

Unity Moravian Church
December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent

THE CONGREGATION PREPARES FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Smith Family

PRELUDE

“Away in a Manger”

arr. C. DeRousse

HEARING GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED

LITURGY

Christmas Liturgy

Dana Myers

CAROL 287

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heav’nly Light”

*Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the morning;
O shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel’s warning.
This child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be,
the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.*

He did not wait till the world was ready, till people and nations were at peace.

He came when the Heavens were unsteady, and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait till hearts were pure. In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.

To a world like ours, of anguished shame he came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh, to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.

In the mystery of the Word made Flesh the Maker of the stars was born.

CAROL 291

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!”

1. *Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ was born today.
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!*

*We cannot wait till the world is sane to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain, He came with Love, so, Rejoice! Rejoice!*

We are celebrating the season of the Eternal Birth which God the Father has borne and never ceases to bear in all eternity...

But if the spirit of Christ is not born in me, what good is it?

2. *Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!*

Everything in life depends on this:

That God's Holy Spirit can conceive new life, a truthful life, a kindly life, a holy life within me.

Holy and Incarnate One, your arrival has given us hope and promise:

May we walk lightly on the earth – keeping its resources for coming generations; living in harmony with nature and all cultures and people.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the gift of Jesus Christ, whose life and teachings have shown us how to have abundant, and eternal life.

Your love, O God has brought us here, and your love will lead us on.

3. *Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!*

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

John 1: 1 – 18

[Dana Myers](#)

Lector: This is the Word of God for the People of God

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Presentation of the Unity Moravian Church Choir's 2002 Performance of

the
WINTER ROSE
Words and Music by Joseph M. Martin
With Narration by Pamela Martin



Directed by James A. Basta
Narrated by Shirley Yoder

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 306 “From Heaven High I Come to You”

1. From heaven high I come to you; I bring you tidings glad and new.
Such joyous tidings do I bring to all the world and gladly sing.
2. To you this day is born a child: born of a maiden mother mild,
a child so gentle and so rare, who brings you joy without compare.
3. Now Christ, the Lord our God, is born! As solace to a world forlorn,
he comes as Savior, peace to win, and he will cleanse you from all sin.
4. All praise to God in heaven above, who gives his Son to us in love;
let us with angel choirs rejoice and greet his birth with happy voice!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Carillon on “Come, All Ye Shepherds”

G. Young

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Staff

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| Believers Music Leaders: | Ruth Burcaw and Randy Nofle | |

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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