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Edgeboro's Mission

is to love God, grow in Christ, and share the Holy Spirit through
worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism.

Visit edgeboromoravian.org/communications to learn how to receive
Edgeboro news and announcements.

10:30AM WORSHIP

December 15th, 2024 || 3rd Sunday of Advent

Welcome & Announcement

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle (JOY)

Insert

*Liturgy for Advent 2

pg. 54 MBW

A Worshipful Question

Special Music

Gayle Justice & Betty Louie

Scripture Readings

Philippians 4:4-7 (pg. 198; Lg. 286); Luke 3:7-18 (pg. 60; Lg.84)

Hymn

Immanuel, to You We Sing

#280 MBW

Message

Offering

Offertory

Choir Anthem

*Offering Response

#279 MBW v. 3

This will I do, O Child Divine, I'll give you all I hold as mine;

My soul, my body, Lord, are yours, and all the gifts your love outpours.

My humble offerings now receive, and through your grace, Lord, let me live

In faithfulness through all my days, and join in heaven's ceaseless praise.

*Prayer of Dedication

Congregational Prayers

***Hymn**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#295 MBW

***Benediction & Postlude**

*Those that are able and comfortable, please stand.

MBW: Moravian Book of Worship

Visiting? If you are looking here for a church home in which to nurture your faith, please speak with the Pastor following the service.

Young children? There's a nursery downstairs.

Need Large Print? Please speak with an usher.

Pastor	Rev. Dan Miller
Organist & Choir Director	Gayle Justice
Elder of the Day	Kyle Borowski
Sacristans	Mike & Terri Long
Ushers	Eric Smith & Family
Ministers	YOU!

Your Notes – Insights, reminders, names, or contact information.

Thank you the **Edgeboro Ensemble** and director, **Megan Weikert**, for adding to our worship celebration this morning!

December's **Joyful Noise Offering** will support The Freezer Ministry & Garden Gatherers (formerly "BAM Freezer Ministry"). Please place your offerings in the joyful noise can or give online (QR code).

Label your gift for "Joyful Noise."

Make a Gift to Edgeboro Online! Scan the QR code to make a gift to Edgeboro online using a credit card or bank account.



Good News

Today's Gospel seems strange. At the beginning, John the Baptist calls those who have come to hear him preach "a brood of vipers!" (Luke 3:7). At the end, we are told, "So . . . he proclaimed the *good news* to the people" (Luke 3:18).

I have a friend, a social worker, who is struggling with how he and his wife raise their children. So much of what he hears and reads about Christian faith feels like John the Baptist. It tells us how we are bad, what is wrong with us. My friend says it is really different from what he thinks or says as a social worker. He is wondering whether he can be a Christian, because Christian faith does not feel like Good News.

Perhaps the answer is in the middle of the Gospel, where John says someone greater is coming, someone who will baptize with fire and Holy Spirit, not water, namely, Jesus.

John the Baptist and Jesus have a similar expectation that their listeners can bear fruit, through God's working to change their hearts and lives. But Jesus, John tells us, will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire—both of which are harder for us to control. Jesus will spend more time with people on the margins: those who are sick, those who are poor, women, those who are finding it hard to meet neighbors' expectations, persons considered "sinners." This Jesus will be God among us, Emmanuel (Matthew 1:23). The Spirit is the promise that the God we meet in Jesus continues to help us to live well.

That God is among us is an unusual and frightening promise. It is also Good News.

Hermann Weinlick, retired pastor, Minneapolis, Minnesota

The Moravian Church

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024



Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

JOY through Environmental Stewardship

On this third Sunday of Advent, as we anticipate the coming Christ Child, we light the candle of joy.

We rejoice that in Jesus Christ, God is with us, Immanuel.

(Three candles are lit.)

When Christ comes into our lives,

He brings the fullness of joy.

In Luke's Gospel, we read that when Jesus was born, the angels said his coming was good news and great joy for all people.

