

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

MORNING WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: *Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.* Psalm 98: 4

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTSRev. Dr. Nola Knouse

PRELUDE - *Air on "As the Deer"*T. *As the Deer* Robert Bailey (2023)

CALL TO WORSHIP

GENERAL LITURGY 2

Reconciliation

(Standing)

LANCASHIRE (151 M)

With joy - ful - ness and long - ing we look to you, O Lord;
The years have all been crowd - ed with to - kens of your love;

re - ceive us in your mer - cy, and cheer us with your word.
and man - y who have sought you now wor - ship you a - bove.

Crown us with love en - dur - ing and prom - is - es of grace,
But we, O Lord, still need you, our pil - grim feet to stay,

and let your ho - ly bless - ing re - main with - in this place.
for e - vil of - ten tri - umphs as faith to fear gives way.

GENERAL 2: RECONCILIATION

Almighty God, enthroned above all, you alone are God over the nations of the earth. Even the planets, the stars, and the galaxies are placed by your hand.

Where could we go from your Spirit? Where could we flee from your presence? If we go up to the heavens, you are there; if we go down into the caves of the earth or the depths of the sea, you are there.

God of all creation, we sing praises to your name; we stand jubilant before your glory, power, and beauty.

God of certainty, God of truth, our confidence is in you and in you alone.

Yet we live in a fallen world and we are an imperfect people.

Our world is filled with pain and alienation.

We know of illness when body or mind is failing, and the loneliness of spirit it brings.

We know of separation from parent or child, from friend or neighbor, and the emptiness of life it brings.

We know of strangeness in new communities and in changing communities, and the longing it brings.

We know of alienation caused by unemployment or poverty or discrimination, and the pain it brings.

We have become strangers to our relatives, and foreigners to our own families.

How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? Let our cry for help come to you.

I am a God nearby, says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? I am the Lord your God. I have called you out from the peoples and you shall be holy to me.

We declare your praise, the One who called us out of darkness into your wonderful light. We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to you.

GENERAL 2: RECONCILIATION

MIT FREUDEN ZART

Sing praise to God, who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the
tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay, our

God of our sal - va - tion, with heal - ing balm my soul he fills, and
peace, and joy, and bless - ing, as with a moth - er's ten - der hand, he

ev - 'ry faith - less mur - mur stills. To God all praise and glo - ry!
leads his own, his cho - sen band. To God all praise and glo - ry!

GENERAL 2: RECONCILIATION

(Kneeling or sitting)

Gracious God, we humbly confess that we walk in the way of the indifferent, who depend on their strength alone. We sit among the scornful, who deny the need for your guidance and power. Our hearts are not satisfied with riches vulnerable to moth and rust and thief, yet we zealously store up those very treasures. Set our minds on things unseen and eternal, that our emptiness within may be filled.

We humbly confess that we fail to welcome the stranger among us. We pass by the neighbor who is hungry and thirsty, naked, sick, and in prison. We sing of your healing power and your unconditional love, but we fail to make our sanctuaries true havens for the suffering and the exiled. Give us the will to be ambassadors for our Savior and faithful stewards of the ministry of reconciliation entrusted to us.

Lord, have mercy on us.

Amen.

Without Christ we were strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus we who were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. He is our peace.

We are no longer strangers and aliens, but citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, with Christ himself as the cornerstone.

Therefore, let us affirm our faith in the Triune God.

(Standing)

We believe in the one God who has created the land and sea and heavens and all that is in them; who established a world that was good; who gives to us the task of watchful and responsible care over it; who is certainty and truth.

We believe in the one God who in Jesus Christ assumed our humanity and knew our life as child, youth, and adult; who dined with sinners and lived with the homeless; who confronted popular opinion and power; who remained obedient in temptation and suffering; whose triumph was a servant's death and resurrection.

We believe in the one God who comes to us as comforter and advocate; who does not leave us as orphans; who brings peace and calms the troubled heart; who bestows gifts for serving, healing, showing compassion, and doing miracles; who alone is the power and the wisdom of our proclamation.

Let us in faith keep our eyes fixed on the promises of God, though we see them and greet them from a distance.

We confess that we are strangers and foreigners on the earth, a people who are seeking our true home.

We desire a better place, that is, a heavenly one. Indeed, God has prepared a city for us.

