

**January 4, 2026 Second Sunday after Christmas**

**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**

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome/Announcement**

**Watchword For The Week:** Praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. Psalm: 148:13

## **Call To Worship: Based on Psalm 147 vs. 12-20**

L: Extol the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion, for he strengthens the bars of your gates and blesses your people within you.

**A: He grants peace to your borders and satisfies you with the finest of wheat.**

L: He sends his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.

**A: He has revealed his word to Jacob, his laws and decrees to Israel.**

L: He has done this for no other nation; they do not know his laws.

**ALL: Praise the Lord.**

**Gathering Hymn: “All Praise to You, O Lord” MBW Pg 312 Sung to Tune 680**

**All praise to you, O Lord, who by your mighty pow'r did manifest  
your glory forth in Cana's marriage hour.**

**You speak, and it is done; obedient to your word, the water red-  
d'ning into wine proclaims the present Lord.**

**O, may this grace be ours: in you always to live and drink of those re-freshing streams which you alone can give.**

**So, led from strength to strength, grant us, O Lord, to see the marriage supper of the Lamb, the great epiphany.**

(Please continue to Stand if able.)

**Liturgy: New Year**

**MBW Page 143**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits,**

Who forgives your iniquity, who heals your diseases,

**Who satisfies you with good as long as you live, so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

**Hymn:**

**ST. ANNE**

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!**

**Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.**

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, remain  
our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray

(Sitting)

Let us in penitence and humility confess our sins before the throne of grace, praying together.

**God of mercy, as we mark this moment, we confess our weaknesses, failures, and transgressions: Our broken vows, Our slackness and misuse of time and opportunity, Our selfishness and our love of ease, Our unkindness and indifference, Our self-indulgence and our pleasures taken at the expense of others, Our moments when we have not been true to ourselves, Our lack of faith in your providence. For these sins of commission and omission, have mercy upon us.**

Lord Jesus Christ, we remember in your presence our losses and grief, our hopes and treasures which the departing year has carried away, the disappointments we have known, the friends who are no longer with us and whose steps we shall hear no more. We pray for grace to cherish the spirit which brings good out of evil, and which prevents adversities and sorrows from embittering our hearts. Give us comfort and a deep sense of your goodness in every circumstance of life; and when, despite our good intentions, we fail, be our strength and stay.

God will supply every need of ours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

**To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn: DISMISSAL**

**Thanks we give and adoration for the gospel's joyful sound; may the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound. May your presence, may your presence, with us, ever more, be found.**

Lord Jesus, you are the same yesterday, today, and forever: your throne is established in righteousness, your compassion fails not, and your love endures from generation to generation. Lift the light of your countenance upon us, for we are exiles as our ancestors were. We thank you for all the ways by which you have led us in the past. Give us courage to set our faces toward the future.

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for all God's mercies. For your grace given to us in days that are gone, For the blessings of life, seen and unseen, For the joy and peace of communion with you,

**We give you thanks, gracious God.**

For the sacraments of love and service which have made us conscious of your presence in our common life, For the deeds we have been able to accomplish in the strength which you supply, For the kindness of associates, the love of friends, and the fellowship of kindred souls,

**We give you thanks, loving God.**

For the disciplines which have enriched our living, For your wisdom and gracious providence which we have recognized when you have denied our foolish requests, For the faith which has guided us in days of trial,

**We give you thanks, gracious God.**

(Standing)

God will supply every need of ours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

**To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn:**

**MFREUDEN ZART**

**Lord, you have been our dwelling place in\_\_ ev-'ry generation.**

**Your people still have known your grace and \_\_ your blessed consolation. Through ev-'ry age you have heard our cry, through ev-'ry age we have found you nigh, our strength and our salvation.**

**Lord, nothing from your arms of love shall your own people sever. Our helper never will remove; our\_\_ God will fail us\_\_ never. Your people, Lord, have dwelt secure; our dwelling place you will endure forever and\_\_ for\_ev-er.**

(Sitting)

**Offering Our Gifts To God:**

**Offertory**

(Standing)

**Doxology: “For The Life That You Have Given” MBW Page 819**

**For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known, with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own: here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring. Give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.**

