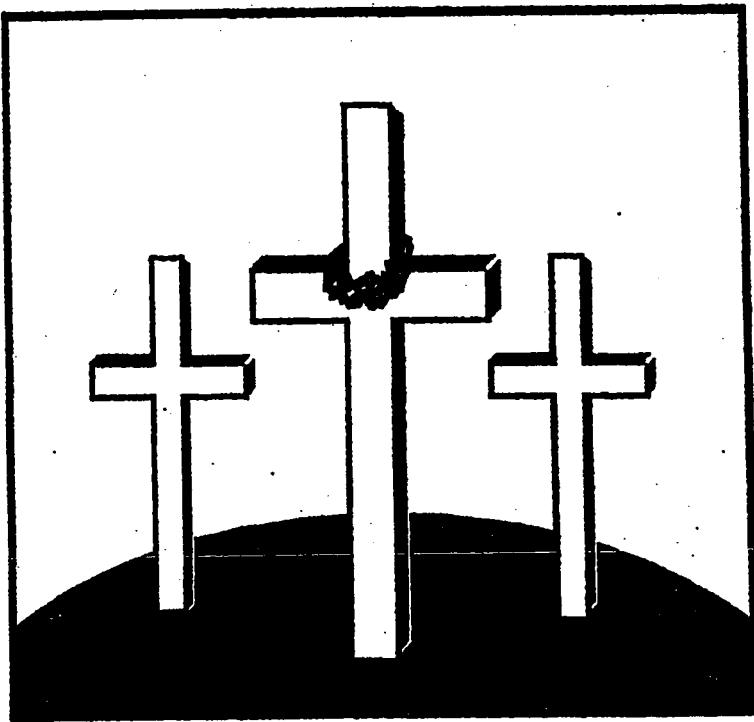


The Great Sabbath Lovefeast



*The Mission of the Edgeboro Moravian Church Family is
to love God, grow in Christ and share the Holy Spirit
through
worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and
evangelism.*

Edgeboro Moravian Church
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Great Sabbath Lovefeast

- Prelude -

Tune: Wondrous Love (Hymn 328)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb I will sing!
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I Am"
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!
And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing God's love for me,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And through eternity I'll sing on!

MEMORIAL SERVICE AND BURIAL

Lord, our God, in whom we live, and move, and have our being,

Have mercy upon us.

Lord, our God, you do not willingly bring affliction or grief to your children.

Leave your peace with us.

Lord, our God, you have raised Christ from death as the assurance that those who sleep in death will also be raised.

Bless and comfort us, we humbly pray.

Eternal God, accept us as your children in your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who came into the world from you, was born a human being, and lived among us. He took the role of a servant, and has redeemed us from all sin and from death, with his holy and precious blood, and with his innocent suffering and dying. Christ has done this so that we may be his own, live in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and happiness; since he, being risen from the dead, lives and reigns, forever and ever.

Amen.

Our Savior has said: Whoever hears my words and believes the One who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged, but has already passed from death into life.

Savior of the world, lead us in paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

We do not live to ourselves and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, it is for the Lord that we live; and if we die, it is for the Lord that we die. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord, for Christ died, rose from death, and lives again in order to be Lord of the living and of the dead.

Living Redeemer, we find our hope in you.

As a father has compassion on his children, so God has compassion on those who honor him; for he knows how we were formed, he remembers that we are dust. As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you, says the Lord. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, and sustains those who are bereaved. And God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.

The steadfast love of the Lord lasts forever, and his goodness endures for all generations.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

(Then shall follow, at the discretion of the minister, hymns, reading of Scripture, prayer, the memoir, and a short discourse.)

Prayer

Scripture – Readings for Holy Week p.106

Senior Choir

Resting in the silent grave,
Spent with torment, pangs and cries
See the Lord God strong to save;
Him whose thunder shakes the skies.
'Twas for me He groaned, He bled,
And was numbered with the dead;
Sacred body, with amaze
Thankfully on Thee I gaze.

Reading of names of those who have died since last Easter.

Tune Gift of Love (Hymn 80)

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Choir Anthem

Meditation

Tune: Gift of Love (Hymn 80)

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an off'ring far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

- The Lovefeast -

Hymn 125 (Red Hymnal)

Alas, and did my Savior bleed?
And did my Sovereign die?
Would he devote His sacred Head
For sinners such as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done,
He groaned upon the Tree?
Amazing pity, grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

Well might I hide my blushing face,
And shut his glories in,
When the Almighty Maker died,
An offering for my sin.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself to Thee;
'Tis all that I can do.

