

Ephraim Moravian Church

PO Box 73 - Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211

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www.ephraimmoravian.org

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost - August 28, 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
GUEST MUSICIAN:.....Carol Boyd and Beth Coleman

Serving the Community Since 1853

Ringling of the Bell

****Prelude: "Come Thou Almighty King/I Love Your Kingdom Lord" - arr. Michael Burkhardt**

Welcome & Announcements

Hymn #555 "Come Now, Almighty King"

Scripture Lessons: Hebrews 12: 18 – 29; Luke 13: 10 – 17

Hymn #646 "Lord Speak to Me, that I May Speak"

Sermon

Liturgy for Peace & Justice, p. 148 – 149

Prayers of the Church, The Lord's Prayer

Congregational Sung Response: (745)

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer.

When I call answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.

O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me. Amen.

Benediction

****Postlude: "Simple Gifts" arr. John Carter**

****10:30 Service**

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: Let mutual love continue- Hebrews 13:1

<u>TODAY:</u>	2:00 p.m.	Colin & Friends Concert
<u>MONDAY:</u>		Pastor's Sabbath
<u>SUNDAY:</u>	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service

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

WELCOME BACK to Carol Boyd (8:00 a.m.) and Beth Coleman. We are so grateful for their ministry of music.

COLIN & FRIENDS will be performing this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$22. at the door.

THE PASTOR will be on Sabbatical from September 1 - 30, which will include a trip to Europe to experience the Passion Play at Oberammergau, Germany. The pulpit will be supplied by Pastors from various denominations including Baptist, Lutheran, Catholic and Moravian!

Reflection – Rev. Cory Kemp

Consider the joy of a woman healed of a crippling spirit after eighteen years of suffering. Happening upon Jesus teaching in the synagogue, she is called over by the Lord, who had seen her and wanted to help her. And so he did. Healing her of this debilitating illness not only restored her life, it restored the hope of everybody present... Well, almost everybody.

While the woman praised God and the assembled crowd rejoiced at all the wonderful things Jesus had done, “The leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, ‘There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.’”

It is easy to blame them, the religious leadership, for trying to silence Jesus, mitigate his work, and keep the people in line, obedient to them for less than stellar reasons. It is important to understand that their job was to hold steady and pass on their religion to the next generation, intact and whole, as had been done for them, and for generations before them. Under constant threat from Roman rule which barely tolerated their existence, keeping their people under control by following religious sabbath rituals and worship, was part of the protection they offered, curiously odd as it appears to us today. Jesus pointing out that their own indiscretions did not help their cause was uncomfortable, one of many missteps in which they damaged their own credibility. Theirs was not an easy existence.

But Jesus offered their people something too, a vision of what was to come. “Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.” Seeing the vision, holding it for them until they could begin to see it themselves, still required living in the present moment because that was where the work needed to be done that would create it. Holding onto what already was, what had always been, was often easier, and frequently less terrifying. But worshipping our God demanded, and continues to demand, moving through the ease, the terror; trusting with reverence and awe that God’s power is always steadfast, faithful and loving. God’s love is unshakable.