



CALVARY
MORAVIAN

Unity. Liberty. Love. Serve.

CHRISTMAS EVE

LOVEFEAST AND CANDLE SERVICE

DECEMBER 24, 2020

600 Holly Avenue
Winston-Salem, NC 27101-2716
Witnessing to the love of God in the heart
of Winston-Salem since 1893.



CHRISTMAS EVE LOVEFEAST AND CANDLE SERVICE

December 24, 2020

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased.” Luke 2:14 (ESV)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

BAND PRELUDE The Calvary Band, Brian Lott, *Director*

TRINITY CHIME

HANDBELLS – *Carol of the Bells* M. Leontovich (1877-1921)
arr., Janet Van Valey and Susan Berry
The Calvary Ringers

STRINGS PRELUDE – *Greensleeves*
Ruth Metheny and Monika Wilmot, *violins*
Alexandra Johnston, *cello*

ORGAN AND TRUMPET PRELUDE – *Once in Royal David's City*
Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

Anita Cirba, *trumpet*
Mary Louise Kapp Peeples, *organ*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Carloyn Perry

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN – *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

T. ADESTE FIDELES

Mrs. Metheny, Mrs. Wilmot, Ms. Johnston, and Ms. Cirba
Mrs. Peeples

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;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:
glory to God, glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.

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!
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PRAYER

THE CHRISTMAS STORY AND THE SINGING OF HYMNS

“In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.”

Luke 2:1-5 RSV

HYMN – *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

T. ST. LOUIS

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.

(The hymn continues on the next page.)

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 Immanuel.

“And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.”

Luke 2:6-7 RSV

HYMN – *Away in a Manger*

T. MUELLER

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 hymn continues on the next page.)

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 cradle
till 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.

“And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, ‘Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

*‘Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!’”*
Luke 2:8-14 RSV

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story;
now proclaim Messiah's birth.
*Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Shepherds in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God on earth is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.
*Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Sages, leave your contemplations;
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
you have seen his natal star.
*Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

“When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.’”

Luke 2:15 RSV

Softly the night is sleeping
on Bethlehem's peaceful hill;
silent the shepherds watching,
the gentle flocks are still.
But hark! The wondrous music
falls from the op'ning sky;
valley and cliff re-echo,
"Glory to God on high!"
Glory to God! Glory to God!
Glory to God! It rings again;
Peace on the earth! Goodwill to men!

Day in the east is breaking;
day o'er the crimsoned earth;
now the glad world is waking,
glad in the Savior's birth!
See where the clear star bendeth
over the manger blessed;
see where the infant Jesus
smiles upon Mary's breast!
Glory to God! Glory to God!
Glory to God! It rings again;
Peace on the earth! Goodwill to men!

"And they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they saw it they made known the saying which had been told them concerning this child; and all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart."

Luke 2:16-19 RSV

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,
darkness flies, all is light;
shepherds hear the angels sing,
“Alleluia! hail the King!
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.

*“And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God
for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.”*

Luke 2:20 RSV

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: *Thanks be to God.*

INTRODUCTION OF THE LOVEFEAST

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry 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 sorrow 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.

THE MORAVIAN BLESSING

Come, Lord Jesus, our Guest to be,
and bless these gifts bestowed by Thee.
Bless our loved ones everywhere,
and keep them in Thy loving care. Amen.

(Partaking of the Lovefeast.)

MEDITATION

OFFERTORY INTRODUCTION AND PRAYER

OFFERTORY HYMN – *Morning Star, O Cheering Sight*
T. HAGEN (310 B)

Soloists, Choral Ensemble, and Congregation

(The congregation sings the words in italics.)

Morning Star, O cheering sight!
Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night!
Morning Star, O cheering sight!
Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night!
Jesus mine, *in me shine;*
in me shine, *Jesus mine;*
fill my heart with light divine.

(The hymn continues on the next page.)

Morning Star, thy glory bright
far excels the sun's clear light.
*Morning Star, thy glory bright
far excels the sun's clear light.*
Jesus be, constantly;
constantly, Jesus be
more than thousand suns to me.

Thy glad beams, thou Morning Star,
cheer the nations near and far.
*Thy glad beams, thou Morning Star,
cheer the nations near and far.*
Thee we own, Lord alone,
Lord alone, thee we own,
our dear Savior, God's dear son.