Hymn 349

Go to dark Gethsemane,
all who feel the tempter's pow'r;
Your Redeemer's conflict see,
watch with him one bitter hour.
Turn not from his griefs away;
Learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Follow to the judgment hall,
View the Lord of life arraigned;
O the wormwood and the gall!
O the pangs his soul sustained!
Shun not suff'ring, shame or loss;
Learn of him to bear the cross.

Calv'ry's mournful mountain climb;
There, adoring at his feet,
Mark that miracle of time,
God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry;
Learn of Jesus Christ to die.

Hymn 351

O dearest Jesus, what law have you broken
That such sharp sentence should on you be spoken?
Of what great crime have you to make confession,
What dark transgression?

They crown your head with thorns, they smite,
they scourge you;
With cruel mockings to the cross they urge you;
They give you gall to drink, they still decry you;
They crucify you.

- Grace -

Be present at our table, Lord;
Be here and everywhere adored;
From thine all bounteous hand our food
May we receive with gratitude. Amen.

Special Music

Collection of the Cups

Hymn 119 (Red Hymnal)

'Tis midnight; and on Olive's brow
The star is dimmed that lately shone;
'Tis midnight; in the garden now
The suffering Savior prays alone.

'Tis midnight; and, for all removed,
The Savior wrestles lone with fears;
E'en that disciple whom He loved
Heeds not his Master's grief and tears.

'Tis midnight; and for others' guilt,
the Man of Sorrows weeps in blood;
Yet He who hath in anguish knelt
Is not forsaken by His God.

'Tis midnight; and from heavenly plains
Is borne the song that angels know;
Unheard by mortals are the strains
That sweetly soothe the Savior's woe.

*** Final Hymn**

Hymn 807

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.
Change and decay in all around I see.
O Lord who changes not, abide with me.

I need your presence every passing hour.
What but your grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like yourself my guide and strength can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe with you at hand to bless,
Though ills have weight, and tears their bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, your victory?
I triumph still, if you abide with me.

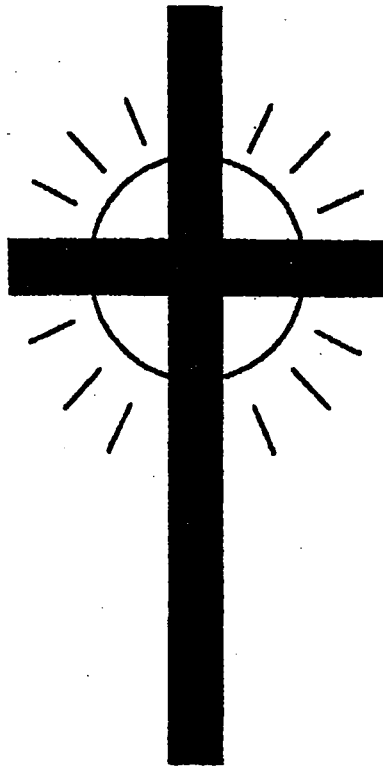
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Hold now your cross before my closing eyes.
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

- Silent Prayer -

Please leave in silence.

Go in peace, the Lord is dead, yet shall He live!



The Celebration of Great Sabbath

It is altogether appropriate for us to be together on this evening during Holy Week. For centuries, Moravians have been gathering on Great Sabbath, as this is called, to remember Jesus' rest in the grave. While we spend much of our church year reflecting on Jesus' birth, his ministry, his suffering on the cross and his resurrection, we do not often stop to ponder the fact that for these few days Jesus' physical body ceased to function...he was dead; and his mother and closest followers were in deep grief.

This evening as we ponder Jesus' rest in the grave we also remember those of our brothers and sisters who moved into our Lord's presence last year. We recognized that while their absence from us leaves an empty place in our lives, and for that, we grieve, we also celebrate Christ's victory over the grave, and the fact that our loved ones now enjoy fellowship with our Savior, and with the Saints who have gone before.

Tonight, most especially, we remember these loved ones:

Rita Young – August 22, 2024

Mark Lovell – November 2, 2024

Debra Ann Geiger – January 31, 2025

Thomas Roland Lynn – February 16, 2025

Judi Delzell – March 19, 2025

Music for Tonight's Service

Anthem ***Behold, What Wondrous Love!*** Arr. Faye Lopez

Special Music ***I Have Finished The Race*** LaRosa, Rohrer & Schaefer
Stephanie Smith

Celebration of the Resurrection

5:45AM -Easter Sunrise service – Central Moravian

9:30AM – Sunday School Easter Program

10:30AM – Worship