

# Ephraim Moravian Church

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

First Sunday of Advent - November 27, 2022

Morning Worship, 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

## **‘Lo, how a Rosebud Springing’ – Advent Chorale Prelude by Johannes Brahms**

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome & Announcements

## **‘Gott, durch deine Güte’ – Advent Chorale Prelude by J.S. Bach**

Lighting of the First Candle of Advent

## **Hymn #271: “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”**

## **Liturgy for Advent, p. 49**

Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 2: 1 – 5, Romans 13: 11 – 14  
Matthew 24: 36 - 44

Sermon

Offertory: **‘Pastorale’ – by Percy Whitlock**

Doxology & Prayer

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

## **‘Pæan’ – by Percy Whitlock**

**WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK:** “Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord” – Isaiah 2:5

**MONDAY:** Pastor’s Sabbath  
**SATURDAY:** ADVENTure & Christmas Organ/Piano Concert  
**SUNDAY:** 9:00 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service/Communion

**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**

**DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>** – See the insert on our wonderful ADVENTure this coming Saturday from 11-2! Colin’s Christmas Concert is at 5:45 p.m. On the bulletin boards there is a list of other events in Christmas in the Village that day.

Sister Bay Moravian is holding an open house on Sunday, December 4, from 2-5 p.m. There will be a bake sale, soup sale, attic treasures, free coffee/cider, with Advent Lessons and Carols at 4 p.m.

**SURPRISE! – Kathleen Harris**  
Romans 13: 11-14, Matthew 24: 36-44

One hot summer day last August I had the surprise of a lifetime. There I was, sprawled on the couch like rogue ramen from yesterday's noodle bowl, minding my own business. I was thinking un-Jesus-like thoughts about Door County tourists when I found a real leftover noodle in between the cushions. "My dog is a slob," I said, shifting the blame. Suddenly a crunching sound floated through the window screen. "Dagnabbit," I muttered. "What moron is turning around in my gravel driveway?"

Standing up, I peeked through blue sheers and watched two old people disembark from a car with WY plates. Drats! They were ambuling my way. How inconvenient, I whined, yanking open the front door to find a woman with a sun-creased face and her partner, a tallish fellow with a receding hairline. "Can I help you?" I barked, thinking, "Another pair of numbnuts lost on the peninsula."

"Kath, it's Mak."

"Mark?"

"Mak. Ann Makley."

My college roommate! My canoe buddy! My long-lost bestie whom I hadn't seen in 39 years! I sure wasn't expecting such a wonderful surprise.

The second coming of Christ the King will be surprising, too. "You must be ready," Jesus warns us. Paul adds, "The night is far gone; the day is near ... Put on the armor of light."

Truth be told, the "armor" I wore that August day was rather tarnished. Though I hadn't descended into "debauchery" decried by Paul, I clearly needed to up my salvation game. Seeing Mak was like gazing at my younger, ebullient self – because that's what she still saw in me. We both now stood in skin toughened by life's inevitable bruises, but we hadn't yet succumbed.

Surprises happen; we don't know when. But if you're prepared to embrace what they offer, they can be transformative.

**Special Holiday Concert**  
**Saturday, December 3rd at 5:45 p.m.**  
...after the tree-lighting and bonfire  
on the shore



**Colin Welford**  
presents a fun  
45-minute  
organ & piano  
program, of  
Christmas favorites and  
musical surprises  
**With refreshments!**

**\$5 / \$12 per family**  
Ephraim Moravian Church  
9970 Moravia Street, Ephraim