

Salem Academy and College 250th Anniversary

Where Journeys Take Us:

Honoring the 1766 Journey
from Bethlehem to Bethabara,
Salem, and Beyond



Central Moravian Church
The Old Chapel
Sept. 27, 2021; 4:00 p.m.

*At this time, Central Moravian Church asks everyone
to wear a face mask while inside the sanctuary,
chapel, and other church buildings.
A mask will be provided for you if you do not have one available.
You are welcome to enjoy the soloists, sing along in your head,
or join the soloist and sing softly.*

Prelude

“March”

Margaret Vardell Sandresky, A`38, C`42

Lou Carol Brown Fix, Organist, C`77

“Praise to the Lord”

“What Brought Us Together”

Bethlehem Area Trombone Choir

Don Kemmerer Director

“Prelude on CONFESSIO” Karl Kroeger

“Seelenbrautigam” (Jesus Still Lead On)

Margaret Vardell Sandresky

Welcome and Call to Worship

The Rev. Dr. Lynnette Delbridge, C`80

Pastor, Central Moravian Church

Hymn

Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord

SMB 38.10 and Moravian Book of Worship, 543, verses 1-2

Text: John Swertner [1789] Tune: BECHLER

Sing hallelujah, praise the Lord!

Sing with a cheerful voice;

exalt our God with one accord,

and in his name rejoice.

Ne'er cease to sing, O ransomed host,

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,

until in realms of endless light

your praises shall unite.

**There we to all eternity
shall join the angelic lays.
and sing in perfect harmony
to God our Savior's praise;
he has redeemed us by his blood,
and made us kings and priests to God;
for us, for us, the Lamb was slain!
Praise ye the Lord! Amen.**

Greetings

President Bryon Grigsby
President Moravian University

Liturgy

The Rev. Jennnifer Nichols
Chaplain Moravian Academy

Creator God,

For the sun, moon, and stars that stand guard
over our days and nights, teaching us your faithfulness.
For the vast varieties of plants, birds, sea creatures,
and animals that teach us your creativity,
For plentiful harvests from single seeds that teach us
your abundant love,

We give you thanks.

God of Mercy and Justice,

For prophets through the centuries who have taught us
to treat others as we wish to be treated,
For the wisdom of those who have taught us
to forgive as we have been forgiven,
to love and pray for our enemies,
For Jesus who shows us how to live unselfish, sacrificial lives
healing the sick, feeding the hungry,
welcoming strangers, and advocating for justice,

We give you thanks.

Teacher God,

For past educators like John Amos Comenius,
Benigna Zinzendorf, and Elisabeth Oesterlein,
for those who have joined them in building up and
continuing our Moravian tradition of education,

For those who teach today, who invite us into
worlds of literature and history, science and math, music and art,
For those who may not call themselves teachers but whose lives
teach us how to revere the earth and to care for each other,

We give you thanks.

Tune: ST ANNE

Text: Tom Hunter. © 1992

**O God, who teaches us to live
and guides us on our way,
For all the teachers in our midst,
we give you thanks and praise.**

**For wisdom, skills, and confidence
where wonder leads to faith
For those who ask and those who hear,
we give you thanks and praise.**

**For words and numbers, hopes and dreams
that grow from day to day,
For inspiration's messengers,
we give you thanks and praise.**

Faithful God,

as we remember the past,
and those who left what was known for the unknown,
give us faith like theirs to answer your call.

May our journeys, Lord, teach us to cling more closely to you.

Enduring God,
as we remember the past
and those who endured the discomforts of change and travel,
give us fortitude as we make our own journeys
into new places of teaching, learning, and living.

May our journeys, Lord, ground us in your strength.

Guiding God,
as we remember the past
and our forebears who valued education for women and men,
for rich and poor, for people of every tribe and race,
give us eyes to see each person as one deserving the opportunity
to learn and grow, to thrive and contribute.

**May all we do, Lord, as we learn and teach,
bring hope and hospitality, health and healing
to the world you have given yourself to in love. Amen.**

Tune: ODE TO JOY

Text: John Dalles, © 1994, alt

Reprinted by permission of OneLicense #A-718538

**Bless the ones who nurture children,
sharing knowledge, showing love;
who by faithful words and actions
lead young lives to God above!
Bless all those whose voice and presence,
deep devotion, dignity,
motivate the church to reverence,
guiding Christ's community!**

**Bless the lives of dedication
– days and seasons, weeks and years,
spent in serving congregations,
spreading joys and soothing tears!
Bless these lives so firmly planted
in the grace the Savior brings,
flourishing as God had granted,**

soaring high on Spirit wings!

