

Ephraim Moravian Church

PO Box 73 - Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211

Phone: 920-854-2804

www.ephraimmoravian.org

First Sunday in Advent

December 3, 2023

Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.

PASTOR:.....The Rev. Dawn E. Volpe
MUSIC DIRECTOR:.....Colin Welford
SECRETARY:.....Erin Bristol
CANDLE LIGHTERS:.....Theo & Mylo Sherman
LAY READER:.....Mylo Sherman

Serving the Community Since 1853

Welcome & Announcements

**Prelude: “Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word” – Chorale Prelude by
Sigrid Karg-Elert**

Watchword for the Week

Lighting of the First Candle of Advent

Hymn #274 “O Come, O Come, Immanuel”
Liturgy for Advent, p. 49

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

**Offertory: ‘Song of Hope’ – based on a traditional Hebrew melody
– by Richard Warner**

Doxology

Scripture Lessons:

Old Testament: Isaiah 64: 1 – 8

New Testament: 1 Corinthians 1: 3 – 9

Gospel: Mark 13: 24 – 37

Meditation

The Lord’s Supper (Insert)

**Postlude: “Lo, He Comes, with Clouds Descending” – ‘Helmsley,’
arranged by Paul Fey**

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: Then they will see ‘the Son of
Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. – Mark 13: 26

TODAY:

Time of Fellowship following Worship

MONDAY:

Pastor’s Sabbath

WEDNESDAY:

11:00 a.m. Senior Holiday Dinner at
Gibraltar Middle School Gym

SATURDAY:

1:30 p.m. Memorial Service at
The Meadows Gathering Room

SUNDAY:

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday School Rehearsal after Fellowship Hour

WELCOME to Ephraim Moravian Church. Our Nursery is open for
children under the age of 4. We practice an ‘open communion’ at our
church. All are invited to the Lord’s Table.

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 2023: No one has ever
seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is
perfected in us. - 1 John 4:12

SENIOR CITIZEN HOLIDAY DINNER, Dec. 6, 11 a.m. at
Gibraltar Middle School Gym. Reservations required. Please call Mr.
Roets at 868-3284, Ext: 346.

MEMORIAL SERVICE for Katharine Oneson will take place this
Saturday at the Meadows Gathering Room, Scandia Village, 1:30 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REHEARSAL: After the Fellowship Hour next
Sunday, our children will be rehearsing for the Sunday School
Christmas Program.

CANDY BARS are on sale in the Fellowship Hall on the card table to
assist Mylo Sherman’s school trip to Washington DC.

Reflection: “IT’S ABOUT TIME”

I don’t like waiting. If you don’t believe me, ask my wife. I take no pleasure being in a waiting room, where the newest magazine was published in 1989. Though I’m pushing the calendar a bit, I can’t resist mentioning that the most excruciating times of waiting occurred when I was a boy... every Christmas Eve!

The highlight of the night, of course, was the gift exchange. But that couldn’t occur until everyone at the table (except me) was done slurping their oyster stew, which I found completely gross. Of this I am certain: no other meal ever took so long!

We have now entered the season of Advent – The Season of Waiting. A season of Faithful Longing. Advent is also a season of repentance and soul-searching, though we don’t do so well with this except when the church sneaks it in here and there. It’s like cleaning house before the guests arrive.

During these days we celebrate all the promises made back then to our ancestors in Faith, and we prepare for the realization of all those promises in our Lord, Christ Jesus, for whom we lovingly prepare.

- Pastor Dan G. Olson