Let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

EASTHAM

O then what rap-tured greet-ings on Ca-naan's hap-py shore;
Bring near your great sal-va-tion, O Lamb for sin-ners slain;

what knit-ting sev-ered friend-ships up, where part-ings are no more!
fill up the roll of your e-lect, then take your power, and reign!

Then eyes with joy shall spar-kle that brimmed with tears of late, no
Ap-pear, De-sire of na-tions, your ex-iles long for home, show

or-phans left with-out a home, nor mourn-ers des-o-late.
in the heav'n your prom-ised sign; great Prince and Sav-ior, come. A-men.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS:

Acts 10: 44-48

Psalm 98

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

The Lord has made known his victory;

he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of
melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who
live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing
together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to
judge the earth.

**He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples
with equity.**

1 John 5: 1-6

*During the singing of the next hymn, children age 3 and up are welcome to follow
Godly Play leaders to continue their worship in CE-106.*

They Who Jesus' Followers Are 672

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'They Who Jesus' Followers Are'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a bass line on a bass clef staff. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed between the two staves of each system.

1 They who Je - sus' fol - lowers are and en - joy his faith - ful care,
 2 By your rec - on - cil - ing love ev - 'ry stumb - ling - block re - move;
 3 Let us each for oth - ers care, each an - oth - er's bur - den bear,
 4 May it to the world ap - pear that we your dis - ci - ples are

by a mu - tual, heart - y love their be - lief in Je - sus prove.
 each to each u - nite, en - dear, come, and spread your ban - ner here.
 to your church a pat - tern give, show - ing how be - liev - ers live.
 by our lov - ing mu - tual - ly, by our Chris - tian u - ni - ty.

TEXT: St. 1 John Gambold (1742); st. 2,3 Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.
St. 4 Frederick William Foster (1789), alt.
TUNE: Herrnhut (c. 1735); J. Thommen (1745); C. Gregor *Choralbuch* (1784)

7.7.7.7. Trochaic
HERRNHUT (11 A)

GOSPEL LESSON: John 15: 9-17.....Rev. Dr. Robert Sawyer
SERMON - *Three Friendships*

INVITATION AND RESPONSE

603 O Jesus, I Have Promised

1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
 2 O let me feel you near me, the world is ev - er near:
 3 O let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still,
 4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you

be now and ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
 I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
 a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
 that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vants shall be too.

I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
 My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
 O speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
 And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;

nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
 but, Je - sus, draw still near - er and shield my soul from sin!
 and speak to make me lis - ten, O guard - ian of my soul.
 O give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

TEXT: John E. Bode (1868), alt.
TUNE: Arthur H. Mann (1883)

7.6.7.6.D.
ANGEL'S STORY

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGSRev. Dr. Knouse
The offertory provides an opportunity to reflect on the many ways that we can express our gratitude in response to God: with time, treasure, talents, and testimony. For financial giving online: Use the Moravian Ministries Foundation giving portal at <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/>. Click the "Give Now" button on any page of the Home Church website. For more information, go to HomeMoravian.org/online giving. You can make one-time or recurring gifts. Text HOME to 73256 on your phone.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

ANTHEM - *I Waited for the Lord*.....

.....(from "Lobgesang") Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Bentley Dorics, Soprano Carly Orr, Soprano

I waited for the Lord, he inclined unto me, he heard my complaint.

O blest are they that hope and trust in him.

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLDRev. Dr. Sawyer

PEACE AND JUSTICE

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service 688

1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
 2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home-less, still the hun - gry cry for bread,
 3 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice forth in your dear name we go,

who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 to the child, the youth, the ag - ed, love in liv - ing deeds to show,

we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart,
 As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 hope and health, good will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,

con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

TEXT: Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984). ©1988 by Oxford University Press. Used by permission.
 TUNE: *The Sacred Harp* [1844]. Harm. A. Royce Eckhardt [1972]
 Setting ©1972 by Covenant Press

Alternate setting, hymn 652
 8.7.8.7.D.
 BEACH SPRING

POSTLUDE - *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*.....T. Abbot's Leigh
Robert J. Powell
(1997)

TEXT FOR REFLECTION

*Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn 832, *The Grace of Our Lord*
While singing, we extend the right hand of fellowship.

SERVICE MUSIC

832 The Grace of Our Lord

The musical score for 'The Grace of Our Lord' is presented in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'The grace of our Lord Je - sus Christ, and the love of God, and the com - mu - nion of the Ho - ly Spir - it, be with us all, be with us all. A - men.' The score concludes with a double bar line and a fermata over the final notes.

