



MORAVIAN UNIVERSITY

Christmas Vespers

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

December 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 2024

In order to maintain the reverence appropriate to a worship service, we ask that you not turn the pages in your program until that portion of the service is completed. Please refrain from conversation during the prelude and service. Turn off all cell phones, pagers, and similar devices so they will not interrupt the service. Photography and recording devices are not permitted during the service.



Moravian University is proud to be an All-Steinway School.

To all who join us to celebrate the spirit of this season,

On behalf of Moravian University, I welcome you to our 2024 Christmas Vespers service. The service unites two worship traditions in the Moravian Church: the *Singstunde* and the candlelight service. Since the 1720s, Moravians have been known for their worshipful singing, and a Moravian *Singstunde* (singing hour) is a service of music without preaching. In tonight's service, the music has been carefully selected and arranged to bring the Christmas message to listeners without the need of a sermon.

The Moravian candlelight service originated in 1747 in Marienborn, Germany, when candles with red trimming were distributed at the children's Christmas service. Bethlehem's first candle service was conducted in 1756. The beloved hymn "Morning Star," originally written for a child's voice and a chorus of children, was composed in 1836 by Francis Florentine Hagen, an alumnus of the Moravian Theological Seminary Class of 1835. A version for soprano and mixed chorus was published by 1876. By long tradition, however, it is sung by a child soloist with responses from the mixed choir and congregation.

The donations taken at Christmas Vespers directly support student financial aid at Moravian University. We are happy to be able to share this distinctive and moving Christmas worship

Moravian University

Christmas Vespers

E I D I G

The Reverend Jennika M. Eckhaus Borger '98, S'01
CHAPLAIN
MORAVIAN UNIVERSITY

L I G I

Nicole L. Loyd
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT,
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, AND DEAN OF STUDENTS
December 6

Katherine Hancock Ragsdale
INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT AND
DEAN OF THE SEMINARIES
December 13

Bryon L. Grigsby '90, P'22, P'26
PRESIDENT OF MORAVIAN UNIVERSITY
December 7

G. Christopher Hunt
VICE PRESIDENT
AND DEAN FOR EQUITY AND INCLUSION
December 14

Carol A. Traupman-Carr
PROVOST, VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, AND PROFESSOR OF MUSIC
December 8

Heather Hosfeld '92
VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL
December 15

M A I A I E I C H I

Paula Ring Zerkle, *music director and conductor*
Barbara Thomson, *organist*

AC I A

HEAD SACRISTANS

Jae M. Egge, Kristian R. Wolf

ASSISTANT HEAD SACRISTAN

Elly C. Rothrock

HEAD USHER

Morgen I. Johnson

ASSISTANT HEAD USHER

Lexi Chamberlain

CORNER CAPTAINS

Zachery Bingaman
Rachel Casimir
Allison Danneberger
Victoria A. DiMondo

Kylie A. Dowd
Gabriella Brennan Freay
Alanis Colon Ortiz
Celia Gloy

Tori L. Harper
Emma Harvey
Ava G. Larsen
Ava Piotti

Juliana L. Thompson
Mary K. West

EL DEMIC

A L G
F .120

J . H (1732 1809)

E E E ICE

CH I

L A

E (.1970)

Lux,
calida gravisque pura velut aurum,
et canunt angeli molliter
modo natum.

Light,
warm and heavy as pure gold,
and the angels sing softly
to the newborn baby.

Vocalis

CH I A DC G EGA I

C , C ,E (E)

:M A

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

- 3.

