Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 3, 2024

MORNING WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK: Hear, O Israel You shall love the Lord your God with all with all your mightDeuteronomy 6:4-5	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	The Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood
Prelude - <i>Elegy</i>	George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)
CALL TO WORSHIP	

ALL SAINTS

(Standing)

Behold, a great multitude, which no one can number, out of every nation and of all tribes, and peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, with palm branches in their hands,

And they cry with a loud voice saying, "Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb."

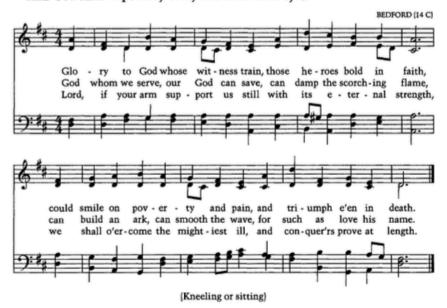


These are the ones of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and the holes in the ground. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were slain with the sword, they were burned at the stake, they were killed by an assassin's bullet. They were destitute, persecuted, tormented. These are the ones who have come out of great tribulation; they have washed their robes and cleansed them in the blood of the Lamb.

Therefore they are before the throne of God, and they worship day and night in the temple.

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and will guide them to springs of living water.

And God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes.



Almighty God, Redeemer and Sustainer, we offer you thanks and praise for the holy lives of all your servants — the prophets, apostles, and martyrs — who have shone forth as lights in the world and sacrificed their lives in testimony of their faith.

(On the Sunday nearest July 6 the following sentence is added:)

We thank you for calling your servant John Hus to be an instrument of reformation and renewal in your church, and for keeping him faithful even unto a martyr's death.

We thank you for the triumphant fellowship of all the saints in glory. We remember before you all who have been called to the more immediate presence of the Savior, and especially those most dear to us and our congregation. We rejoice in our present fellowship with them, in our continuing hope, and in the promise of eternal joy. Let the great cloud of witnesses, the innumerable company of those who have gone before and entered into rest, be to us an example of godly life. May we run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith; and may we obtain entrance into your eternal kingdom, and with the glorious assembly of the saints, worship and adore you.



Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. If God is for us, who can be against us!

Hear the words of the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, who was dead and is alive again: Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

To him who loves us and washed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests to God, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

> ("Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand," Hymn 394, may be used in place of the following to conclude the liturgy.)



SCRIPTURE:

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Psalm 119:1-8

Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord

Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart,

who also do no wrong but walk in his ways.

You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. O that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

I will praise you with an upright heart, when I learn your righteous ordinances.

I will observe your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

Hebrews 9:11-14

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



Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

SERMON: Not Far from the Kingdom of God

What Splendid Rays of Truth and Grace 596



PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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 DONATE tab on any page of the Home Church website. For more information, go to homemoravian.org/donate. You can make one-time or recurring gifts. Text HOME to 73256 on your phone.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

ANTHEM: Open Thou Mine EyesJohn Rutter (1980)

HMC Choir

Open thou mine eyes and I shall see: Incline my heart and I shall desire: Order my steps and I shall walk in the ways of thy commandments. O Lord God, be thou to me a God and beside thee let there be none else, no other, nought else with thee. Vouchsafe to me to worship thee and serve thee according to thy commandments, in truth of spirit, in reverence of body, in blessing of lips, in private and in public. Open thou mine eyes and I shall see: Incline my heart and I shall desire: Order my steps and I shall walk with thee in the ways of thy commandments.

Doxology

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Prayers for the Church and the World, pages 141-142

(Kneeling or sitting)

Almighty God, ruler of nations, to whose grace we owe the manifold blessings of this land,

We worship you with grateful hearts.

We confess that in many ways we have turned aside from your commandments, and it is because of your steadfast love that we are not consumed. You offer us mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against you, and have not obeyed your command to walk in your laws, which you have set before us.

Lord, have mercy on us, and blot out our transgressions.

We pray, Lord, that you will guide and bless all who are in places of authority. Protect them from violence, and fill the hearts of the people with respect and love for them, because you have established their authority. Raise up for us leaders who will carry out all your purpose, and, in patience and courage, will depend on you.

Save your people, and bless your heritage.

Make of this nation an instrument for the promotion of peace, freedom, and righteousness. May it be a haven for the oppressed of other lands, a home of happiness for all who dwell within its borders; and may our commitment to liberty and justice for all be preserved for the generations to come.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Guide us and our leaders through the Spirit of Christ's love as we struggle with matters of teaching and learning, home and family, health and security, work and justice. Turn the hearts of all people to you, that they may seek eternal life through Jesus Christ, who redeems us and our world.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Grant wisdom to those who are of the family of faith. Enable us to accept the authority of government for your sake, ready for every good work, abstaining from every form of evil, and paying to all whatever is due them. As citizens of this nation may we bring credit to our Savior in all we do.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Grant to the people of this and all other lands a love of peace and order, that the nations shall learn war no more. Hasten the day when the kingdom of the world shall become the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God. Amen.