TEXT: 2 Corinthians 13:13
TUNE: Christian Gregor (1763)

Irregular
(540 E)

Today some of our congregation is worshipping at Laurel Ridge, our Moravian Camp and Conference grounds in the North Carolina mountains. **Rev. Tobiassen** is out of the office for a provincial meeting in Bethlehem and returns next week.

We extend a cordial welcome to all visitors this morning and invite you to join us again whenever possible. Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Register, pass it both ways in your pew, and greet those near you. After the service, pick up a beverage in the Lovefeast Serving Room off the Sanctuary, and enjoy fellowship in the Sanctuary or outside.

Thank you to the Rev. Dr. Robert Sawyer and the Rev. Dr. Nola Knouse for leadership in the service today.

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today in loving memory of *Joe and Bonnie M. Dempster* by the family.

SUNDAY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

GODLY PLAY, CE-106 (ages 3 and up), *The Crosses?*

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL DUE TO HOME MORAVIAN CHURCH DAY AT LAUREL RIDGE.

Wednesday Night Fellowship, Wednesday, May 8

Community meal at 5:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Meal: Greek chicken, spanakopita, salad, bread, lemon cake

6:45 p.m. - Program: *Our Storied Community*

Stories help form, enhance and maintain communities. Our stories help connect the past with the present and help create stories we would like to tell in the future. We'll be sharing stories that are important to us as individuals and as a community. Reservations for supper are encouraged by 5:00 p.m. on Monday. Contact the church office at (336) 722-6171 or cthomas@homemoravian.org to make your reservation.

----- Tear off and place in offering plate -----

Wednesday Night Fellowship Reservation

\$5 per adult, \$3 per child ages 4-11, children 3 and under eat free

Name _____

_____ Attending this week only (#) _____ Adult (#)

_____ Child

Gluten Free (#) _____ Vegetarian (#) _____

CALENDAR

- Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Nursery, CE-105
10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
10:20 a.m. - *Godly Play*, CE-106
11:00 a.m. - Home Moravian Church Day at Laurel Ridge
- Monday - 12:00 p.m. - Circle 7, Parlor
3:30 p.m. - Candle Tea Committee, RB-225
- Tuesday - 11:30 a.m. - Men of the Church, Club Room
2:00 p.m. - Living Faith, Club Room
6:30 p.m. - Band Class, RB-5
7:00 p.m. - Elders, CE-101
- Wednesday - 7:00 a.m. - Breakfast, Cagney's Restaurant
9:00 a.m. - Stewardship Committee, Club Room
10:00 a.m. - Circle 9, home of CarolAnn Adcock,
112 Breslau Circle, bring a covered dish to share
1:00 p.m. - Church Family Life Meeting, Parlor
5:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Fellowship Supper, Fellowship
Hall 6:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Fellowship Program,
CE-101
- Thursday - 9:00 a.m. - Soup Group, Kitchen
6:30 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal, RB-5
- Next Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Nursery, CE-105
10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship
10:20 a.m. - *Godly Play*, CE-106
11:00 a.m. - Coffee Fellowship, Lovefeast Serving Room
11:15 a.m. - Sunday School:
Bible Discussion, Club Room & Zoom
Scripture Encore, CE-101 & Zoom
Faith & Justice, CE-204
"Power Hour," Children & Youth, CE Building

PERSONALS

We extend our sympathy to

...the family of Judy (Frazier) Carithers, who died April 23.

...Adrienne Livengood, whose sister, Valerie Cook, died April 25.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers needed at Diggs-Latham: Our partner school needs volunteer help May 16 or 17, 8:20 a.m.-12:00, for their Field Day. Contact Mallie Graham for more information.

Sunnyside Ministry Food Needs for this month are: canned fruit, canned soup, canned vegetables, canned meat, and crackers. We provide food to more than 650 families each month. These are your neighbors, more than 1800 family members. So anything you can provide is helpful. You can bring donations to Sunnyside Ministry on Monday -Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Friday 8:00 a.m. - 12 p.m. or you may put them in the large white box in the West Vestibule.

Virginia Hege Tobiassen, *Pastor*

Glenn Siebert, *Director of Music* Jonathan Williams, *Organist*

Becky Hodges, *Director of Christian Formation* Cambria Dyess, *Youth Ministry*

Coordinator 529 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101, 336-722-6171

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(10 a.m. Morning Worship is broadcast on WSJS-AM 600)