Because Christ has come to us, we can live every day in the joy of the Lord.

Climate change has brought repeated flooding to areas of Central America, including areas where our Moravian siblings in Nicaragua and Honduras reside. These floods have destroyed the important crops of beans and rice. While this has brought great hardship to them, they have found great joy in shipments of seeds, medicines, and food provided through the Board of World Mission.

We thank God for those who care for the environment.

In North Carolina, the Clemmons and Macedonia Moravian congregations are tending native pollinator gardens to boost bee populations.

We thank God for those who care for the environment.

The Ephraim Moravian Congregation in Wisconsin and the Union Cross Congregation in North Carolina have installed solar panels to reduce their carbon footprint.

We thank God for those who care for the environment.

In this time, our congregation celebrates the light of Joy in our community and through our shared ministry:

(Speak aloud areas of work and ministry around environmental stewardship.)

ADVENT 2

(Standing)

Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.

We will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and tell of God's deeds in songs of joy.

Awake, awake, you people of God, put on your festive garments.

For God has already clothed us with the garments of salvation and has covered us with the robe of righteousness.

The Holy One has delivered us and has become our salvation.

BRESLAU

All praise to you, e - ter - nal Lord, clothed in a
All this for us your love has done, by this to

garb of flesh and blood; choos - ing a man - ger
you our love is won; for this we sing through

for your throne, while worlds on worlds are yours a - lone.
all our days and shout our thanks in cease - less praise.

We give thanks to you, eternal God, for the Word in human form given to us in the child of Bethlehem.

The Word speaks to us in a way we cannot avoid:

Therefore, let us put aside the masks of pretended righteousness and confess our sins to God.

(Kneeling or sitting)

Gracious God, this Advent season stirs a longing to have Christ come alive within us, yet we allow ourselves to become enslaved to cynicism, selfishness, and greed. In a season for freely giving and receiving, we tend to live by debt and obligation. We rush from task to task, scarcely opening our eyes to the peace and beauty around us. We glory in the visions of the old man Zechariah in the temple, which were fulfilled in his wife, Elizabeth; but our ministry to the elderly in our midst falls short. We sing of One who was laid in a borrowed manger, but we ignore the poor and homeless among us. We decry the violence of a wicked king, yet we are too often silent in the face of abuse and injustice around us. For these and all our sins, forgive us, we pray, gracious God.

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to them and proclaim that they have suffered long enough, that their penalty is paid, and their sins are forgiven.

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. Christ Jesus gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify a people of his own. Thanks be to God!

(Standing)

JUDGMENT (585 A)

Je - sus came, a - dored by an - gels, came with peace from realms on high;
Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy, when our hearts are bowed with care;

Je - sus came for our re - demp - tion, low - ly came on earth to die:
Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer to our ear - nest heart - felt prayer:

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God Incarnate, who lived among us as foretold by the prophets, who was descended from the royal line of David, and who was baptized in the Spirit of the Lord, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might.

He does not judge by what his eyes see, nor decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he judges the poor and decides with equity for the meek of the earth.

We believe in the coming reign of God when justice will be established in the earth.

How wonderful it is to see a messenger coming across the mountains who brings good news, the news of peace, who announces salvation, who says, "Your God reigns."

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

The earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.

REJOICE (151 1)

Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear!

A - rise, the sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere!

With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we look, O Lord, to you

for all the earth's re - demp - tion, cre - a - tion made a - new.

(All may join in the following prayers of intercession,
or the service may proceed as the liturgist directs.)

(Sitting)

Christ, the Light of the world, empower us to shine as lights in this dark world of sin.

Christ, the Creative Word, by whom all things were made, lead us into good stewardship of creation that we and our children may preserve and enjoy the world entrusted to us.

Christ, the Living Truth, give us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that sees beyond temporal values to discern your truth and to declare it.

Christ, our Righteous Judge, give us courage to stand by the poor, the meek, and the oppressed; and strengthen our support for all who are their advocates.

