

**May 18, 2025 - Fifth Sunday of Easter
Worship Aid for Great Kills Moravian Church**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/352704864?pwd=V28wNGtRdXFESDBzRW9OSWdaQTZGZz09>

Call in number: 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 352 704 864

Password: 401272

Pastor: Blondel Jones-Grant Organist: Stan Timari

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Moravian Music Statement

Watchword for the Week: Jesus said, "I am the alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will water as a gift from the spring of the water of life." Revelation 21:6

Call to Worship:

(L) Come, let us worship the Risen Christ! He is the true vine, and we are his branches.

(A) We abide in him, and He abides in us. In Him, we bear much fruit.

(L) Let us rejoice in his love, for He has called us His own.

(A) We gather to praise the Lord, who brings life and joy to all who follow Him.

(L) Come, let us worship God in spirit and truth!

(A) Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Let us worship together!

(Standing)

Gathering Hymn: "Stand up and Bless The Lord" MBW Page 531

**Stand up, and bless the Lord, you people of his choice! Stand up
and bless the Lord your God, with heart and soul and voice.**

**Though high above all praise, above all blessing high, who would
not fear his holy name, and laud and magnify?**

**O for the living flame, from his own altar brought, to touch our
lips, our minds inspire, and wing to heav'n our thought!**

**God is our strength and song, and his salvation ours; then be his
love in Christ proclaimed with all our ransomed pow'rs.**

**Stand up, and bless the Lord! The Lord, your God, adore! Stand
up, and bless his glorious name, henceforth, for evermore.**

Liturgy: Moravian Music Sunday

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our
salvation!

**Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make
a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

Hymn: MIT FREUDEN ZART MWB Page 537

**Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation, the
God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation. My soul
with comfort rich he fills, and every grief he gently stills: to God
all praise and glory!**

Let us give thanks to the Father, who has enabled us to share in the
inheritance of the saints in light.

**He has rescued us from the power of darkness and
transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom
we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.**

In him all things in heaven and on earth were created.

**He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold
together.**

(Sitting)

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, to which indeed we were called in the one body.

Above all, may we clothe ourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Hymn:

REJOICE MWB Page 256

Lord Jesus, you are worthy for all on earth to praise; our hymns in glad thanksgiving in gratitude we raise, for all you did on Calv'ry when suffering on the tree – the world from sin's dominion most wondrously set free.

And I, unworthy sinner when kneeling at your feet, can see that my redemption in you is now complete: in faith I now would serve you through all my earthly days, in faith I now would serve you through all my earthly days, and then in heav'nly glory my hallelujahs raise.

Most gracious God, we give you thanks for every good gift. On this day especially we thank you for your creative gifts to us, which cause us to enrich our lives and experience through science and art, literature and drama, words and music.

For you, O Lord, have made us glad by your work; at the works of your hands we sing for joy.

We thank you especially for your gifts to the Moravian Church: devotion to the Savior, simplicity, our strong sense of community and fellowship, and our long-standing dedication to spreading your gospel.

We thank you for our musical heritage, through which we draw closer to you and to one another.

(Please Stand if able.)

Inspire and bless those who write and compose, those who play and sing, those who lead and teach.

As you have helped us through the centuries to sing our faith, so move within each one of us today, that all our gifts may unite in your service.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus,

In whose holy name we pray. Amen.

Hymn:

COVENANT MWB Page 346

Lamb of God, you shall remain forever of our songs the only theme; for your boundless love, your grace and favor, we will praise your saving name; that for our transgressions you were wounded shall by us in nobler strains be sounded, when we, perfected in love, once shall join the church above.

** Lord Jesus, you are worthy © Albert H. Frank. Used by permission.*

(Sitting)

Offering Our Gifts To God:

Offertory

(Standing)

Doxology: “This Day is Holy to the Lord” MBW Page 821 Sung Tune 543

This day is holy to the Lord; this day the Lord has made; we will rejoice with one accord and in his name be glad. Come, let us worship and bow down, with thanks appear before his throne; he to our songs of praise and prayer will lend a gracious ear.

Prayer Of Blessings: (All)

Gracious and loving God. We bring these gifts before you as a sign of our thankfulness and gratitude. Bless them and multiply them for the work of your kingdom. May our giving be an act of worship, and may our lives be a reflection of your generosity and grace towards us. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen

(Sitting)

God’s Word for Today

Hymn of Preparation: “Holy Lord, Holy Lord” MBW Page 506

Holy Lord, holy Lord, thanks and praise be yours, O Lord, that your word to us is given, teaching us with love outpoured that as Lord of earth and heaven, everlasting life for us to gain, you were slain, you were slain.

Lord, our God, Lord, our God, may your precious saving word, till our days on earth are ended, light unto our path afford; then, among your saints ascended, we for your redeeming love shall raise ceaseless praise, ceaseless praise.