LI G

:

December 6 – Dawn Talley
December 7 – Kelly A. Johnson
December 8 – Stephen R. Whitehead

December 13 – Byrnes E. Craig
December 14 – Byrnes E. Craig
December 15 – Amanda J. Muschett

Offered by members of Moravian University faculty and staff

December 6 – Aileen J. Thompson
December 7 – Carolanne M.V. Carty
December 8 – Natasha N. Woods

December 13 – Arash Naraghi
December 14 – Kristin A. Eicholtz
December 15 – Catherine E. Williams

FFE

A. M
*Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Dominus tecum,
benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.
Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis.*

J A (1514 1575),
Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee,
blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, pray for us.
Moravian University Grey Hounds

A
*Adoramus Te, Christe,
et benedicimus tibi,
quia per sanctam crucem tuam
redemisti mundum.
Qui passus es pro nobis,
Domine, Domine, miserere nobis.*

G (1525 1594),
We adore Thee, O Christ,
and we bless Thee,
who by thy holy cross
hast redeemed the world.
You, who has suffered death for us,
O Lord, O Lord, have mercy on us.
Moravian University Grey Hounds

J
*Os justi meditabitur sapientiam,
et lingua ejus loquetur judicium.
Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsius;
et non supplantabuntur gressus ejus.
Alleluia.*

E D (1955)
The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom,
and his tongue speaks what is just.
The law of his God is in his heart;
and his feet do not falter.
Alleluia.
Abigail Rochlin and Faith Bonnet, *soprano*
Moravian University Blue Stars

C G EGA I

Please stand

J C M J M
1.

A D (1620 1701)

CH I

G

Gaudete! Christus est natus, ex Maria Virgine: Gaudete!
Tempus ad est gratiae, Hoc quod optabamus;
Carmina laeticiæ Devote redamus.
Deus homo factus est, Natura mirante;
Mundus renovatus est A Christo regnante.
E ichie i a C a a o a i;
Unde Lux est orta, Salus invenitur.
Ergo nostra concio Psallat jam in lustris;
Benedicat Domino; Salus Regi nostro.

Rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary; rejoice!
 The time of grace has come for which we have prayed;
 Let us devoutly sing songs of joy.
 God is made man, while nature wonders;
 The world is renewed by Christ the King.
 The closed gate of Ezekiel has been passed through;
 From where the Light has risen, salvation is found.
 Therefore, let our assembly sing praises now at this time
 of purification;
 Let it bless the Lord; greetings to our King.

Samuel Lingen, Nina Worsley, Nicole Bellesfield, Abigail Rochlin, Jaymie Roddy, *soloists*
 Amari Anaya, Jacob Kremer, *percussion*
 Moravian University Choir

L

Sing lullaby while snow doth gently fall.
 Sing lullaby to Jesus, born in an oxen stall.
 Sing lullaby to Jesus, born now in Bethlehem,
 The naked blackthorn's growing to weave his diadem.
 Sing lullaby while thickly snow doth fall.
 Sing lullaby to Jesus, the Saviour of all.

H H (1892 1983)

Moravian Chorale

L
Laudamus te,
benedicimus te,
adoramus te,
glorificamus te.

We praise you,
 we bless you,
 we worship you,
 we glorify you.

K J (.1944)

Moravian University Choir

K
Kyrie eleison,
Christe eleison,
Kyrie eleison.

God have mercy,
 Christ have mercy,
 God have mercy.

'26

Vocalis

D H
 Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
 'Tis the season to be jolly,
 Don we now our gay apparel,
 Troll the ancient yuletide carol.

J M K

See the blazing yule before us,
 Strike the harp and join the chorus,
 Follow me in merry measure,
 While I tell of yuletide treasure.

Fast away the old year passes,
 Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,
 Sing we joyous all together,
 Heedless of the wind and weather.

Devon DeProspero, *soprano*
 Moravian University Choir

I t's the most wonderful time of the year
 with the kids jingle belling
 and everyone telling you, "be of good cheer"
 It's the most wonderful time of the year.

It's the hap-happiest season of all
 With those holiday greetings and gay happy meetings
 When friends come to call
 It's the hap-happiest season of all.

E There'll be parties for hosting
 Marshmallows for toasting
 And caroling out in the snow
 There'll be scary ghost stories
 And tales of the glories of
 Christmases long, long ago.

It's the most wonderful time of the year
 There'll be much mistletoeing
 And hearts will be glowing
 When loved ones are near
 It's the most wonderful time of the year.