**Prayer Of Blessing:** Please join me in the Prayer of Blessing.

**O God, we seek to walk in your light and follow the pathways where you lead. John told us that The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. We are beaming with thankfulness when we remember the glory of your Word that became flesh. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. We want to thank you God for the bounty that you have given us. We want to share the goodness of salvation through these gifts and by the way we live. To glorify you in response to your grace, we dedicate these offerings to extend your reign among us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

(Sitting)

### **God's Word for Today**

#### **1st Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14 Pew Bible Page 826**

This is what the LORD says: “Sing with joy for Jacob; shout for the foremost of the nations. Make your praises heard, and say, ‘LORD, save your people, the remnant of Israel.’ See, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth. Among them will be the blind and the lame, expectant mothers and women in labor; a great throng will return. They will come with weeping; they will pray as I bring them back. I will lead them beside streams of water on a level path where they will not stumble, because I am Israel’s father, and Ephraim is my firstborn son. “Hear the word of the LORD, O nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: ‘He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.’ For the LORD will ransom Jacob and redeem them from the hand of those stronger than they. They will come and shout for joy on the heights of Zion; they will rejoice in the bounty of the LORD—the grain, the new wine and the olive oil, the young of the flocks and herds. They will be like a well-watered garden, and they will sorrow no more. Then maidens will dance

and be glad, young men and old as well. I will turn their mourning into gladness; I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow. I will satisfy the priests with abundance, and my people will be filled with my bounty,” declares the LORD.

**2nd Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14 Pew Bible Page 1224  
(Responsive Reading)**

*Spiritual Blessings in Christ*

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

**For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love**

he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—

**to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.**

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace

**that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,**

And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,

**to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.**

In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,

**in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.**

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

**who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the  
redemption of those who are God's possession—to the  
praise of his glory.**

**Hymn: “To God Who Gave the Scriptures” MBW Page 508 vs 4/5**

**To God who gave the scriptures we turn in faith to find a taste of  
honey-eyed sweetness to nourish heart and mind; the promise of  
sal-va-tion, the cov-e-nant restored, the apostolic witness that  
Jesus is the Lord.**

**To God who gave the scriptures we lift our souls in prayer, for  
eyes the Spirit opens to find the treasures there; that as we read  
and ponder one voice alone is heard, the Christ of all the  
scriptures, the true and living word.**

**The Gospel Reading: John 1:(1-9) 10-18 Pew Bible Page 1109**

*The Word Became Flesh*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John testifies concerning him. He cries out, saying, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’” From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known.

**Message: Our Life, Our Light. Pastor Blondel Jones - Grant**

**Hymn of Response and Preparation For Communion:**

**“Take My Life That It May Be” MBW Page 610**

**Take my life that it may be all you pur-pose, Lord, for me. Take my moments and my days;\_\_ let them sing your ceaseless praise,\_\_ let them sing your ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of your love. Take my feet and lead their way;\_\_ never let them go astray,\_\_ never let them go astray.**

**Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King. Take my lips and keep them true,\_\_ filled with messages from you,\_\_ filled with messages from you.**

**Take my life, O Lord, renew, consecrate my heart to you. Take my self, and I will be\_\_ yours for all eternity,\_\_ yours for all eternity.**

**Service for Holy Communion: In Celebration of Christ Coming  
MBW Pg 183**

Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, be with us all.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

*(Standing, the congregation gives a nod or a wave signifying oneness and Christ and the desire to be at peace with one another.)*

**Hymn:**

**Worship**

**We covenant with hand and heart to follow Christ Our Lord; with world, and sin, and self to part, and to obey his word; to love each other heartily, and truth and with sincerity, and under cross, reproach, and shame to glorify his name.**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Lord's Prayer: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

*(Sitting, As the bread is served, the communicants stand to receive it.)*

**Hymn:**

**PICARDY Page 184**

**Let all mortal flesh keep si-lence, and with fear and trembling stand, ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descended our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture in the body and the blood he will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.**

**Hymn:**

**SWABIA Page 185**

**The advent of our God shall be our theme for prayer come, let us meet him on the road and place for him prepare.**

**The everlasting Son incarnate stoops to be, takes on himself the servant's form to set his people free.**

**All glory to the Son, who comes to set us free, with Father, Spirit,  
ever one through all eternity.**

**Hymn:**

**ADVENT Page 186**

**Once he came in blessing, all our sins re-dressing, came in  
likeness low-ly, Son of God most holy; bore the cross to save us,  
hope and freedom gave us.**

**Still he comes within us; still his voice would win us from the  
sins that hurt us; would to truth convert us from our foolish  
errors; ere he comes in terrors.**

(Standing)

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you.

