

# Ephraim Moravian Church

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[www.ephraimmoravian.org](http://www.ephraimmoravian.org)

Sixth Sunday of Easter - May 22, 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

Ringling of the Bell

**Prelude** “Where’er You Walk” – by Handel

Welcome & Announcements

**Hymn #550** “To God be the Glory”

**Responsive Reading, Psalm 67**

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

*Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

*Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

*May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.*

Prayers of the Church, The Lord’s Prayer

**Congregational Sung Response: (825)**

*Hear our Prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord,*

*Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace. Amen.*

Scripture Lessons: Revelation 21: 10, 22 – 22:5, John 14: 23 – 29

Sermon

**Hymn #559** “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Benediction

**Postlude** “Prelude in F Major” – by J.S. Bach

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**WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK:** Jesus said, ‘Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you.’ John 14:27

<b><u>TODAY:</u></b>	2:00 p.m.	Colin & Friends Concert
<b><u>MONDAY:</u></b>		Pastor’s Sabbath
<b><u>SUNDAY:</u></b>	9:00 a.m.	Memorial service at the Cemetery
	9:30 a.m.	Refreshments
	10:30 a.m.	Worship

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**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**

**THANKS** ...to all who spring-cleaned the inside of the church last Friday...and to Barbara Classen for substituting on the organ today!

**A Slice of Heaven – Reflection by Kathleen Harris**  
**Revelation 21: 10 and 22: 22-25**

Who remembers taking a bite of their favorite pie only to exclaim, “This is a slice of heaven!”? Today’s reading from the Book of Revelation shows us a slice of heaven. According to some Bible scholars, the words are mystic metaphors of a post-apocalyptic world. Written in the first century, at a time and place when people in authority violently persecuted Christians, Revelation tells us that behind earthly chaos God is in control, as is the slain Lamb (Rev 5:6).

Revelation’s “end time” culminates with a return to the beginning. Vivid descriptions of “the holy city Jerusalem” symbolize the qualities good people will experience in the new earth and the new heaven. The gates will always be open and open to all. Depraved cruelty and wicked lies cannot enter. The temple is gone, for God is ever present. The servants, the people, worship and know God for they “see his face” clearly; it is illuminated by God through a lamp, Jesus the Lamb. With such glorious light, the sun and moon are no longer needed to dispel crippling darkness. Eden’s tree of life is there, too, with abundant fruit. It grows alongside a sparkling river that flows from the throne of God, as well as the Lamb, right through the center of the holy city. The tree’s leaves provide “healing for the nations.”

Revelation offers us a future of eternal bliss, but first we must slog through the sometimes confusing, sometimes joyful present of earth-bound lives. In the words of Revelation, we can turn away from worldly “dragons and beasts” and instead choose love and wisdom. As servants of God with the Lamb as our light, we can one day walk through open gates into a renewed world.

Sources: Working Preacher, Ronald J Allen, 2019 and Sermon Writer, Rev. Charles Hoffacker, 2006.



**COLIN & FRIENDS CONCERTS**

Our “**COLIN & FRIENDS**” concert series begins! Colin will be joined by various accomplished musical guests to perform works of instrumental, vocal, piano and organ music at the Ephraim Moravian Church. The inaugural concert is

**TODAY** at 2:00 p.m.

Continuing our exciting celebration of the music of Florence Price, this concert features pianist Betsy DiFelice (a regular with the New Jersey Symphony and the New York Philharmonic, and who for 35 years led the piano department at Princeton University), and our own beloved Cynthia Stiehl, mezzo-soprano.



The program contrasts with that of the concert on May 13<sup>th</sup>, and explores a different aspect of Florence Price’s music; her songs and piano works, including her arrangements for four-hand piano. Cyndy will also sing songs by Dvorak. Framing the concert will be two major organ works: J.S. Bach’s celebrated masterpiece, the “**Passacaglia and Fugue in C Minor**,” and the fascinating, rambunctious **Organ Sonata No.1** of Florence Price, written some 200 years later.

**Admission for this concert is \$22, in cash or by check, at the door. THERE IS STILL SPACE AVAILABLE; WE HOPE YOU CAN COME!**