

# Ephraim Moravian Church

## Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 24, 2023 - at 3:00 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

*The Rev. Dawn E. Volpe, Pastor*  
*Mr. Colin Welford, Music Director*

### A Time for Quiet and Reflection

**“Wachet Auf Ruft Uns die Stimme” – Christmas Chorale Prelude by J. S. Bach**

**“The Work of Christmas” – by Howard Thurman & Dan Forrest**

**“O Holy Night” – by Adolphe Adam, arranged by D. Marlatt *and played by Pamela Johnson***

**“The Lamb” – by William Blake & John Taverner**

**“I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” – American Carol, lyrics by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow *and sung by Cana Mittermann***

**“Deck the Halls” – Traditional carol, arranged by James McKelvy**

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### Order of Service

Welcome

Invocation

Prelude: **“In Dulci Jubilo” (“In Sweet Rejoicing”) – by J.S. Bach**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

**Hymn #292 (v. 1 – 3 & 5): “Once in Royal David’s City” – Solo, then Congregation**

*Solo:* Once in Royal David’s city, stood a lowly cattle shed  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

*All:* He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all  
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall  
With the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew  
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew  
And he feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

Not in that poor lowly stable with the oxen standing by  
We shall see him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high  
There his children gather round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.

### The Christmas Liturgy:

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel. ***For he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.***

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high has broken upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. ***To guide our feet into the way of peace.***

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ***Thanks be to God for this gift beyond words!***

My eyes have seen your salvation. ***Which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples.***

Quartet: "Still, Still, Still" – Traditional Austrian Carol, arranged by Harald Halvorsen

Glory be to you, Lord our God! You have chosen us in Jesus Christ, our Lord, before the founding of the world. ***You have given us such love Father, that we should be called the children of God.***

You have blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. ***You have rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of your beloved Son.***

You have redeemed us through Jesus Christ, your Incarnate Son. ***For the sake of the great love with which you love us, make us alive in Christ our Lord.***

God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ***May we all be transformed into the image of Christ, from one degree of glory to another!***

Solo: **‘Magnificat’ – by Randall Thompson**

Scripture Reading: Luke 1: 26 – 55

The Evening Offering: **Chorale Fantasia on “How Brightly Shines the Morning Star” – by Dietrich Buxtehude**

Reflections on Christmas

Solo: **“Gesù, Bambino” – by Pietro Yon, arranged by Mary Jean Simpson**

Scripture Reading: Luke 2: 1 – 16

**Hymn #290 (v. 1 – 3 & 6): “The First Noel”**

The first Noel, the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.

Refrain: *Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!*

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far  
And to the earth it gave great light  
And so it continued both day and night. *(Refrain)*

And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far  
To seek for a king was their intent  
And to follow the star wherever it went. *(Refrain)*

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
That hath made heaven and earth of naught  
And with his blood mankind has bought. *(Refrain)*

The Moravian Candles

Trio: **“Listen to the Angels” – by Neal Hagberg** *(During the music, please remain in quiet meditation)*

**Hymn #281: “Morning Star” - with Soloists & Congregation**

Morning Star, O cheering sight! Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night  
***Morning Star, O cheering sight! Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night***  
Jesus mine - ***In me shine***  
In me shine - ***Jesus mine***  
***Fill my heart with light divine!***

Morning Star, thy glory bright far excels the sun's clear light  
***Morning Star, thy glory bright far excels the sun's clear light***  
Jesus be - ***Constantly***  
Constantly - ***Jesus be***  
***More than 'thousand suns to me!***

Thy glad beams, thou Morning Star, cheer the nations near and far  
***Thy glad beams, thou Morning Star, cheer the nations near and far***  
Thee we own - ***Lord alone***  
Lord alone - ***Thee we own***  
***Our dear Savior, God's dear Son!***

Morning Star, my soul's true light, tarry not, dispel my night  
***Morning Star, my soul's true light, tarry not, dispel my night***  
Jesus mine - ***In me shine***  
In me shine - ***Jesus mine***  
***Fill my heart with light divine!***

**Hymn #297: “Silent Night” – Quartet then Congregation**

*Quartet:*      *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, Einsam wacht*  
                 *Nur das traute hoch heilige Paar*  
                 *Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar*  
                 *Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh'! Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh'!*

*All:*            Silent night, holy night! All is calm all is bright  
                 'Round yon virgin mother and child  
                 Holy infant so tender and mild  
                 Sleep in heavenly peace! Sleep in heavenly peace!

