



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 Tomson, *organist*

A C 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. Tomson
Mary K. West

EL DEMIC

A **L** **G**
F **.120**

J . H (1732 1809)

E E E ICE

CH I

L A i i i

E (.1970)

*Lux,
calida gravisque pura velut aurum,
et canunt angeli molliter*

**Light,
warm and heavy as pure gold,**

LI G

:

Luke 2:1-14. Read by students of Moravian and Lancaster Theological Seminaries

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. ompson

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

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 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? M

E (1907 1995), G (1916 2003), .K

It'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.

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

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.

It's the most wonderful time of the year
ere'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 DC 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.

3.

K
L
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.

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 le 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 L 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 DeProspero
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 Soera
Nina Worsley

A 1

Ava Aulicino
Karina Bernatowicz
Faith Bonnet
Fatimah Bouri
Samatha Buckley
Dakota Eckho
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