Scripture: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-10, 13-16 and 12:1-2a

Deana Bass Williams, C`95
Chair, 250th Journey Committee

Homily – Where Journeys Take Us

Special Music - SMB 49.5 Life Let Us Cherish

Rebekah Graver, soprano
Kelly Schmidt, alto.

Life let us cherish while yet the taper glows,
And the fresh flowers pluck ere its close.

Why are we fond of toil and care?
Why choose the rankling thorn to wear
And heedless by the Lily stray
Which blossoms on our way?

The genial seasons soon are o'er,
When let us e'er we quit this shore
Contentment seek, it is life'rest,
The sunshine of the breast.

Away with ev'ry toil and care
And east the rankling thorn to wear
With fearless hearts life's conflict meet
Till death sounds the retreat.

Commissioning the Walkers and Those Who Support Them

For those who will remember the past,
who will walk from Bethlehem to Salem,

Will you be faithful to the memory of those
who made this journey before you;
Will you support and encourage your fellow travelers;
Will you joyfully speak of our Moravian educational heritage
to anyone you meet along the way;
Will you rely on God for strength, wisdom, and courage?

We will!

For those returning to our regular routines and lives,

Will you honor those who have gone before us
by supporting and praying for those who walk in the present;
Will you joyfully represent our Moravian educational heritage
to those with whom you work and serve;
Will you rely on God for strength, wisdom, and courage
in your own learning and teaching?

We will!

God, who calls us to leave what is familiar
to find new places and paths of service,
we ask for your blessings on us all.

Keep us safe as we travel through life:
up hills and down into valleys,
across streams and rivers,
along quiet paths and busy highways.
Give us strength to face the challenges of each new day
and peaceful rest to restore us each night.
Help us to find joy, encouragement and support
in each other's company.
Grant us a deeper sense of connection
with those who have gone before us
and with those who will come after us.
Bless us all as we go where you send us,
as we learn more deeply your mercy,
as we practice more diligently your justice,
as we claim more faithfully your peace.

Amen.

Special Music “Jesus, Savior of My Soul”

SMB 38.9

Jesus, Savior of my Soul
let me to thy Refuge fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is nigh,
Hide me, Oh! My Savior hide.
Till the storm of life is past,
Safe into the haven guide
Oh receive, oh receive, oh receive
My soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,
Hangs my helpless soul on thee,
Leave, oh! leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stay'd
All my help from thee I bring
Cover my defenceless head
With the shadow, with the shadow,
With the shadow of thy wing.

Gift Diaries for Walkers

Hymn #793 When We Lift Our Pack and Go

Text: Shirley Erena Murray [1988]

Tune: LEONARD by Ian Render

Text and Tune © 1992. Hope Publishing Company

Reprinted by permission of One License, A-718538

**When we lift our pack and go,
when we seek another country,
moving far from all we know,
when we long to journey free –
Refrain**

**God is in the other place,
God is in another's face,
in the faith we travel by,
God is in the other place.**

**Through the loneliness of night,
through the sky's uncharted space
not a sparrow falls in flight
but a loving God will care – Refrain.**

**In the hands outstretched to greet,
through the open doors of strangers
there is love we yet can meet
and believe that Christ is there – Refrain.**

Benediction

“Gute Nacht”

SMB 51:23, verses 1 and 4

Good night! Good night!
to all tired ones be it brought.
The day nods quietly to an end,
rest all busy hands,
until the morning new awakens
Good night!

Good night!
Sleep until dawn awakens,
sleep until the new morning
comes with its new cares
without fear the Father watches.
Good night!

Gute Nacht! Gute Nacht!
alle Müden sey's gebracht.
Neigt der Tag sich still zu Ende
ruhe alle fleiss'gen Hände,
bis den Morgen neu erwacht!
Gute Nacht!

Gute Nacht!
Schlummert bis der Tag erwacht,
schlummert bish der neue Morgen
kommt mit seinen neuen Sorgen
ohne Furcht der Vater wacht,

Gute Nacht!

Postlude

"Prelude in G Major" Johann Sebastian Bach

“Now Thank We All Our God”

“A Chorale for the Older Girls”

“Jesus Still Lead On”

“A Chorale for the Single Sisters”

“We Who Here Together Are Assembled”

Trombone Choir Chorales

Thanks to Becky Lepore, Minister of Music of Central Moravian Church, and the Music Department for sponsoring this service and providing funding for our organist and soloists today.

Thanks to following individuals for enriching our worship by sharing their knowledge of Moravian history: Charlene Mowers, Historic Bethlehem Museums and Sites; Julie Tomberlin, Coordinator of the Unity Women’s Desk; and Paul Peucker, Northern Province Archivist.

