

Unity Moravian Church  
December 13, 2020  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

**THE CONGREGATION PREPARES FOR WORSHIP**

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

**Dozier Family**

PRELUDE

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

arr. D. Mitchell

**HEARING GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED**

LITURGY

High Priest Zechariah’s Song

[Dana Myers](#)

HYMN 261

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”

1. *Let the earth now praise the Lord, who hath truly kept His Word!  
And the sinners’ Help and Friend now at last to us doth send.*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for the Lord has visited and redeemed his people  
**and has raised up a horn of salvation for us  
in the house of his servant David,**

as God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,  
that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us;  
**to show the mercy promised to our ancestors  
and to remember his holy covenant,**

the oath that he swore to our father Abraham,  
to grant that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,  
**might serve him without fear,  
in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**

And you, my child, John, will be called the prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,  
**to give knowledge of salvation to his people  
in the forgiveness of their sins,**

In the tender compassion of our God,  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,  
**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

HYMN 261

2. *What the fathers most desired, what the prophet's heart inspired,  
What they longed for many a year, stands fulfilled in glory here.*

NATIVITY CAROL

“What Child Is This?”

Rick Madison

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

Luke 1: 5 – 25

Readers' Theater

Lector: This is the Word of God for the People of God  
**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

Text: Michael Perry  
Tune: LANCASHIRE

1. *Blest be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,  
who visits and redeems us, who grants us liberty.  
The prophets spoke of mercy, of rescue and release;  
God shall fulfill the promise to bring the gift of peace.*
2. *Now from the house of David a child of grace has come,  
a Savior who will lead us to our eternal home.  
Before him goes his herald, forerunner in the way,  
the prophet of salvation, the messenger of day.*
3. *On those who live in darkness the sun begins to rise,  
the dawning of forgiveness up on the sinner's eyes,  
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace.  
Oh bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!*

TEXT FOR THE DAY

Luke 1: 57 – 66

THE MESSAGE FOR TODAY

“An Angel's Visit: Gabriel and Zechariah”

SILENT REFLECTION

INTERLUDE

“Magnificat”

Believers  
(Video)

## OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

### WORSHIP BY GIVING

[For online giving: You may use the Moravian Ministries Foundation giving portal available to us at <https://mmfa.info/giving-portal/> Or, as always, you may send a check via U.S. Mail to the church]

### CONCERNS AND JOYS FOR THE COMMUNITY, NATION AND WORLD

### PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

### PRAYER RESPONSE 483 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

*Of the Father's love begotten, e're the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are and have been, and that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.*

*Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, and, with Holy Ghost, to Thee,  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be;  
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore.*

## FOLLOWING OUR LAMB INTO THE WORLD

### MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

### HYMN

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

Text: 15<sup>th</sup> Century German  
Tune: ES IST EIN ROS

1. *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.  
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.*
2. *Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.*
3. *This Flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.  
True man, yet very God, from sin and death He saves us,  
And lightens every load.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

”It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

arr. K. Ford

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**Staff**

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<b>Believers Music Leaders:</b>	<b>Ruth Burcaw and Randy Nofle</b>	

**Watchword Text for the Year**

*Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people,  
may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. II Corinthians 4:15*

In essentials **UNITY**, in non-essentials, **LIBERTY**, in all things, **LOVE!**

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