

March 15, 2026 - Fourth Sunday in Lent
140th Anniversary of Great Kills Moravian Church
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

Welcome

Watchword for the Week: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. Psalm 23:6

(Standing)

Call to Worship:

L: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord O my soul.

A: I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God.

L: He is the maker of heaven and earth, the sea and everything in them.

A: The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; The Lord raises those who are bowed down; The Lord loves the righteous.

(Please continue to Stand if able.)

Gathering 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.

Liturgy: Anniversary

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 eagles.

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.

Congregation sings:

Lord God, Father, hear us as we pray:

Lord's Prayer: (All) Our Father, hallowed be thy name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now forever. Amen.

Congregation Continues to Sing:

Lord God, Son, the Savior of the world, be gracious unto us. Lord God, Holy Spirit, abide with us forever.

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: MIT FREUDEN ZART

**Lord, you have been our dwelling place in every 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 forever.**

(Sitting)

Offering Our Gifts To God

Offertory

(Standing)

Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" MBW Page 817

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all

creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

Prayer of Blessings: Please join me in The Prayer of Blessing.

Gracious and Eternal God, we come before you today with hearts full of gratitude as we celebrate 140 years of your faithfulness in this congregation. Just as you told Samuel that you do not look at outward appearances but at the heart, we ask that you look upon the spirit with which we give today. Bless these gifts and the givers, that through them, Great Kills Moravian Church may continue to be a 'dwelling place' for your grace for generations to come. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen

(Sitting)

God's Words for us Today:

1st Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Pew Bible Page 297

Samuel Anoints David

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king." But Samuel said, "How can I go? Saul will hear about it, and kill me." The LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint for me the one I indicate." Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, "Do you come in peace?" Samuel replied, "Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed stands here before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, "The LORD has not chosen this one either." Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, "Nor has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, "The LORD has not chosen these." So he asked Jesse, "Are these all the sons you have?" "There is still the youngest," Jesse answered. "He is tending the

sheep.” Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.” So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was ruddy, with a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.” So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came upon David in power. Samuel then went to Ramah.

The Gospel: John 9:1-41 Pew Bible Page 1121

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in him. As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man’s eyes. “Go,” he told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, “Isn’t this the same man who used to sit and beg?” Some claimed that he was. Others said, “No, he only looks like him.” But he himself insisted, “I am the man.” “How then were your eyes opened?” they demanded. He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.” “Where is this man?” they asked him. “I don’t know,” he said.

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man’s eyes was a Sabbath. Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. “He put mud on my eyes,” the man replied, “and I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others asked, “How can a sinner do such miraculous signs?” So they were divided. Finally they turned again to the blind man, “What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” The man replied, “He is a prophet.” The Jews still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man’s parents. **19** “Is this your son?” they asked. “Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?” “We know he is our son,” the parents answered,

“and we know he was born blind. But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.” His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for already the Jews had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. That was why his parents said, “He is of age; ask him”. A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. “Give glory to God,” they said. “We know this man is a sinner.” He replied, “Whether he is a sinner or not, I don’t know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see! Then they asked him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” He answered, “I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples too?” Then they hurled insults at him and said, “You are this fellow’s disciple! We are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don’t even know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Now that is remarkable! You don’t know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” To this they replied, “You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!” And they threw him out.

Spiritual Blindness

Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” “Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.” Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.” Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, “What? Are we blind too?” Jesus said, “If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.”

The Message: “Much Ado About Something” Bishop Chris Giesler

(Standing)

The Lovefeast

Hymn: “Christ is Our Cornerstone” MBW Page 517

Christ is our cornerstone, on him alone we build; with his true

saints alone the courts of heav'n are filled; on his great love our hopes we place of present grace and joys above.

O then with hymns of praise these hallowed courts shall ring; our voices we will raise the Three in One to sing, and thus proclaim in joyful song both loud and long that glorious name.

Here, gracious God, do now for evermore draw near, accept each faithful vow, and ev-'ry suppliant hear. In copious show'r on all who pray each holy day your blessings pour!

