but for - ward press - es



writ - ten plain - so none may doubt that he is Lord.
praise he seeks. Thus comes God's power to you and me.
day by day un - til your truth is known to all.

TEXT: © by Hermann I. Weinlick

SCRIPTURE:

Isaiah 7:10-16

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.

Stir up your might, and come to save us!

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.

Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Romans 1:1-7

During the next hymn, children aged 3 through 3rd grade may follow Children's Worship leaders to continue worship in CE-106. Visitors can check in Godly Play guests using the QR code found in the pews.

HYMN 302 - *Lo, How a Rose Is Growing*T. *Es ist ein Ros*

Lo, How a Rose Is Growing

1 Lo, how a rose is grow - ing, a bloom of fin - est grace;
 2 The rose of which I'm sing - ing, I - sa - iah had fore - told.
 3 The shep - herds heard the sto - ry the an - gels sang that night;
 4 This flow'r, so small and ten - der, with fra - grance fills the air;

the proph - ets had fore - told it: a branch of Jes - se's
 He came to us through Mar - y who shel - tered him from
 how Christ was born of Mar - y; he was the Son of
 his bright - ness ends the dark - ness that kept the earth in

race would bear one per - fect flow'r here in the
 cold. Through God's e - ter - nal will this child to
 light. To Beth - le - hem they ran to find him
 fear. True God and yet true man, he came to

cold of win - ter and dark - est mid - night hour.
 us was giv - en at mid - night calm and still.
 in the man - ger as an - gel her - alds sang.
 save his peo - ple from earth's dark night of sin.

TEXT: German, 15th cent. Tr Gracia Grindal (b. 1943)

Text ©1978 by Lutheran Book of Worship. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

TUNE: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesang (1599). Harm. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621), alt.

7.6.7.6.6.7.6.

ES IST EIN ROS

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 1:18-25The Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood

SERMON: *God with Us*

HYMN 271 - *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*T. Picardy

ADVENT

271 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

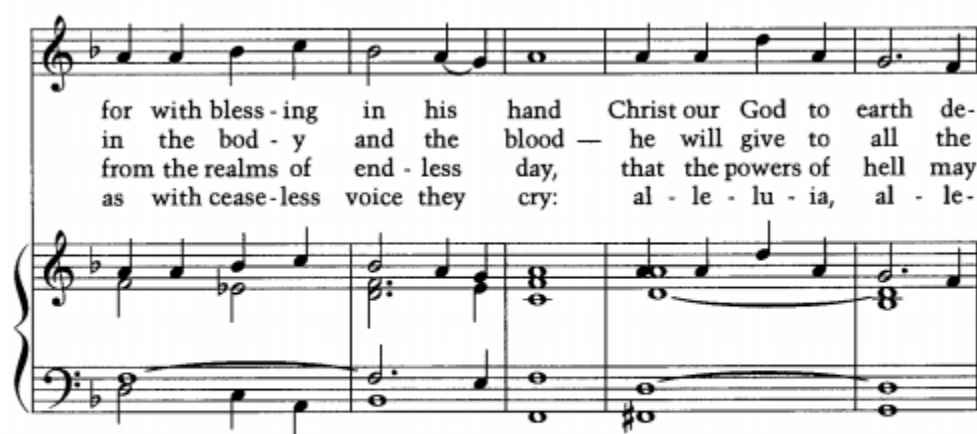
Unison



1 Let all mor-tal flesh keep si-lence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar-y, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav-en spreads its van-guard
 4 At his feet the six-winged ser-aph; cher-u-bim, with



trem-bling stand, pon-der noth-ing earth-ly mind-ed,
 earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu-man ves-ture —
 on the way, as the Light of light de-scend-ing
 sleep-less eye, veil their fac-es to the pres-ence,



for with bless-ing in his hand Christ our God to earth de-
 in the bod-y and the blood — he will give to all the
 from the realms of end-less day, that the powers of hell may
 as with cease-less voice they cry: al-le-lu-ia, al-le-

TEXT: From the *Liturgy of St. James*. Tr. Gerard Moultrie (1864)
 TUNE: Trad. French melody

8.7.8.7.8.7.
 PICARDY

ADVENT



PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY INVITATION.....Rev. Tobiasen

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: Use the Moravian Ministries Foundation giving portal at <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/>. Click the DONATE tab on any page of the Home Church website. For more information, go to homemoravian.org/donate. You can make one-time or recurring gifts. Text HOME to 73256 on your phone.

