

Ephraim Moravian Church

Epiphany of the Lord

January 3rd, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Order of Service

“Meditation on Bach’s First Prelude” – by J.S. Bach/Charles Gounod

Welcome & Announcements

“A Cradle in Bethlehem” – by Al Bryan and Lawrence Stock

Watchword for the Epiphany: ‘Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you’ – Isaiah 60:1

Hymn #322 **“From a Distant Home”**

From a distant home the Savior we come seeking
Using as our guide the star so brightly beaming
Lovely Eastern star that tells us of God's morning
Heaven's wondrous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest in the Son of Heaven
And upon the earth be peace and love to all!

Glowing gold I bring the newborn babe so holy
Token of his power to reign above in glory
Lovely Eastern star that tells us of God's morning
Heaven's wonderous light, O never cease thy shining!
Glory in the highest to the Son of Heaven
And upon the earth be peace and love to all!

Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

Congregational Sung Response (#71, Red Hymnal)

*Light of the world, into our hearts, let your full glory shine
That we may follow now your star, until we reach your shrine. Amen.*

“Some Children See Him” – by Alfred Burt

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 60: 1-6
Matthew 12: 1-12

Reflection

“Who Would Imagine a King?” – by Mervyn Warren and Haller in Hilton Hill

Sermon

“Elves” (Translated: “Elves”) - by Joseph Bonnet (1922)

Benediction

“Good Christians All, Rejoice” – Traditional German Carol, Arr. Lani Smith

Reflection: Keep it Simple

Growing up, Sundays had a comfortable and predictable routine...church in the morning at First Lutheran in Humboldt, Iowa, followed by at Foodland, a little store in a house, to buy the Des Moines Register. Then it was home for a fried chicken dinner. Soon, the Sunday paper was all over the living room floor. Except for necessary chores, no other farming was done. Neighboring farmers who worked on Sundays were doomed to have corn growing among the soybeans. The only guilt-producing thing was that, if for some reason we were not in church on Sunday morning it was considered inappropriate to do much of anything else, certainly not away from the house. Sunday was meant as a family day. It was Sabbath.

We are reminded to “Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy”. That means stepping away from the business of life and keeping it set apart. Sabbath is meant for self-care and renewal. The Sabbath commandment doesn’t demand we make it a day of drudgery. The Lord’s Day isn’t designed for us to swell with pride over rigid practices. It’s not a time to say “my Sabbath is duller than your Sabbath!”

Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath and He intends to make it a happy day. Our Lord is with us in our “holy laziness” and blesses our time with loved ones and friends. So take a sabbatical, everyone. Enjoy this gift from God!

- Pastor Dan G. Olson

Pastor.....Dawn E. Volpe
Music Director.....Colin Welford
Guest Musicians.....Cynthia Stiehl, Allie Babich, Hal Halvorsen



Ephraim Moravian Church
P.O. Box 73, Ephraim, WI 54211
(920) 854-2804
worship@ephraimmoravian.org
Website: www.ephraimmoravian.org