Christ, the Lamb of God, send us forth as your ambassadors of reconciliation in a broken and troubled world; bring peace to the conflicts of nations, races, and tribes.

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that we might proclaim the mighty acts of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light. May our lives show forth that which we truly are. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

(Standing)

May the Lord make us increase in love for one another and for all.

May the Holy Spirit strengthen us to become more like Christ as we eagerly await his coming.

GERMANY (22 R)

We long for might - y signs of God - ca - the - dral,
But poor, in weak - ness, comes the Christ; his glo - ry
Not in our own strength, Lord, we move; your king - dom

mir - a - cle, and sword, his pow'r and glo - ry
gone, no king we see; a ser - vant Lord, no
falls not when we fall, but for - ward press - es

writ - ten plain - so none may doubt that he is Lord.
praise he seeks. Thus comes God's power to you and me.
day by day un - til your truth is known to all.

TEXT: © by Hermann I. Weinlick

Philippians 4:4-7 NRSVUE

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3:7-18 NRSVUE

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

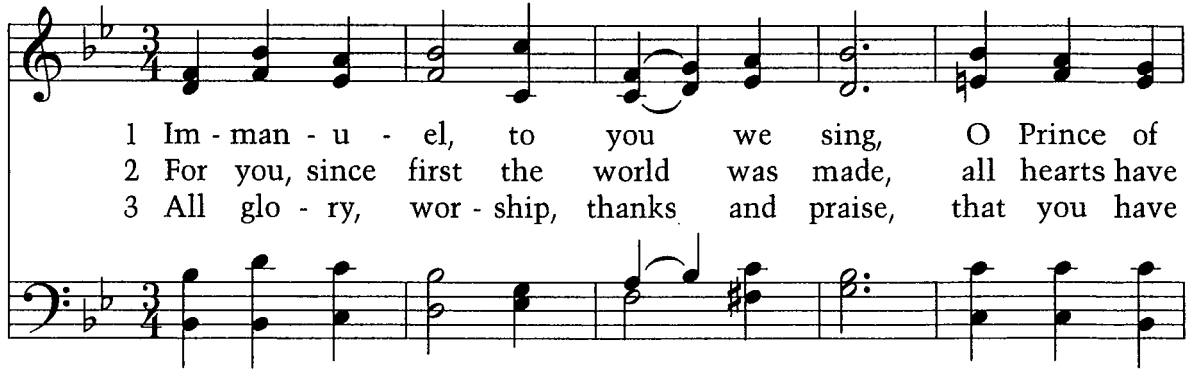
¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What, then, should we do?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

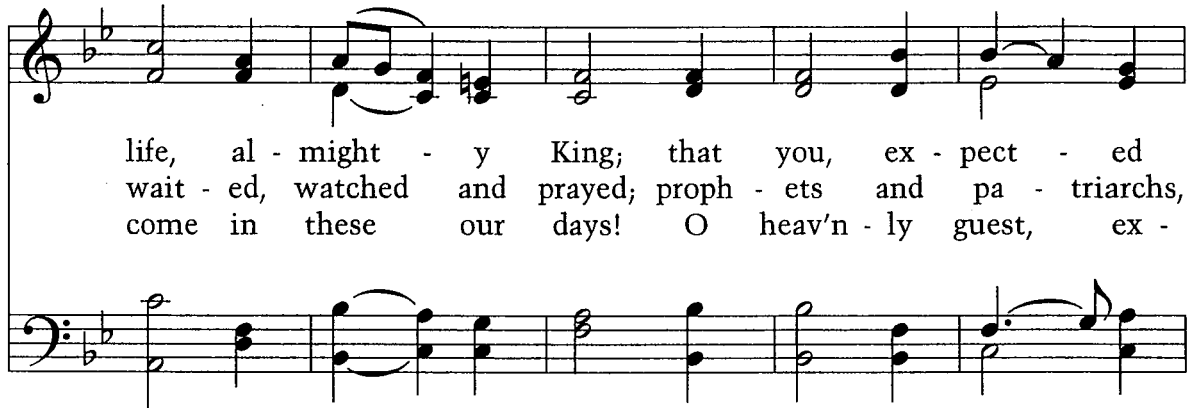
¹⁸ So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Immanuel, to You We Sing