ANTHEM: *E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come*.....

.....Paul Manz (1957)

Home Church Choir

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sins, who loved us all and shed his blood that we might be saved be. Sing holy, holy, to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was and is and is to come. Sing holy, holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming, is coming soon. E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; they need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their all!

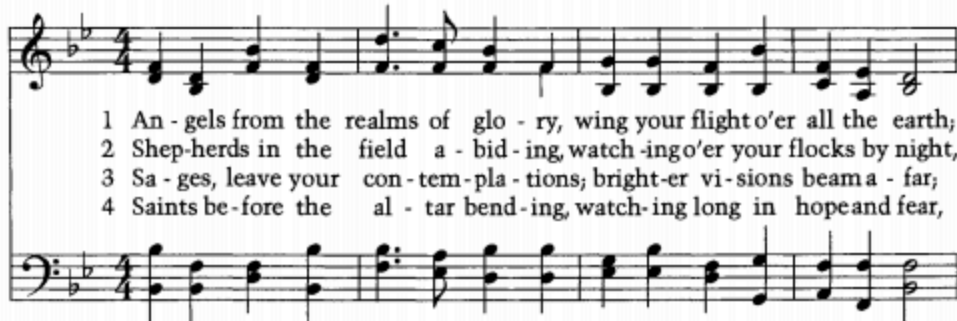
DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

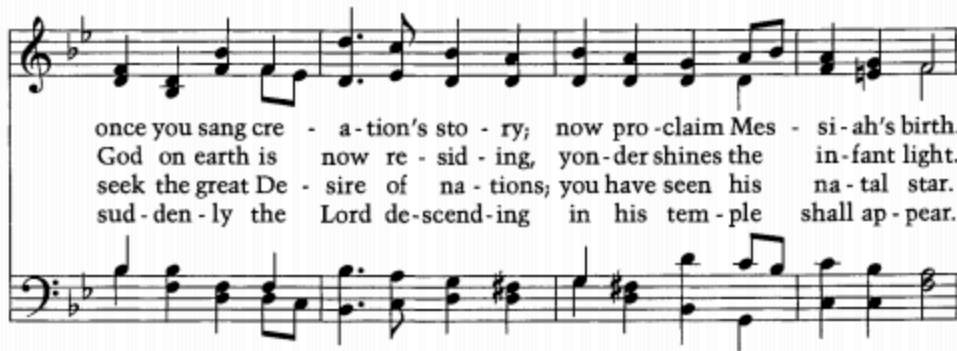
PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD.....Rev. Dr. Atwood

HYMN 293 - *Angels from the Realms of Glory*....T. Regent Square

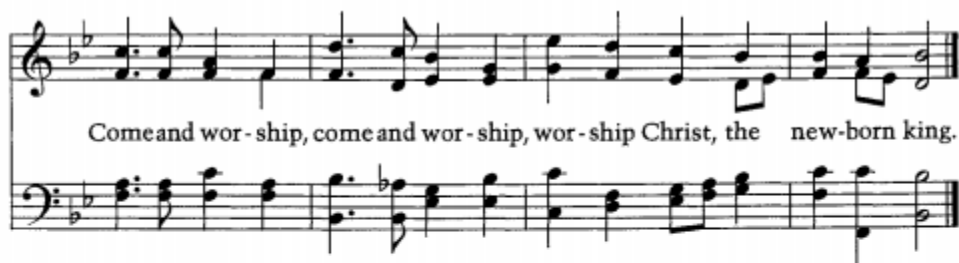
Angels from the Realms of Glory 293



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep-herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions beam a - far,
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry; now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
God on earth is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great De - sire of na - tions; you have seen his na - tal star.
sud - den - ly the Lord de - scend - ing in his tem - ple shall ap - pear.



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

- 5 All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to th'eternal Three in One.

TEXT: St. 1-4 James Montgomery (1815); st. 5 *Salisbury Hymn Book* (1857)
TUNE: Henry Thomas Smart (1867)

8.7.8.7.8.7.
REGENT SQUARE (585 D)

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Hymn 832 - *The Grace of Our Lord*

*While singing, we extend the right hand of fellowship.
Those who wish may exit as the postlude begins.*

SERVICE MUSIC

832 **The Grace of Our Lord**

The grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ, and the love of

God, and the com - mu - nion of the Ho - ly Spir - it,

be with us all, be with us all. A - men.