TEXT: William Watkins Reid, Jr. © by The Hymn Society

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Congregational Response - Hymn 832, The Grace of Our Lord

While singing, we extend the right hand of fellowship.



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.

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today in loving memory of *Garland B. Shaffner, Emil and Anna Shaffner, Louis and Jane A. Shaffner,* and *Ronald and Anna Pauline Shaffner Slye* by the family.

PERSONALS

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Ed Hill and Betsy Overton, who were united in marriage on September 1.

SUNDAY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

GODLY PLAY, CE 106 (ages 3 and up), The Ark and A Tent for God

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL (in person and via Zoom), 11:15

a.m. Bible Discussion, Club Room and Zoom

https://bit.lv/42JohxN

Intro to Moravian Theology, Saal

Feasting on the Word, CE-101 and Zoom https://bit.ly/3qMoZwZ

CHILDREN'S CHOIR, 11:00 a.m.

YOUTH POWER HOUR, 11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

CHILDREN'S POWER HOUR, 11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone who has made a financial pledge for 2025. We have received 169 pledges totaling \$555,245.00 to help us build our community of faith. We encourage everyone who has not yet pledged to do so as we set our budget for next year. We are deeply grateful for every gift received by our generous community.

Two Candle Trimming Opportunities

The Lovefeast Candle Trimming Committee will meet Wednesday, November 6, at 10:00 a.m. in the Club Room to finish trimming. We will finish before lunch. Anyone who can help is encouraged to join us. Hope to see you then!

Candle Tea Candle Trimming and Luncheon, sponsored by Women's Fellowship, is Sunday, November 17, at 11:15 a.m. (or at noon if attending Power Hour). Lunch is served at 12:15 p.m. and no reservation is required.

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. - Children's Choir, CE-104

Coffee Fellowship, Lovefeast Serving Room

11:15 a.m. - Bible Discussion, Club Room and Zoom

Intro to Moravian Theology, Saal

Feasting on the Word, CE-101 and Zoom

Youth Power Hour

11:30 a.m. - Children's Power Hour

3:00 p.m. - Mission Society Lovefeast, Trinity Moravian

Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. - Men of the Church, Club Room

6:30 p.m. - Beginner Band Class, RB-5

7:00 p.m. - Elders, CE-101

7:30 p.m. - Salem Chorale Band, RB-5

Wednesday - 7:00 a.m. - Breakfast, Cagney's Restaurant

9:30 a.m. - Candle Trimming Committee, Club Room

2:00 p.m. - Prayer Shawl Ministry, Parlor

4:00 p.m. - Personnel Committee, RB-225

4:00 p.m. - World Mission Team, Club Room

5:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Fellowship Supper, Fellowship

Hall 6:45 p.m. - Wednesday Night Fellowship Program, Fellowship Hall

Thursday - 11:30 a.m. - Men of the Church, Club Room

5:30 p.m. - Gregor BellChor Practice

6:30 p.m. - Choir Practice

7:30 p.m. - Men's Chorus

Friday - 9:00 a.m. - Circle 6, Parlor

Saturday - 7:00 p.m. - Music@Home: Rushing Brook Children's Choir,

Sanctuary Next Sunday - 9:30 a.m. - Nursery, CE-105

10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship/Communion

10:20 a.m. - Godly Play, CE-106

11:00 a.m. - New Member Reception, Parlor

11:00 a.m. - Children's Choir, CE-104

11:15 a.m. - Bible Discussion, Club Room and Zoom

Intro to Moravian Theology, Saal

Feasting on the Word, CE-101 and Zoom

Youth Power Hour

11:30 a.m. - Children's Power Hour

CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

At Church Council on Sunday, October 27, 2024, the following members were elected to serve beginning January 1, 2025:

<u>Board of Elders</u> – Hal Garrison, Ginger Hauser, John Vogler, William Sanders (Youth) <u>Board of Trustees</u> – Matt Graham, Bennett Perry, Scott Southerland, Lilly Greene (Youth) <u>Central Board of the Trustees of the Salem Congregation</u> – Paul Knouse Many thanks to all who agreed to have their names placed in nomination for these leadership positions.

Virginia Hege Tobiassen, *Pastor* Craig Atwood, *Associate Pastor* Glenn Siebert, *Director of Music* Jonathan Williams, *Organist* Becky Hodges, *Director of Christian Formation* 529 S. Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101, 336-722-6171 home1771@homemoravian.org www.homemoravian.org (10 a.m. Morning Worship is broadcast on WSJS-AM 600)