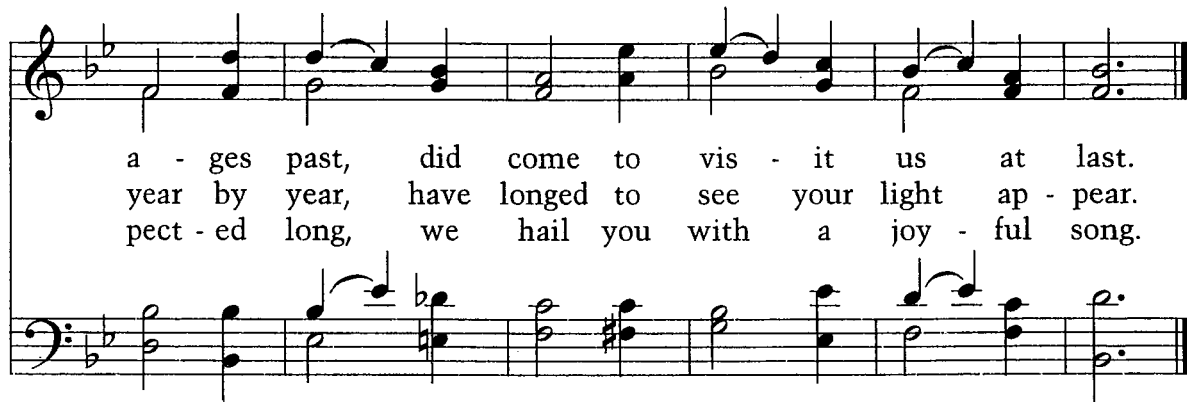
280



1 Im - man - u - el, to you we sing, O Prince of
2 For you, since first the world was made, all hearts have
3 All glo - ry, wor - ship, thanks and praise, that you have



life, al - might - y King; that you, ex - pect - ed
wait - ed, watched and prayed; proph - ets and pa - triarchs,
come in these our days! O heav'n - ly guest, ex -



a - ges past, did come to vis - it us at last.
year by year, have longed to see your light ap - pear.
pect - ed long, we hail you with a joy - ful song.

TEXT: Paul Gerhardt (1650). Tr. Ludolph Ernst Schlicht (1748), alt.
TUNE: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies* (1815)

L.M.
GERMANY (22 R)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing 295

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry to the new - born King!
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the Ev - er - last - ing Lord!
 3 Hail, the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness!

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold him come to the earth from heav - en's home;
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim: "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus our Im - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Announcements

Edgeboro's 2024 Watchword: "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord." (*Joshua 24:16*)

This week's flowers were given by John & Rosie Bauman in loving memory of parents, Earl J. Bauman & Grace Bauman, and brother Allen G. Bauman.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 15 9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship - *3rd Sunday in Advent*

Monday, December 16 6:00pm Girl Scouts

Tuesday, December 17 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 18 6:30pm Girl Scouts

Sunday, December 22 9:15am Adult Sunday School
 9:30am Youth Sunday School
 10:30am Worship - *4th Sunday in Advent/Musicale*
 Sacristans: Tom & Gilda Pheiffer, Peggy Leith
 Ushers: Mike & Terri Long

Soda Can Pull Tabs – We are once again collecting pop tabs to be given to Leo's League for Pediatric Cancer. They will take them to the Ronald McDonald House in Philly. Mandy David will deliver them. There is a collection jar in the kitchen, so please help out this wonderful cause that helps families with children who are receiving medical care.