TEXT: 2 Corinthians 13:13
TUNE: Christian Gregor (1763)

Irregular
(540 E)

POSTLUDE:

Fantasia on "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel".....

..... T. *Veni Emmanuel*

Alec Rowley (1892-1958)

SUNDAY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP, CE-106, 10:20 a.m. (aged 3 through 3rd grade),
Meeting the Christ Child

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES WILL NOT MEET TODAY. Please join us for the HMC Family

CALENDAR

| | | |
|-------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday | - 10:00 am | Worship Service |
| | 11:00 am | Moravian Candle Sale, Saal Door |
| | 5:00 pm | Home Church Family Lovefeast |
| Wednesday | - 11:00 am | Children's Lovefeast |
| | 2:30 pm | Lovefeast (nursery provided) |
| | 5:00 pm | Lovefeast (nursery provided) |
| | 7:45 pm | Lovefeast |
| Thursday | - | Christmas Day, Church Closed |
| Next Sunday | - 10:00 am | Worship Service |

Announcements

We extend a cordial welcome to all visitors this morning and invite you to join us again whenever possible. Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register, pass it both ways in your pew, and greet those near you. After the service, pick up a beverage in the serving room off the Sanctuary, and enjoy fellowship.

The poinsettias used in the decorations are placed in the Sanctuary in loving memory of *Roy C. and Ester Hampton Haberkern, Roy C. Jr. and Carlotta "Tota" Haberkern, Anthony H. Whitaker, Mary A. Hampton, and Anna L. Rights* by the family.

The narcissi are placed in the Sanctuary as part of the Christmas decorations in loving memory of *Mr. and Mrs. C. T. "Clarence and Margaret" Leinbach, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. C.T. "Ted and Kaka" Leinbach, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. L.B. "Brick and Kafoo" Leinbach, Mr.*

W. J. "Bill" Leinbach, Mr. and Mrs. P.H. "Paul and Margaret" Kolb, Margaret Leinbach Hawkins, Mark Edward Hepler, Kathryn Leinbach Brown, and Caroline Leinbach Woo by the family.

The wreaths are placed on the outside doors of the Sanctuary in loving memory of *I.B. and Mary Southerland* by I.B. and Carol Southerland and their family.

MORAVIAN DAILY TEXTS 2026

Pre-ordered copies of the 2026
Daily Texts have arrived!

- **Monday – Friday:** pick up in the church office during regular business hours.
- **Sunday Morning:** check the cart in the hallway outside the office.

Pay at time of pickup.

(Amount due is listed on your order.)

A few additional copies are available for purchase in the office during the week!



Additional Announcements

Moravian Unity Prayer Watch - Home Moravian Church will participate in the worldwide Unity Prayer Watch on **January 1, 12:01–8:00 a.m.** Sign up for a 15- or 30-minute prayer time in the church vestibule or call the office to reserve a slot. Join this unbroken chain of prayer as we welcome the new year.

Contribute Your Holiday Décor and More! We are collecting gently used household items, Moravian-themed goods, holiday decorations, antiques, and other treasures for the annual “Stuff Sale.” Donations may be brought to the church during regular business hours. Please call the office before dropping off to ensure someone is available to assist you. With your support, we can make the 2026 sale another great success.

The Epiphany Sunday School Class will begin meeting on Sunday, January 4 at 11:15 AM in Room CE-101. Sponsored by the HMC World Missions Team, the class will feature a series of guest speakers addressing topics related to Moravian mission efforts around the world. For more information, please contact Mallie Graham.

Watchnight Service, Wednesday, December 31, 8:00

p.m.: This one-hour service of Holy Communion will be shared at St. Philips Moravian Church. Angelica Regalado-Cieza, pastor of Fries Memorial Moravian Church, will speak. **All band members are invited to assemble for the prelude 30 minutes prior worship.**

Large print bulletins are available. See an usher for details.

Youth News: Merry Christmas, everyone! No PH today. I hope you'll all enjoy the Lovefeast this evening!

