



**OUR SAVIOR'S MORAVIAN CHURCH
ALTURA, MINNESOTA**

website: oursaviorsmoravian.org 



**December 13th, 2020
3rd Sunday of Advent**

The **Purpose** of this Church shall be to **glorify** God in adoration, **Love** and **service** as God's **missionary** to our **community**, our **nation**, and our **world**, bearing witness to **God's** redeeming **grace** in **Jesus Christ**."

Watchword for the Week: May the God of peace sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Prelude

Lighting our Advent Candle of Joy

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship** Isaiah 9:2-3

***Greeting Each Other in Christ**

***Hymn** *Rejoice, Rejoice, the Kingdom Comes* #260

Liturgy of the Savior to Come Insert

Children's Moment

Special Music *Veiled in Darkness* Judah Lay

Congregational Prayer

Scripture John 1:1-18

Hymn *Light in Our Darkness* Insert

Message *A Light in the Darkness*

Hymn *How Bright Appears the Morning Star* #278

***Benediction**

In Our Worship This Morning

Pastor: Rev. Gregory M Behrend Cell: 920.522.3580
Parsonage: 507.796.2220

Music: Moravian Musicians from around the country

Attendance last week: Online Year to Date Average: 42
Weekly Need: \$2,234.00 Year to Date Need: \$107,232.00
Offering last week: Not Available Year to Date Offering: \$80,771.00

Prayers

Joan Schwager (Whitewater Nursing Home, Saint Charles), Betty Gatzlaff (Lewiston Assisted Living). Alice Stark – Fractured Hips/Bypass Surgery (Sauer Health, Winona).

On the Calendar

Today: Online Worship Service 9:30am
Confirmation Class on Zoom – 5:00pm

December 14: A Journey Through Advent (Online Scripture Reading Service) 6:00pm
Joint Board Meeting 7:00pm

December 15: Women's Bible Study Group Online – 7:00pm

December 16: A New Way of Being Online Series – 6:00pm

December 20: Worship 9:30am*

December 24: Christmas Eve Services:
- Prerecorded Online Service available anytime
- 2pm In-person service *
- 5pm In-person service*
- 7pm In-person service*

December 31: New Year's Eve Holy Communion 4:00-6:00pm

Liturgy of the Savior to Come

(Standing)

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!*

It was not a parade of glory that welcomed our Savior into this world.

Instead it was through the faith of a man and woman. They trusted the signs that appeared to them. As terrified or uncertain as they were, they found their faith in the one that was coming to them.

God's presence was with them, and it is still among us, if we but open our eyes to see it and our hearts to feel it.

May God's Spirit rest in our hearts today and always.

*O come O Son of God most high deliver us sinfulness and pride
Restore in us a childlike heart to consecrate and set us apart
Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel Shall come to thee O Israel*

Whether they knew it or not in those moments, the faith of Mary and Joseph led them to understand what God was doing. They understood it was God's gift of love that came into the world through their son Jesus.

Love that came to embrace them, to teach them, and to walk with them. We pray now that God might move within our hearts. That we may be inspired by the baby in the manger as we seek to understand God's calling in our own lives.

*O come O Savior of this world the long awaited promise You
foretold and right the wrongs that we have done we pray Your
glorious Kingdom come
Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel*

(Sitting)

Let us now take time to bow before our Creator and confess our sins

Silent Prayer of Confession

God who has already come into, and continues to come into this world:

Hear us as we pray.

We bow before you and empty ourselves to you. In our moments when we have been faced with a difficult task full of uncertainty and we fell short of our calling, we ask your forgiveness Holy God. In our moments when we turned away from the needs of another, we ask your forgiveness Holy God. In our moments when our hearts and minds have not been placed entirely in your hands, we ask your forgiveness Holy God.

God, we bow humbly before you and ask that we might rise renewed in your Spirit. Amen.

The Lord is with us and is yet before us. He is beckoning us to follow him.

(Standing)

*O come, O Come Emmanuel
O come, O Come Emmanuel
O come, O Come Emmanuel
O come, O Come Emmanuel
Oh....oh*

Mary and Joseph were called by God, just as each of us is called. They journeyed with fear in their minds but hope in their hearts.

Holy God, we offer our lives to you this day. May our hearts and minds overcome all fears and anxieties; and may we be filled with your abiding peace, now and forevermore. Amen.

**THE POINSETTIA'S GRACING OUR SANCTUARY
HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY:**

Patty & Rich Stark in memory of Eleanor (Boughton) Stark

Dennis & Carolyn Verthein and Augusta Verthein in memory of
Doris & Clayton Taylor, Kermit & Augusta Verthein and
Alice Hendrickson.

Norma Simon, Joy, Jena & Colten Schulte in memory of Verna
Simon, Milton Simon, Linda Matzke, Allan Simon, and Alice
Hendrickson.

Mike & Brenda Sing in memory of Ed Sing & Ken Johnson

Helen Schumacher in memory of Glen Schumacher, Lloyd & Alice
Schumacher, Lee & Irene Rogers.

Mark & Mary Olson in memory of Clint & Helen Olson, Jean Ann
Schumacher

Mike & Cheryl Lovlien in memory of their parents & grandparents
Kassner & Lovlien.

Andrew & Michelle VanLoon in memory of grandparents

The Brosig Family in memory of Kathy's father - John Schultz

Earl & Kris Hammell in memory of Bill, Gladys & John Anderson

Light in Our Darkness

Text and tune: Jill B. Bruckart (2020)

Musical notation for the first system of the hymn. It features a treble and bass clef with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 90. The lyrics are: 1. Light in our dark - ness; faith for to - mor - row; 2. Lord, we now claim your grace and your pro - mise;

Musical notation for the second system of the hymn. The lyrics are: hope for the jour - ney, walk - ing on. shine on our path and show the way.

Musical notation for the third system of the hymn. The lyrics are: Strength for our sor - row; shar - ing the pro - mise; Praise for your good - ness; praise for your faith - ful - ness;

Musical notation for the fourth system of the hymn. The lyrics are: peace for your child - ren, we seek your love. filled, ov - er - flow - ing, praise Lord of love.