Here may we gain from heav'n the grace which we implore; and may that grace, once giv'n, be with us ev-er-more, until that day when all the blessed to endless rest are called away!

(Words of encouragement and explanation of the Lovefeast)

SERVING OF THE LOVEFEAST

The following hymns are sung as the lovefeast is served

Hymn: "Christian Hearts in Love United" MBW Page 673

Christian hearts, in love united, seek alone in Jesus rest; has he not your love excited? Then let love inspire each breast.

Members on our Head depending, lights reflecting him, our Sun, brethren his commands attending, we in him, our Lord, are one.

Come then, come, O flock of Jesus, covenant with him a new; unto him, who conquered for us, pledge we love and service true; and should our love's union holy firmly linked no more remain, wait ye at his footstool lowly, till he draw it close again.

Grant, Lord, that with thy direction, "Love each other", we comply, aiming with unfeigned affection thy love to exemplify; let our mutual love be glowing; thus the world will plainly see that we, as on one stem growing, living branches are in thee.

O that such may be our union as thine with the Father is, and not one of our communion e'er forsake the path of bliss; may our light break forth with brightness, from thy light reflected shine; thus the world will bear us witness that we, Lord, are truly thine.

Hymn: "Called by Christ to Love Each Other" MBW Page 627 Tune 474

Called by Christ to love each other, called by Christ to seek the lost, may we each, as sister, brother, follow Christ, not counting cost. One in daring, one in sharing, follow Christ, not counting cost. One in daring, one in sharing, follow Christ, not counting cost.

Called by Christ to be a witness, called by Christ for this, our day, in Christ's strength we have our fitness, work to do and words to say. On Christ leaning, find life's meaning, work to do and words to say. On Christ leaning, find life's meaning, work to do and words to say.

Called by Christ to be earth's leaven, called by Christ to shed God's light, may we bring a view of heaven to this world's despairing plight. Christ revealing, wondrous healing to this world's despairing plight. Christ revealing, wondrous healing to this world's despairing plight.

Called by Christ as friends and learners, called by Christ for peace on earth, in this world as Christ's sojourners we receive new pow'r, new birth. As we're praising (how amazing!) we receive new pow'r, new birth. As we're praising (how amazing!) we receive new pow'r, new birth.

THE MORAVIAN TABLE GRACE

Hymn: "Be Present at Our Table, Lord" MBW Page 816

**Be present at our table, Lord; be here and everywhere adored;
from your all bounteous hand our food may we receive with
gratitude**

ALL PARTAKE

(The following hymn is sung as the cups are gathered)

Hymn: "Highly Favored Congregation" MBW Page 515

**Highly favored congregation, loved by Jesus and esteemed, ne'er
forget your destination, why from this vain world redeemed.**

**Grounded on your Saviour's merit, blessed in his communion
sweet, destined heaven to inherit, and the church above to meet.**

Witness here to all around you of your Savior's dying love; tell them how he sought and found you, gave you grace from heav'n above.

Evidence by word and action that your faith is not in vain, that your highest satisfaction centers in the Lamb once slain.

By love's closest bonds united, as the Lord's own family, be to serve his name excited, be to him a fruitful tree.

Grant, Lord, to Thy Congregation, what adorns her in Thy sight. Let her walls be called salvation, be her glory shield, and light.

(Please stand if you are able.)

Sending Hymn: "Blessed Be the Tie that Binds" MBW Page 680

Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear; and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free; and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

Benediction

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

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

Postlude

Co - Leaders for March, 2026

March 22nd - Pastor Jesus Laguerra/Todd Hallett

March 29th - Pastor Jesus Laguerra/Sister Liz Reres

Next Sunday March 22, 2026, we will have Pastor Jesus Laguerra with us. We look forward to welcoming you here with us. Please come out to support Pastor Jesus.

The following Sunday, March 29, 2026, will be Palm Sunday. The Youth will be bringing their Easter Pageant to us. Pastor Jesus Laguerra will be with us. Please come out and support the Youth as they bring their Easter message to us.