Scripture Meditation 12/21/2025

"Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name." – Psalm 80:18

I spent most of last week in Montenegro, a country that I've wanted to visit for years, and I was awestruck by the natural beauty there. But more than the picturesque mountains and nice beaches, the most significant experience was a visit to Ostrog Monastery. Etched out of stone and covered in marble by Serbian Orthodox monks in the 1600s, the building is embedded into a cliffside, overlooking a steep valley and the river that cuts through it.

The visit was a special experience. It was moving to think about the faith of the monks who created the monastery almost 400 years ago. Chiseling stone away from the cliffside and dragging blocks of marble from the valley below, they created it all by hand.

During those long days of hard labor with basic meals and no pay, did they ever think, "You know what? Maybe this isn't worth all the trouble." The thought certainly would have crossed my mind; yet these men spent decades of their life to create a place for themselves and others to worship and celebrate God.

Today the monastery is a pilgrimage site for many members of the Orthodox church. Hundreds of thousands visit each year, and some walk fifty miles from the capital city, Podgorica, to worship there. The monks' sacrifice, dedication, and service to God gave me and millions of others a profound and serene place to talk to God, and I'm grateful for and inspired by the strength of their faith.
– Philip



Christmas Eve Schedule:

Wednesday, Dec. 24 | Sanctuary

- 11:00AM - Children's Lovefeast
- 2:30PM- Lovefeast (Nursery opens at 2:00PM)
- 5:00PM - Lovefeast (Nursery opens at 4:30PM)
- 7:45PM - Lovefeast



Southern Province New Year's Eve Watchnight Service

**December 31, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.
St. Philips Moravian Church**

**A service of Holy Communion sponsored by
the Southern Province of the Moravian Church in America**

All are invited to a Southern Province Watchnight Service, Wednesday, December 31, at 8:00 p.m. This one-hour service of Holy Communion will be shared at St. Philips Moravian Church in the Salem Historic District (911 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem). Angelica Regalado-Cieza, Pastor of Fries Memorial Moravian Church, will preach. John Jackman, Pastor of Trinity Moravian Church, will serve as worship leader.

**All band members are asked to assemble
for a prelude 30 minutes prior to worship.**



“Still I Am A Child” (Joseph’s Prayer)

In the nativity narratives of Matthew and Luke, Joseph is always present, but he’s quiet. What was Joseph feeling, and what was Joseph’s prayer at this time of personal crisis and confusion, followed by a reassuring visit by an angel . . . in a dream?! Suddenly, his engagement to Mary is still on! Suddenly, he has become the father to Emmanuel, God is with us, the infant child they are to name Jesus. This is no small sudden reversal, and no small responsibility, honor, and joy. Perhaps in all of this Joseph felt like most new parents do, “Who am I to take on this privilege, when I don’t feel like I’ve fully grown up?”

Everyone, gather ‘round / The infant child with kisses crown
When the morning came / Somehow we had made Him smile
Placed my hands, like a baby bird / The hope of God’s own love secured
As the morning sang / Still I am a child
I don’t know any angel songs / But what I bring is my hope to belong
Lonely one, lost and found / Silent night, a joyful sound
When the morning came / Somehow you have made them smile
In my heart, little lamb / The light of God’s own loving plan
As the morning sang / Still I am a child
I don’t know any angel psalms / But what I bring is my hope to belong
Strong Mary sleep, heavy eyes / The child you hold now holds our lives
As the morning came / Somehow he will make us smile
On my lips, Word of life / The sound of peace, end our strife
As the morning sang / Jesus is his name, beautiful child
As we wake this day / With every time and place
To hold this child / Mmm, we smile. Mmmm.



Scan the QR code for music &
more on this song.

Dust of the Saints (David Melby-Gibbons & Brian Dixon)
Tricklebee Café, Milwaukee, Wisconsin;
Emmaus Moravian Church, Emmaus, Pennsylvania

The Moravian Church
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2025



Virginia Hege Tobiasen, *Pastor* Craig Atwood, *Associate Pastor*
Glenn Siebert, *Director of Music* Jonathan Williams, *Organist*
Becky Hodges, *Director of Christian Formation*
Philip Montgomery, *Youth Ministry Coordinator*
529 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101, 336-722-6171
home1771@homemoravian.org www.homemoravian.org
(10 a.m. Morning Worship is broadcast on WSJS-AM 600)