We celebrate, today, the historical connections between and the educational ministries of Moravian Academy, Moravian University, and Salem Academy and College. In 1742, Benigna Zinzendorf founded a school for girls in the new settlement of Bethlehem. In 1766, a group of eighteen women, several of whom had been educated in Bethlehem’s Moravian school traveled from Bethlehem to Bethabara to become the backbone of the Single Sisters and Older Girls choirs there. In 1772, they moved from Bethabara to Salem and one of them, Sister Elisabeth Osterlein, became the first teacher of the Little Girl’s School in Salem. Exchanges of teachers and administrative personnel would continue several more decades between Bethlehem and Salem. Benigna’s school evolved into the Moravian Academy and Moravian University and the Little Girls school in Salem evolved into Salem Academy and Collage. We look forward to future connections between these three Moravian educational institutions, all founded because of the Moravian commitment to education for all, including girls and women.

Much of our music today comes from the Salem Manuscript Books (SMB) now in the Moravian Music Foundation archives in Winston-

Salem, North Carolina. These manuscript books give us a record of the variety of music the teachers and students at the Girls' Boarding School in Salem would have been using for their own personal learning and pleasure and for their worship and other community events. The pieces performed today have been transcribed by Mary Lynnette Delbridge and reprinted with permission of the Moravian Music Foundation.

The Chapel at Central Moravian Church

The Chapel was constructed in 1751 as the second place of worship for the Bethlehem Moravian congregation. Using existing walls of the Gemeinhaus for its south wall, the building took only three months to complete. The two-story stone structure was built in the traditional Germanic architecture, with buttresses added to reinforce side walls. Originally, the Chapel could be entered only from the Gemeinhaus and Bell House, with the men and women entering through separate doors. The Communion Table (pulpit area) was on the west wall. The basement was used as a dining room for married couples.

Many notable people worshiped in the Chapel during the Revolutionary War period, including Benjamin Franklin, Martha Washington, George Washington; also John Adams, Samuel Adams, Marquis de Lafayette, John Hancock, Ethan Allen, Count Casimir Pulaski, General Horatio Gates and John Paul Jones. On March 10, 1792, fifty-one chiefs and representatives of the Six-Nations (Iroquois Confederacy) came to Bethlehem on their way to Philadelphia to meet with George Washington. Among them were the great chiefs Red Jacket, Corn Planter and Big Tree. They gathered in the Chapel, the Indians in ceremonial feathers and leggings and the brethren and sisters in their plain garb.

For fifty-five years, from 1751-1806, when Central Church was completed, the Chapel was known as the Bethlehem Church and was the principal place of worship for the Moravian congregation. In 1865 the Chapel was altered and an entrance was added on the north wall which continues to be the main entrance today.

The Chapel is used today for early worship on Sunday, weddings, funerals, special musical programs during Advent and Lenten services. Moravian Academy uses the Chapel for weekly services, lovefeasts and other special events. The lower level is used by Busy Workers and other groups for weekly work sessions, classes, and committee meetings.

Central Moravian Church

In 1741, Moravian settlers built a log house on the east bank of the Monocacy Creek. From this vantage point on the frontier of Pennsylvania, they planned to serve unchurched German settlers and bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the Native Americans in the region. On December 24, their patron, Count Zinzendorf, named this new place of ministry, Bethlehem.

These missionary settlers in Bethlehem were part of one of the oldest recognized Protestant denominations in the world, the *Unitas Fratrum* or the *Unity of the Brethren* begun in 1457 in what is now the Czech Republic. After years of persecution in their native land, many from the old *Unity* immigrated to Germany where they began settling on Zinzendorf's estate in 1722. With a renewed spirit of purpose, they began sending out missionaries in 1732 and over the years developed a far-flung mission movement that lives on today in Moravian churches, schools, and communities throughout the world in places like the Caribbean, Central America, North America, Alaska, Labrador, Europe, Nepal, and Africa.

Central Moravian Church carries on the work begun by those who first settled Bethlehem. Worshipping in the Chapel, built in 1751, and the Sanctuary, built in 1806, Central nurtures the faith of its members, supports mission work in Tanzania and Nepal, and takes an active part in the life of the Lehigh Valley community. Children, youth, and adults participate in music, fellowship, and educational groups. The church provides comfort to those in need by sharing food and clothing, engaging in advocacy work, caring for creation, providing mental health resources, and offering support and shelter to refugees and the homeless. The congregation worships together on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel and at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Summer worship (June-August) is at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

Pastors: Hopeton Clennon and Lynnette Delbridge

Parish Pastor: Maggie Wellert

Website: www.centralmoravianchurch.org