Morning Star, my soul's true light,
tarry not, dispel my night.
*Morning Star, my soul's true light,
tarry not, dispel my night.*
Jesus mine, *in me shine;*
in me shine, *Jesus mine;*
fill my heart with light divine.

HYMN – *Behold, A Great, A Heavenly Light*

T. VOM HIMMEL HOCH

Behold, a great, a heavenly light,
from Bethlehem's manger shining bright,
around those who in darkness dwell,
the night of evil to dispel.

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

(The lighting of candles.)

CLOSING HYMN – *Christ the Lord, the Lord Most Glorious*

T. CHRIST THE LORD

Christ the Lord, the Lord most glorious,
now is born; O shout aloud!
We by him are made victorious;
praise the Savior, hail our God!

Praise the Lord! On us is shining
Christ, the sun of righteousness;
he, to us in love inclining,
cheers our souls with pard'ning grace.

Praise the Lord, whose saving splendor
shines into the darkest night;
O what praises shall we render
for this never-ceasing light.

Praise the Lord, God our salvation,
praise him who retrieved our loss;
sing, with awe and love's sensation,
hallelujah, God with us.

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE – *In the Name of Jesus, Amen*

ORGAN POSTLUDE – *Finale from Symphony No. 1*
Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

Mrs. Peeples



† PRAYER OF MEDITATION †
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

God of all ages, in the birth of Christ your boundless love for your people shattered the power of darkness. Be born in us with that same love and light, that our song may blend with all the choirs of heaven and earth to the glory of your holy name. *Amen.*



Participating Ministers – 2020

The Right Reverend Lane A. Sapp
The Reverend Chaz Snider

THE MORAVIAN LOVEFEASTS

The early Christians met and broke bread together to signify their union, fellowship and love. In 1727, the Moravian Church revived this practice, and it has established the custom of celebrating the great church festivals by partaking together of a simple meal known as a “lovefeast”. The first lovefeast in Wachovia was held at Bethabara on the evening of the arrival of the first Moravian colonists in North Carolina, November 17, 1753. The Christmas Eve Lovefeast, with its lighted candles, is one of the most beautiful services of the Moravian Church. The custom originated on the European continent at Marienborn, Germany in the year 1747, and spread throughout the Moravian world. Worshippers are given a lighted candle to remind them that Christ said, *“I am the light of the world,”* and *“You are the light of the world – let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in Heaven.”*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome you on this Christmas Eve to Calvary Moravian's live stream broadcast of our Christmas Eve Lovefeast and Candle Service, and we hope you will choose to worship with us again soon. If you would like to know more about our church, you may visit our website (www.calvarymoravian.org) or our Facebook page. *Our service today* may be viewed at any time on Christmas Eve by going to the Calvary website:

Go to: www.calvarymoravian.org

Scroll down to "Advent and Christmas Eve Schedule."

We thank all Calvary members assisting with today's service, including the Calvary Band Trio, with Brian Lott, *Director*; Carloyn Perry for the lighting of the Advent wreath; our guest musicians in the instrumental ensemble, with Ruth Metheny and Monika Wilmot, *violins*, Alexandra Johnston, *cello*, and Anita Cirba, *trumpet*; the Calvary Ringers; the Choral Ensemble from our choir; our organist, Mary Louise Kapp Peoples; and the staff, who are leading our Christmas Eve worship via the live stream broadcast.

The poinsettias in the sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Fordham, Sr., Mr. N. D. Fordham, Jr., and Mrs. Beth Fordham Golden by the family.

The majority of today's Christmas Eve offering will be distributed to assist various agencies and ministry causes within our community. Your generosity enables us to offer these causes substantial support. We appreciate your gifts. You may mail your gift to Calvary Moravian Church, 600 Holly Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC 27101-2716 and designate it for "Christmas Eve Offering." You may also make an online gift via the Calvary website.



Calvary Moravian Church
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2020

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Website: www.calvarymoravian.org

The Rt. Rev. Lane A. Sapp	(lsapp@calvarymoravian.org)	<i>Pastor</i>
The Rev. Chaz Snider	(Chazsnider@calvarymoravian.org)	<i>Associate Pastor</i>
Mrs. Amanda M. Schumpert	(amoodu@calvarymoravian.org)	<i>Director of Music and Congregational Ministries</i>
Mrs. Mary Louise Kapp Peoples		<i>Organist</i>
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