Moravian University Choir

CH I A D C G EGA I

D E

G H (1874 1934)

1. On this day earth shall ring
 With the song children sing
 To the Lord, Christ our king,
 Born on earth to save us;
 Him the Father gave us.
Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. His the doom, ours the mirth;
 When he came down to earth,
 Bethlehem saw his birth;
 Ox and ass beside him,
 From the cold would hide him.
Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

3.
 K
 L
Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

4. On this day angels sing;
 3. With their song earth shall ring.
C Praising Christ, heaven of
 Born on earth to save us.
A Peace and love he gave us.
A *Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.*
A ,L

L A M C 9.9 (F . K)43.1 ()J/ - A EEFF0009 BDC () , EMC 47.696 0 ()3 ()J/ -
 A . C 5.9 ()6.1 (.)J15.535 0 () , -15.535 -1.5 ()20 ()27.1 (-)

A
 F
 H
 A

CA DLELIGH E ICE

B G , H L (H) : .A . (337. 397)

1. Behold a great, a heavenly light,
From Bethlehem's manger shining bright,
Around those who in darkness dwell,
The night of evil to dispel.

3. He left his bright, his glorious throne;
He bowed the heavens, to earth came down,
And thus his wondrous race began,
As God with God to serve his land.

2. What heights, what depths of love divine,
In thy blest incarnation shine!
Let heaven and earth unite their lays,
To magnify thy boundless grace.

4. Incarnate God, exert thy power;
Arise, thou glorious conqueror;
Subdue sin, death, and every foe;
Erect thy kingdom here below.

D ? C

:C F . A I (1818 1895)

1. Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle-shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed;
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;

M F . F . . . H (1815 1907)
:J (1624 1677)

1. : *Morning Star, O cheering sight!*
Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night!
A : Morning Star, O cheering sight!
Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night!

: *Jesus mine,*
A : in me shine;

: *In me shine,*
A : Jesus mine.
Fill my heart with light divine.

2. : *Morning Star, thy glory bright*
Far excels the sun's clear light.
A : Morning Star, thy glory bright
Far excels the sun's clear light.

: *Jesus be,*
A : constantly;

:

CH I A D C G EGA I

A ., . G

:J . M (1771 1854)

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, 3.
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night.
God incarnate now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king.

Moravian University Choir

Paula Ring Zerkle, *director*

Lynda Chen, *accompanist*

Samuel Lingen, *president*

Moravian University Blue Stars

Paula Ring Zerkle, *director*

Lynda Chen, *accompanist*

Sherry Anderson, *president*

Abigail Rochlin, Alyssa Cassel, *vice presidents/managers*

Madison Robb, *secretary*

Lindsay Detwiler, *treasurer*

1

Elena Arzayus
Devon DeProspo
Dani Finken
Alyssa Foli
Pearl Gillis
Morgan Martin
Elyn Millheim
Elaine Nguyen
Madison Robb
Jaymie Roddy
Ellie Umstead

2

Sherry Anderson
Brittany Cicchino
Rachel Corwin
Sarah Fabian
Catherine Forrester
Eva Giordano
Brooke Gormley
Lexi Jordan
Claire Light
Logan Palau
Jordan Soffera
Nina Worsley

A 1

Ava Aulicino
Karina Bernatowicz
Faith Bonnet
Fatimah Bouri
Samatha Buckley
Dakota Eckhoff
Emma Fastiggi
Amanda Koehler
Anna Portalatin
Sage Wilson
Megan Zeruth

A 2

Nicole Bellesfield
Alyssa Cassel
Lindsay Detwiler
Sarah Guthrie
Ashlee Limbacher
Marisol Llaudes
Emma Pollackov
Abigail Rochlin
Fenne Rudgers
Anna Spadavecchia
Holly Wiener

Moravian University Grey Hounds

Paula Ring Zerkle, *director*

Lynda Chen, *accompanist*

Samuel Lingen, *president*

Amari Anaya, Sean Riedy, *vice presidents/managers*

Sean Riedy, *secretary*

Jacob Kremer, *treasurer*

1

Ryan Demarest
Evan Hawk
Kyle Johnston
Andrew Miller
Elijah Young

2

Joshua Fink
Jacob Kremer
Samuel Lingen
David Marrero
Sean Riedy

