

*A Festival of Lessons  
and Carols*



*Bethania Moravian Church*

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## Offertory

Prayer

Anthem

Response    Light of Light, we humbly pray,  
                 Shine upon Your world today.  
                 Break the gloom of our dark night,  
                 Fill our souls with love and light,  
                 Give your blessed Word rebirth,  
                 “Peace, good will to all on earth.”

## *The First Lesson*

GENESIS 22: 15-18

## Carol

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him, born the king of angels;

**[Refrain]** *O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!*

O sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:  
Glory to God, glory in the highest; **[Refrain]**

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! **[Refrain]**

## *The Second Lesson*

ISAIAH 11: 1-4, 6-9

**Carol**     *Come, O Long-Expected Jesus*

Come, O long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set your people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
O, in you our rest shall be.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope to all the earth impart,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born your people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now your gracious kingdom bring.  
By your own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By your all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to your glorious throne.

## *The Third Lesson*

ISAIAH 9: 2, 6-7

### **Carol** *People In Darkness Are Looking For Light*

People in darkness are looking for light,  
Come, come, come Jesus Christ.  
People with blindness are longing for sight,  
Come, Lord Jesus Christ.  
These days of adventure when all people wait  
Are days for the advent of Love.

People in sickness are praying for health,  
Come, come, come Jesus Christ.  
People in poverty want to have wealth,  
Come, Lord Jesus Christ.  
These days of adventure when all people wait  
Are days for the advent of Hope.

## *The Fourth Lesson*

LUKE 1: 26-35, 38

**Carol**

*O Come, O Come Immanuel*

O come, O come, Immanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

**[Refrain]**

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel!*

O come, O wisdom from on high,  
And order all things far and nigh;  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And teach us in her ways to go. **[Refrain]**

O come, O bright and morning star,  
And bring us comfort from afar!  
Dispel the shadows of the night  
And turn our darkness into light. **[Refrain]**

O come, Desire of Nations, bind  
All peoples in one heart and mind;  
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease;  
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. **[Refrain]**

*The Fifth Lesson*

LUKE 2: 1-7

**Carol**

*Away in a Manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus! I ask you to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care;  
And fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

*The Sixth Lesson*

LUKE 2: 8-16

**Carol**

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

Silent night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born,  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night.  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from your holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

## *The Seventh Lesson*

MATTHEW 2: 1-12

### **Carol**

### *What Child Is This?*

What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

So, bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, peasant, King, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

## *The Eighth Lesson*

MATTHEW 2: 13-23

### **Carol**

### *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.



For Christ is born of Mary,  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth;  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him still,  
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel.

## *The Ninth Lesson*

JOHN 1: 1-14

**Carol**

*Angels We Have Heard On High*

Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing through the night,  
And the mountains in reply  
echoing their brave delight.

**[Refrain]**

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why this song of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see?  
What glad tidings did you hear? **[Refrain]**

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing.  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ, the Lord, the new-born king. **[Refrain]**

See him in a manger laid  
Whom the angels praise above.  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
While we raise our hearts in love. **[Refrain]**

**Prayer**

**Carol**

*Joy to the World*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let us our songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

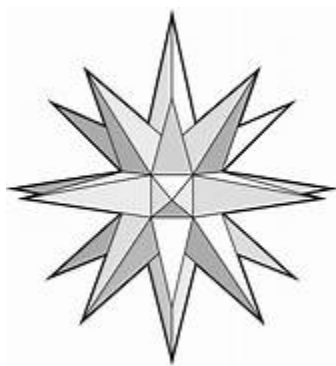
No more let sin and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*If you do not wish to keep this ode as a keepsake, please  
leave it uncreased in your pew so that it can be used for  
years to come. Thank you!*





## *Welcome to Bethania Moravian Church!*

We are so glad you are in worship with us today! Please check out our announcements and events calendar to see what is going on in the life of the church. If you would like to receive more information about the Church, please contact the Church office.

### **Our Prayer Requests for this Sunday**

Debbie Carter, Gary Collins, Bob Delp, Richard Kelley, Molly Leinbach, Mandy Pearson, The Family of Becy Sapp, Joy Stapleton, Janet Styers

*Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayers. Amen.*

*(To add or remove from this list, please contact the church office.)*

### **Our Church Staff**

The Reverend Linda Seippel, Pastor  
Joshua D. Whitt, Director of Music  
Phyllis O'Keef, Interim Organist and Pianist  
Faye Bricca, Handbells Director

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## Today's Musical Selections

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Beside Thy Cradle, Here I Stand</i>	
Bach		
<b>Offertory</b>	<i>The First Noel</i>	Krentz
Organ		
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>Glory To God in the Highest</i>	
Pergolesi/Caudill		

## Announcements and Events

**Handbells** will NOT be meeting tomorrow, December 30<sup>th</sup>.

**The staff meeting** will be this Tuesday at 10:30 in Pastor Linda's office.

**The Church Office** will be closed on Wed., Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> for the holiday.

**The band** will NOT meet this Thursday.

**The Observance of the Epiphany with the celebration of the Sacrament of the Holy Communion** will be next Sun., Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> during the 11:00 worship hour.

**The Widowed Friends Support Group** will meet Wed., Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00.

**The Trustees** will meet Thur., Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00.

**The Visitation Committee** will meet Tue., Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

**The Elders** will meet Tue., Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

## Attendance –12/22/2024