(All partake together.)

### **Silent Prayer**

By your divine presence, By the holy sacraments, By all the merits of your life, sufferings, death, and resurrection,

**Bless and comfort us, gracious Lord and God. Amen.**

In the same way, after supper our Lord Jesus Christ took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

*(Sitting. As the cup is served, the communicants stand to receive it.)*

**Hymn:**

**NICOLAI Page 188**

**O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's own  
truth and light a glow with grace and mercy! Of Jacob's race,  
King David's son our Lord and master, you have won our hearts  
to serve you only! Lowly, holy! Great and glorious, all victorious,  
rich in blessing! Rule and might o'er all possessing!**

**Come heavenly bridegroom, light divine, and deep within our hearts now shine; there light a flame undying! In your one body let us be as living branches of a tree, your life our lives supplying.**

**Now, though daily earth's deep sadness may perplex us and distress us, yet with heavenly joy you bless us.**

**Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there falls from God above array of purest pleasure. Your Word and Spirit, flesh-and-blood refresh our souls with heavenly food. You are the dearest treasure! Let your mercy warm and cheer us! O, draw near us! For you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.**

**Hymn:**

**Dix Page 190**

**As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright; so, most gracious Lord, may we ever more be led to thee.**

**As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle, rude and bare, so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy, all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you our heav'nly King.**

**Hymn:**

**HOLY LORD Page 191**

**God with us, God with us, God made known in human frame; in his name rejoice with gladness, since to save the lost he came; none need sink in hopeless sadness, for Immanuel is now with us, God with us, God with us.**

**(Standing)**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: Drink from this, all of you. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

**(All partake together.)**

### **Silent Prayer**

Christ, the Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

**Grant us your peace. Amen.**

**Hymn:**

**HYMN TO JOY Page 193**

**Brothers, sisters, join in praising Christ, the Son, Incarnate Word; join with hearts and voices raising, songs of thanks to Christ, our Lord. God made flesh, who dwelt among us giving bread and wine as sign, grant that now your love may, through us, in a world of darkness shine.**

Whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death.

**Until he comes.**

*(The congregation gives a nod or a wave of Fellowship, signifying renewed dedication and unity of purpose in the service of Christ.)*

**Hymn:**

**ASH GROVE Page 194**

**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from his dwelling take leave. The supper is ended. O now be extended the fruits of this service to all who believe. The seed of his teaching, receptive souls reaching shall blossom in action for God and for all. His grace did invite us, his love shall unite us to work for God's kingdom and answer his call.**

The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you;  
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace;

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

*(Please Continue to Stand if able.)*

**Sending Hymn: "O Word of God Incarnate" MBW Page 505**

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high, O truth, unchanged, unchanging, O light of our dark sky, we praise you for the radiance that from the scripture's page, a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.**

**The church from her dear Master received the gift divine; and  
still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine. It is the chart  
and compass that all life's voyage through, 'mid mists and rocks  
and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to you.**

**O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of burnished gold, to  
bear before the nations your true light as of old. O teach your  
trav-ling pilgrims by this, their path to trace, till, clouds and  
darkness ended, we see you face to face.**

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

## **Postlude**

### **Pastor and Co-Leaders: January, 2026**

**January 11, 2026 - Pastor Jesus Laguerra/Todd Hallett**

**January 18, 2026 - Pastor Robert Rodriguez**

**January 25, 2026 - Pastor Jesus Laguerra/Donna Ziegeler**

**Next Sunday, January 11, 2026**, we will welcome back Pastor Jesus Laguerra. We will be collecting The Joyful Noise Collection for The Essential Cafe in Bethlehem, Pa. Please bring your coins to drop into the cans to make a lot of noise. The children love to hear the coins dropping in the cans. Also, we will be having the "Youth Disciple Time." We will have a Fellowship Hour following church.

**Annual Church Council meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25th** following worship service. Board members, please start gathering your reports. Reports are due to the church office by Monday, January 5