1st Scripture Reading: Acts 11:1-18

Pew Bible Page 1152-1153

Peter explains His Actions

The apostles and the brothers throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him and said, “You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.” Peter began and explained everything to them precisely as it had happened: “I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. I saw something like a large sheet being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to where I was. I looked into it and saw four footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, reptiles, and birds of the air. Then I heard a voice telling me, ‘Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.’ “I replied, ‘Surely not, Lord! Nothing impure or unclean has entered my mouth.’ “The voice spoke from heaven a second time, ‘Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.’ This happened three times, and then it was all pulled up to heaven again. “Right then three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea stopped at the house where I was staying. Spirit told me to have no hesitation about going with them. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen an angel appear in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He will bring you a message through which you and all your household will be saved.’ “As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. Then I remembered what the Lord had said: ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ So if God gave them the same gift as he gave us, who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could oppose God?” When they

heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, “So then, God has granted even the Gentiles repentance unto life.”

**2nd Scripture Reading: Revelations 21:1-6 Pew Bible Page 1302
(Responsive Reading)**

The New Jerusalem

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea.

I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

He said to me: “It is done. I am the alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life.

The Gospel Reading: John 13:31-35

Pew Bible Page 1128

Jesus Predicts Peter’s Denial

When he was gone, Jesus said, “Now is the son of man glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the son in himself, and will glorify him at once. “My children, I will be with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and just as I told the Jews, so I tell you now: Where I am going, you cannot come. “A new command I give you: Love one another. I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Sermon: Does Everyone Know Us? Pastor Blondel Jones-Grant

Prayers for the Church the World

(Please Stand if able.)

Hymn of Response: "They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" Brown Book Page 677

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord; We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord; And we pray that all unity will one day be restored: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand; We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand; And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side; We will work with each other, we will work side by side; And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come; And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son. And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

(Please continue to Stand if able.)

Benediction

Musical Response:(All) In the name of Jesus. Amen

(Sitting)

Moravian Hymns Singstunde

Hymn: “Grace and Peace from God”

MBW Page 444

Grace and peace from God, our blessed Savior, be with all who love his name; church of Christ, his service deem a favor, joyfully his death proclaim, be prepared for rest or for employment, from activity derive enjoyment, serve with zeal and faithfulness, filled with love his name confess.

Chosen flock, your faithful Shepherd follow, who laid down his life for you; all your days unto his service hallow, each to be disciples true; evermore rejoice to do his pleasure, be the fullness of his grace your treasure; should success your labor crown, give the praise to him alone.

Gracious Father, bless this congregation as the purchase of your Son; for his sake behold us with compassion, and us all your children own; Jesus, grant to us your peace and favor; Holy Spirit, dwell with us forever, and to us Christ’s love explain; hear us, Lord our God! Amen.

Hymn: “Come Let Us Sing the Song of Songs” MBW Page 469 vs. 1,5

Come, let___ us sing this song___ of songs, with hearts and voices swell the strain, the homage which to Christ be-longs: “Worthy___ the Lamb, for he_ was slain!”

Long as___ we live, and when___ we die, and while in hea___ven with him we reign, this song, our song of songs shall be:”Worthy___ the Lamb, for he_ was slain!”

Hymn: “Highly Favored Congregation”

MBW Page 515 vs. 1,5

High-ly fa-vored congregation, loved by Jesus and esteemed, ne’er for-get your destina___-tion, why from this vain world re-deemed.

By love’s closest bonds u-nited, as the Lord’s own fa-mily, be to serve his name ex-cit-ed, be to him a fruit-ful tree

Hymn: “Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord” MBW Page 543

Sing hallelujah, praise the Lord! Sing with a cheerful voice; exalt our God with one accord, and in his name rejoice. Ne’er cease to sing, O ransomed host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost, until in realms of endless light your praises shall unite.

There we to all eternity shall join th’angelic lays and sing in perfect harmony to God our Savior’s praise; he has redeemed us by his blood, and made us kings and priests to God; for us, for us, the Lamb was slain! Praise ye the Lord! Amen.

**But not for us alone this news was brought by Christ our Lord. 'Twas meant for all the world to hear and thus with one accord with all God's children everywhere his name and sign with pride we bear. To us, to us, this task is giv'n: to spread God's word.
Amen.**

Hymn: “What Brought Us Together”

MBW Page 675

What brought us together, what joined our hearts? The pardon which Jesus, our High Priest, imparts; ‘tis this which cements the disciples of Christ, who are into one by the Spirit baptized.

Is this our high calling, harmonious to dwell, and thus in sweet concert Christ’s praises to tell, in peace and blessed union our moments to spend and live in communion with Jesus our Friend?

O yes, having found in the Lord our delight, he is our chief object by day and by night; this knits us together; no longer we roam; we all have one Father, and heav’n is our home.

(Please remain seated in quiet meditation during the postlude.)

Postlude

Co Leaders for May, 2025

May 25th - Todd Hallett