

Ephraim Moravian Church
Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
31st January, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

Order of Service

Welcome & Announcements

“Concerto in C Major” – by J.S. Bach

Ephraim Moravian Watchword for the Year: *The Lord said, “I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go”* – Psalm 32:8

Hymn #521: “Sun of Righteousness”

Sun of righteousness arise
Dawn upon our clouded skies
Shine within your church today
That the world may see and say
‘Have mercy, Lord.’

Wake your sleeping church to live
Not afraid our all to give
Let the mighty acts of God
Spread through all the world abroad
Have mercy, Lord.

Open gates for souls to find
Your true way with heart and mind
Come with all your gentle might
Bringing light to darkest night
Have mercy, Lord.

Prayers of the Church & The Lord’s Prayer

Congregational Sung Response (#71 in 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.*

Scripture Reading: Psalm 32

Reflection

“Plainte” from “Suite Brève” – by Jean Langlais

Sermon

Benediction

“Pièce sur des Airs Populaires Flamands” – by Nadia Boulanger

Reflection - Confession is Good for the Soul

Recently I had doctor’s appointment to continue treatment for a chronic condition that never seems to improve. You might say I was loaded for bear because I wasn’t a happy camper. Then things got bad. In my shy sort of way I made it perfectly clear that I was getting no help. I informed them I was being poorly treated and they weren’t terribly concerned about it. It wasn’t a pretty picture.

I stomped out of the clinic convinced I had accomplished my purpose. For a day or two I enjoyed my anger. But then! At the prompting of the Spirit my guilty conscience went into overdrive. I realized I had made a fool out of myself and wouldn’t have been surprised if I was invited not to come back. I had a follow-up visit with that same provider a few days later and I didn’t look forward to our meeting. The whole situation tortured me until the day I went into the examining room and sheepishly said I was truly sorry and asked for forgiveness. The relief I felt in that moment was overwhelming!

If only I’d had Psalm 32 in mind that day: *“Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord’, and you forgave me the guilt of my sin.”* I learned, and probably not for the last time, that walking in God’s Word and living it sheds light unto our path and overwhelms our darkness. Oh, by the way, The Medical Provider and I are still friends!

- Pastor Dan G. Olson

Pastor.....Dawn E. Volpe
Music Director.....Colin Welford

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