Christmas Eve Services (3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:00pm) Christmas Eve Services are one of the highlights of our church year and represent a wonderful time to invite your family and friends to experience our church family. Starting today please be sure to pick up your free tickets (limit 200/service) for the service you wish to attend. All service will be livestreamed and recorded. *Christmas Eve kits will be made available for pick-up for those who would like to worship online from home.*

Christmas Eve Candle Serving The Sacristans would like to invite anyone who is interested to serve candles with them during the 3:00pm and 8:00pm Christmas Eve services. Please contact Myra Jones 610.844-6150, Bob Silfies 610.392-1095, or the church office if you would like to help.

Christmas Eve Kits for Worshiping Online

If you plan on worshipping online with us on Christmas Eve and would like candles and lovefeast items to help you worship at home, there are a limited amount of kits (25 total) in the kitchen available for pickup beginning today.

Nursery...Do you miss the days when you could snuggle a little one, but your little ones are now taller than you are? You're in luck! We are hoping to recruit some people to restart our nursery program during worship in 2025. The list from years ago needs to be updated. Your clearances need to be updated in the office if you would like to volunteer. ***See Carole Schachter for this!*** If you are interested, please contact Jenny Minnich. You can text her at 610-248-9250 or email at jejm98@gmail.com

Freezer Ministry & Garden Gatherers

- Christmas Huts on Main is seeking cookie bakers. Contact Blake Messman if you can help.
- Hut Volunteers are needed. Visit: tinyurl.com/5ynxk53k to sign-up.

Spread the Word about the Putz! Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to come visit our Putz and Christmas Room! The Putz and Christmas Room will be open to walk-ins on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm; and on Sundays from 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm beginning December 1st and closing December 22nd.

Breakfast with Santa at West Side Saturday, December 21st, 9:00am-10:30am, West Side Moravian will host a buffet "Breakfast with Santa", featuring a children's Christmas carol sing along, crafting and a small gift for each child to take home. Donations (\$5-\$7 suggested) will be directed toward Essentials Café. All are welcome. RSVP by Sunday, December 15 with the West Side church office at 610.865-0256.

No Silent Communion - Pastor Dan will be away on December 31st.

Office Closed - The office will be closed December 23 - January 1st.

Prayer Requests

Use this prayer list creatively in whatever way that will help you remember these names in prayer. Take it home. Place this list in a certain place. Pray while doing certain things. Pray for a different group of people each day. Download an app on your phone that will help keep your prayers organized. Do what works for you to remain connected in prayer. Here are those we are praying for now:

Healing

Sharon Bond	Kiera Pheiffer (Tom Pheiffer)
Scott Sine	Pete Raskovic (Anne Hosterman)
Kyle Borowski	Rev. Dick Seigfried (Helene Boyle)
Billy Christman (Sherri Hoff)	Ted Terry (Jon & Lynn Terry)
Doreen Ganz (Karen Gehret)	Megan Weikert
Glenn Gehret (Karen Gehret)	Nancy Zulli (Pat Zulli)
Deb Geiger (Holly Haines)	Becky (Deb Swanson)
Tim Gilman (Robyn Balsai)	Allison (Kathie Klein)
Jim Grebs (Rick Grebs)	Amanda (Steve & Donna Henning)
Kathy Loch (Sharon Hallowell)	Rosie (Nancy Remaly)
Jeffrey Minnich	Suzanne (Rita Gambler)

Homebound

Ann Amidon (Jessie Bucchin)
Joyce LeWando

Guidance

Janice Bourdage
Jeffrey Boyle (Helene Boyle)
Gareth Messman (Messmans)
Ryan Zaun (Sharon Zaun)
Julie (Marcia)

Safekeeping

Officer Mark Kuntzman (Bethlehem Mounted Police) deployed to Iraq

This list will be refreshed regularly. If you would like a name added or removed from the list, please fill out a blue prayer request card found in the pews or contact the church office.