                 Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight  
                 Glories stream from heaven afar  
                 Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia  
                 Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

                 Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
                 Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
                 With the dawn of redeeming grace  
                 Jesus, Lord, at thy birth! Jesus, Lord, at thy birth!

Benediction

**Hymn #294 (v. 1, 3 & 4): “Joy to the World!”**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing!

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let us our songs employ  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat, the sounding joy!

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love!

Postlude: **“The Hallelujah Chorus” – by Georg Frideric Handel**

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*Thank you to our Singers, Musicians & Readers:*

*Henry, Mathilda & Winfield Bristol  
Barbara Classen  
Harald Halvorsen  
Brie & Nyla Lapolla  
Amanda, Cana & Glory Mittermann  
Gabe & Maddie Reina  
Dale & Barbara Stafslie*

*Quinnley Campbell  
Katie Dahl & Rich Higdon  
Pamela Johnson  
Argo, Fredde & Kiel Larsen  
Shayla Opitz  
Enzo, Mylo & Theo Sherman  
Cyndy Stiehl*

Please join us on New Year’s Day as we celebrate in delightful and free  
concerts with ‘Colin & Friends’ - at both 2.00pm and 4.30pm on  
Monday January 1<sup>st</sup> – with Northern Sky actor and playwright, Dan  
Klarer, and wonderful Green Bay violinist, Taylor Giorgio. Spectacular  
music, and lots of fun to kick off a New Year!

## *Poinsettias, given in memory of...*

*George & Dorothy Carey, and Tom & Mally Mayhew, from Marcia & Chuck Ellis.  
Irene & Henry Anderson and Archie & Gyda Vitse, from Lonnie & Gary Vitse.  
Marguerite Davis, from Rob Davis.  
Jim Sokolowski, from Carol Sokolowski.  
Al and Hilda Paschke, from G.G. Paschke.  
Florence & Gus Hagman, Lillie Goodlet and Jim Cushing, from Marilyn Cushing.  
Michael Welford, from Colin Welford.  
Spencer Gould, from Barbara Gould.  
Darrell Jacobson, from the Darrell Jacobson Family.  
Verna McMullen, from the Anderson & Jacobson Families.  
Richard Hoefert, from the Anderson & Jacobson Families.  
Stephen Schuder, from Thomas & Mary Ann Schuder.  
Peter Thiell, from Jody Thiell.  
John & Marian Harris, from Kathleen Harris.  
Marie & Paul McCubbin, from Paula Hedeem.  
Delas Sailing, from Sarah Quist.  
Lorenz & Ellamae Heise, from Hedy Heise.  
Alice Spooner, from Anne Crowe.  
Katharine & Irving Oneson, from Ruth and Sue Oneson.  
Howard & Jane Olson, from Mary Ann Rosonke.*

*David & Ruth Stevens, from Tad & Andy Dukehart.  
Anne Hobler, from Mike & Windsor McCutcheon.  
Dick Bierman, from Claire Bierman.  
Sue Sherman and Rick Thomas, from the Sherman Family.  
Dorothy A. Halvorsen, from Hal Halvorsen.  
Aaron Moore, from Rob & Sherry Moore.  
Our Parents, from George & Linda Carey.  
Warren & Grace Jensen and Thomas Gregory Sr., from Tom & Jennifer Gregory.  
David F. Mulliken and Carl T. Wilson, from Alicia & Hugh Mulliken.  
Bob Anderson, from the Bob Anderson Family.  
Helen & Bill Sohns, from Niles Weborg and Karen Ekberg.  
Betty Overbeck, from B.D. & Mary Thorp.  
Joan Lewis, from Bob & Barbara Ziegler.  
Kate Hendrickson, and Chris Neavalls.  
Rev. Cynthia Johnson, from Dawn Volpe.  
Dick & Shirley Stolley, from Dave Stolley and Holly Runquist.  
Liselott Nylén, from Gunilla & Tom Wilson.  
Marv & Betty Staver, from the Bristol and Mittermann great-grandchildren.  
Rose Daniels, from Lisa Forsman.  
Adeline Crum and Alberta Kaminsky and Earlen Seiler.  
Eunice & Ray Rutherford, from Melinda Logan.  
Kathy Rutherford and John Rutherford.  
Harry & Danny Maher, from Kaye and Emily Maher.*

## *Poinsettias, given in honor of...*

*The Tasker Family, from Susie Samson  
Bailey, from Mike & Windsor McCutcheon.  
Our Families, from Dave & Betty Chomeau.  
Elizabeth Sailing, from Sarah Quist.  
The Ephraim Community, from Anne Crowe.*