A Service of Remembrance In Gratitude for the lives of all those who have served our Nation Ephraim Moravian Cemetery

May 30, 2021

Welcome & Prayer

Amazing Grace how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Responsive Reading:

Almighty God, enthroned above all, you alone are God over the nations of the earth. Even the planets, the stars and the galaxies are placed by your hand.

Where could we go from your Spirit? Where could we flee from your presence? If we go up to the heavens, you are there; if we go down into the caves of the earth or the depths of the sea, you are there.

God of all creation, we sing praises to your name; we stand jubilant before your glory, power, and beauty.

God of certainty, God of truth, our confidence is in you and in you alone.

Yet we live in a fallen world and we are an imperfect people. *Our world is filled with pain and alienation.*

We know of illness when body or mind is failing, and the loneliness of spirit it brings.

We know of separation from parent or child, from friend or neighbor, and the emptiness of life it brings.

We know of war's devastation and the unspeakable loss of life it brings *Hear our prayer for peace among all nations.*

We pray that one day swords will be hammered into plow-shares, that all nations will study war no more.

This is our fervent prayer.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Reading: Sleeping in the Forest, by Mary Oliver

A prayer of Remembrance & The Lord's Prayer

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace. Amen.

Reading: In Flanders Field, by John McCrae

Abide with me; fast falls the even-tide; the darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee; help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need your presence every passing hour, what but your grace Can foil the tempter's power? Who like yourself my guide and strength can be? Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

Reading: Hebrews 11: 13 – 16

Meditation

Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear; And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free And perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

Benediction

We invite you to take a spray of flowers and place it on the grave of a veteran.

Please take a bagel for the road!

At 10 a.m. today, a special pre-recorded service will be available on Facebook - a majestic organ piece coupled with inspirational words in honor of Memorial Day