

Ephraim Moravian Church

PO Box 73 - Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211

Phone: 920-854-2804

www.ephraimmoravian.org

CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST - August 21, 2022

Morning Worship, 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

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

Serving the Community Since 1853

Ringling of the Bell

**** “Christmas Chimes” – by Dezso d’Antalfy Zsiross**

Welcome & Announcements

The Christmas Liturgy, p. 59 - 60

Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 9: 1 – 7; Luke 1: 46 – 55

Hymn #286: “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Sermon

**** “O Holy Night” - by Adolphe Adam. Dennis Fort, Tenor**

Prayers of the Church, The Lord’s Prayer

Congregational Sung Response: (To the tune: “Away in a Manger”)

Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name!

Your kingdom among us, your will done the same

By mortals and angels; Come, Lord reign alone.

Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven’s high throne. Amen

Benediction

**** “In Dulci Jubilo” – Chorale Fantasia, by J.S. Bach**

****10:30 Service**

A CHRISTMAS THOUGHT: *There must be always remaining in every life, some place for the singing of angels, some place for that which in itself is breathless and beautiful. – Howard Thurman*

MONDAY:

Pastor’s Sabbath

WEDNESDAY: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Steve Schuder Memorial

- Village Hall

SUNDAY:

8 & 10:30 a.m.

Worship Services

WELCOME to Ephraim Moravian Church. Our Nursery is open for children under the age of 4. Weather permitting, coffee and snacks for a time of fellowship on our church lawn (under the maple tree).

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

MANY THANKS to Dennis Fort for adding his talents to our service this morning!

DEARLY DEPARTED, our annual Cemetery Walk, is scheduled for Monday, September 12! There will be two tours at the cemetery with three of our historical figures portrayed at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., with hymn playing by Colin Welford (and explanation of the hymns by Karen Ekberg) at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. in the church. Put it on your calendar!

The Lord Has Come – Rev. Cory Kemp

The word magnify means to make something appear larger than it is. The object being viewed doesn't change shape or character, but it does change the viewer.

My dad always carried a small magnifying glass in his pocket. He had several, and they were all about the size of the palm of his hand, hinged between soft, protective leather covers. He could retrieve it quickly when he needed to examine something more closely or read finer print than his eyesight allowed. Such a simple thing, really, but it expanded his world, making accessible what otherwise would have remained unavailable.

The word magnify can also mean to extol or glorify, as Mary does in praising God for the great blessing of bearing the Christ child, he whom Isaiah had called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

For this special Christmas celebration today, I believe a bit of both meanings for magnify are accurate and important.

When Mary proclaimed, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior," she was praising and glorifying God who had done great things, not just for her, but for all people, particularly the poor, the oppressed and the downtrodden. And, in lifting up her praises, she was making God appear larger than God had appeared before. God's shape and character had not changed, but Mary's vision, hope and faith, her love for God, became more accessible and more available to her.

Mary's words are the familiar entryway to the season of Advent, the beginning of the church year, a time of peace and joy that fills us with God's presence among us. As we celebrate an extra bit of Christmas this summer morning, may our souls magnify God along with Mary today, and may our spirits rejoice with hers in God our Savior.