

CHRISTMAS

REGENT SQUARE (585 D) pg. 293

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. *Refrain*

Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations; you have seen his natal star. *Refrain*

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One. *Refrain*

SCRIPTURE: I John 4: 7-21

LENT AND TIMES OF TEMPTATION

PENITENCE (141 E) pg. 419 RH

In the hour of trial, Jesus, plead for me;
lest by base denial I depart from thee;
when thou see'st me waver, with a look recall,
nor for fear or favor suffer me to fall.

With forbidden pleasures would this vain world charm;
or its sordid treasures spread to work me harm;
bring to my remembrance sad Gethsemane,
or in darker semblance, cross-crowned Calvary.

When my last hour cometh, fraught with strife and pain,
when my dust returneth to the dust again,
on thy truth relying through that mortal strife,
Jesus, take me, dying, to eternal life.

MAUNDY THURSDAY TO EASTER

LATROBE (581 A) pg. 349

Go to dark Gethsemane, all who feel the tempter's power;
your Redeemer's conflict see, watch with him one bitter hour.
Turn not from his griefs away; learn of Jesus Christ to pray.

Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at his feet,
mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" hear him cry; learn of Jesus Christ to die.

Early hasten to the tomb where they laid his breathless clay;
all is solitude and gloom; who has taken him away?
Christ is ris'n—he meets our eyes! Savior, teach us so to rise.

EASTER AND THE LIFE ETERNAL

WAREHAM (22 H) pg. 469

Come, let us sing the song of songs, with hearts and voices swell the strain,
the homage which to Christ belongs: "Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain!"

Slain to redeem us by his blood, to cleanse from ev'ry sinful stain,
and make us kings and priests to God; "Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain!"

To him who suffered on the tree our souls, at his soul's price, to gain,
blessing, and praise, and glory be, "Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain!"

Long as we live, and when we die, and while in heaven with him we reign,
this song, our song of songs shall be: "Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain!"

GIVING OUR SERVICE AND LEARNING

Dana Myers

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Jesus) called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."
Mark 12:43-45

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All hail, our church's Elder dear, O Jesus, glorious head!
 To your disciples now appear as risen from the dead.
 Let our rejoicing souls in you the tokens of your passion view
 and hear your gentle voice anew say, "Peace be unto you."

Remembering what our fathers told you did in their young day,
 this solemn jubilee we hold. May we, as then did they,
 ourselves in covenant now bind with soul and strength, with heart and mind,
 through life, in death, on land, o'er sea, to you disciples be.

Revive your work; amid the years our members still employ
 on needy souls to sow in tears, with hope to reap in joy.
 Though wide the fields, the laborers few, if you our failing faith renew,
 though weak, we as your servants, Lord, may still fulfill your word.

O Lord, in whom we all are one, if faithful found and true,
 your will on earth by each be done as each in heaven would do.
 To you ourselves we first would give; live to your glory while we live,
 from step to step on you rely, then in your service die.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Glorious is Thy Name
 Donna Shore

arr. M. Limbaugh

Interim Pastor:	Rev. Joe Moore
Pastoral Intern:	Dana Myers
Organist:	Donna Shore
Song Leaders:	Sharon Dailey
	Deejie Culbertson
	Jay Parsons
	Dennis Fort
Audio Visual Team:	Gabrielle Stevenson
	Bob Morrell

Sources of the Hymns

All of the hymn texts were written by Moravian poet James Montgomery (1771-1854). They are found in the 1969 *Hymnal of the Moravian Church*, and/or in the 1995 *Moravian Book of Worship*.

James Montgomery (1771-1854)

James Montgomery was the son of Moravian minister John Montgomery. Born at Irvine, Ayrshire, Scotland on November 4, 1771, at age 5 he moved with his parents to the Moravian settlement at Gracehill, Ireland, and two years after he was sent to the Moravian school at Fulneck, England. His parents were missionaries, and died in the West Indies while he was in school.

He worked in retail for a while, and in 1792 he moved to Sheffield, England, to serve as the assistant to the printer of the newspaper, the *Sheffield Register*. In 1794, when the newspaper's publisher left England to avoid a political prosecution. Montgomery took over the paper, changed its name to *The Sheffield Iris*, and continued to edit it for thirty-one years. During the next two years he was imprisoned twice, first for reprinting a song in commemoration of "The Fall of the Bastille," and the second for giving an account of a riot in Sheffield – an account which was not favorable to a military commander. He also protested against slavery, the lot of boy chimney sweeps, and lotteries.

He kept busy by editing his paper, writing and publishing poems and hymns, presenting lectures on poetry, and advocating for foreign missions and the Bible Society. He died in his sleep on April 30, 1854. A statue was erected to his memory in the Sheffield General Cemetery, and a stained glass window in the Parish Church. A Wesleyan chapel and a public hall are also named in his honor.

Montgomery wrote over 400 poems and hymns, and some 100 of these are still in use. The 1923 Moravian hymnal included 51 of his hymns, and the 1995 *Moravian Book of Worship* contains 20.