

Ephraim Moravian Church

PO Box 73 - Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211

Phone: 920-854-2804

Third Sunday in Lent - March 20, 2022

Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.

PASTOR:.....The Rev. Dawn E. Volpe
MINISTERS:.....Members of the Congregation
MUSIC DIRECTOR:.....Colin Welford
SUBSTITUTE ORGANIST:.....Barbara Classen
SECRETARY:.....Diane Kirkland

Serving the Community Since 1853

Call to Worship: Ringing of the Bell

Prelude: “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain” (tune: Holy Mountain)

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn #329 “Beneath the Cross of Jesus,” v. 1 & 3

Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 55: 1 – 9, Luke 13: 1 - 9

Sermon

Hymn #783 “Amazing Grace,” v. 1 - 4

Responsive Reading: Psalm 63

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;

My flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

When I think of you on my bed and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

For you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”– Amanda & Cana Mittermann

Prayers of the Church, The Lord’s Prayer

Response: *Savior, now with contrite hearts we approach your throne of love, asking pardon for our sins, peace and comfort from above. You once suffered on the cross to atone for sinners’ guilt; may we never, Lord, forget that for us your blood was spilled. Amen.*

Benediction

Postlude: “Solemn March” – by Charles-Marie Widor

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. – Isaiah 55:6

MONDAY: Pastor’s Sabbath

SUNDAY: 10:30 a.m. Worship

WELCOME to Ephraim Moravian Church. Our Nursery is open for children under the age of 4.

EPHRAIM MORAVIAN CHURCH is the ‘Church of the Open Door.’ We hope you find our church open to you in every way!

MOTTO OF THE MORAVIAN CHURCH: In Essentials, Unity, In Non-Essentials, Liberty, In All Things, Love.

EPHRAIM MORAVIAN WATCHWORD 2022: The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. – James 3:17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to Ken Carlson, for bringing the message to us this morning, and to Barbara Classen, for accompanying the service, and to Amanda and Cana Mittermann for singing today!

What do you think God wants for you?

Today's scripture reading from the prophet Isaiah seems out of place in the middle of the Lenten season, a time when Christian tradition emphasizes giving up things we enjoy as a reminder of all that Jesus gave up for us. It is also a good time to remember that Jesus came into the world as a human being to teach us what abundant life can be like, even in the most stark, harsh realities.

Consider all the beautiful images we have of Jesus spending time with friends, his disciples and family, gathered around the table, sharing meals and time together. It is a little surprising to remember that Jesus never had a home of his own once he started his public ministry. He relied on the kindness of those who supported him and his work to provide the most basic necessities of life: food and shelter. His world was harsh, brutal, and dangerous, but he lived an extravagant life in his relationships.

God provides so extravagantly for us too, in both physical and spiritual ways. We are blessed with varieties of work, food, drink, natural landscapes, architecture, and artistic expressions that delight all of our senses. God provides, and gives us the freedom to choose what we like.

Spiritual provision abounds in our scriptures, the lives of our ancestors, the prayers we hear, speak and sing. The Lord's Prayer is an abiding treasure we say together each week, reminding us that God's presence and forgiveness never end.

While sacrificing something we enjoy, that we may also take for granted, can be quite freeing, it can be an act of repentance that creates a path to something more than we ever imagined. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

God has simple pleasures and big dreams for us and is happy to abundantly share it all.

--Rev. Cory Kemp

"You Belong" Ministry

We are pleased to welcome **Rev. Greg Behrend** to our church on Sunday, April 24. He will lead us in worship that day.

Greg has initiated a new ministry in the Western District, "You Belong," a ministry of inclusion, especially for families of 'Special Needs' children. We are supporting this effort by collecting the following items which Pastor Greg will use to put together family care packages. Please purchase new:

Baby Wipes
Diapers (size 1-3)
Pull-Ups (size 2T-5T)
Footie PJs (size newborn-5T)
Baby Bottles
Sippy Cups
Small Stuffed Animals



Please bring any of these items to church between now and April 24 so we can support his ministry! There will be a collection basket in Fellowship Hall.