

# *What is a Moravian?*

## **A BELIEVER** in the Lord Jesus Christ

He is the Holy Son of God who died on the Cross for the sins of the world. We are saved by His grace and given new life by the power of His Holy Spirit.

## **A MEMBER** of the oldest Protestant Church

The Moravian Church traces its roots back to 1457. We have a rich history and many beautiful traditions, but our congregations are alive and active. We have many opportunities for worship, fellowship, study, personal growth and service to Jesus Christ.

## **A PERSON** who lives a practical faith

Moravians emphasize faith as daily living with Jesus (putting our faith into action). Our congregational life is marked by Christian love, as reflected in our motto:

*In essentials, unity;  
In non-essentials, liberty;  
In all things love.*

## **A FRIEND** who invites you to be a part of their church family

If you are looking for a place to worship God, serve Christ and grow as a disciple, then we invite you to join us. A warm welcome awaits you!



The Rev. Jim Newsome - Senior Pastor  
The Rev. Dan Nelson - Assoc. Pastor  
Heidi Everhart - Dir. of Children Ministry  
Karen Hill - Dir. Of Youth Ministry  
Debbie Foltz - Director of Music  
Jimmie Snyder - Band Director  
Marcia Reich - Preschool Director

# Thanksgiving Eve Lovefeast

November 23, 2022  
7:30 PM

**Watchword for the Week:** Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth. Psalm 46:10

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**Welcome** to this very special service of worship for Thanksgiving Eve! Tonight we join our hearts and voices in giving thanks to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon us. In mercy He has provided us with a Savior who has paid the penalty for our sins. In grace and love He pours out countless blessings upon us each and every day. He is worthy—more than worthy—of all the glory, honor, worship, thanks and praise that we can possibly give ... tonight, tomorrow and every single day!

**If you are visiting with us tonight** we are especially glad you're here. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate later in our service. We consider you an honored guest and hope that you will return and worship with us in the weeks to come as we prepare for the celebration of Christmas. If you are looking for a church home—a place where you can share Christian friendship and learn, serve and grow as a follower of Jesus—we would love to talk to you about joining the Friedberg church family.

**About Moravian Lovefeasts:** Early Christians met and broke bread together to signify their fellowship, love and unity in the Lord Jesus Christ. In 1727, the Moravian Church revived this practice, and it has established the custom of celebrating church festivals by partaking together of a simple meal known as a lovefeast. The first lovefeasts of the Moravian Church in North America were held at Savannah, Georgia during the years 1735 to 1740. The first lovefeast in North Carolina was held on the evening of the arrival of the first Moravian colonists in Bethabara on November 17, 1753.

**If you have never been to a lovefeast** the following explanation may be helpful. After the reading of Holy Scripture a pastor will announce the hymn *Welcome Among Thy Flock of Grace*. While everyone sings, dieners (servers) will come out with baskets of lightly sweetened Moravian Lovefeast Buns. They will pass the baskets down each pew allowing each person to take one of the buns. After all have been served, the dieners will exit the sanctuary and return with trays of Moravian Coffee, sweetened with sugar and milk. Cups will be passed down each pew until all have been served. After the dieners leave the sanctuary, the pastor will stand and invite everyone to pray together the Moravian blessing. Then, while the hand bells play, we will partake of the coffee and buns. Afterwards the dieners will return to collect the cups and napkins (please put the napkins and any leftover buns into your cup). The service then continues at the pastor's direction.

## The Order of Worship

All of the hymns for congregational singing are printed on the Thanksgiving Eve Lovefeast Ode inserted within this bulletin. Additional information you may find helpful is printed below.

<b>Band Prelude</b>	<i>Selected Chorales</i> The Friedberg Band	7:00 PM
<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Forever Rejoice!</i> The Senior Bell Choir	Scholes
<b>Holy Scripture</b>	Colossians 3:12-17	
<b>Lovefeast Music</b>	<i>I Thank You, Lord</i>	Martin
<b>The Offering</b>	Prayer Offertory Doxology	
	<i>How Majestic is Our God</i>	Arr. Allen
<b>Sermon</b>	“True Thanksgiving-Can We Really Have It?”	
<b>Benediction</b>		
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>All Praise to Thee My God, This Night</i>	Ken

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## Announcements

**Tonight's Offering:** All the canned goods and other non-perishable grocery items placed in the truck before worship will be given to Sunnyside Ministry. A love offering will be received tonight and all money collected will also be given to Sunnyside Ministry to help those in our community. Please give generously so that lives can be touched with the love of Jesus.

**Advent Lovefeast:** Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> begins a four-week season of spiritual preparation called Advent. Here at Friedberg we begin Advent with a lovefeast. Make plans to join us as we prepare our hearts and lives for the celebration of the joyous news of Christmas ... Christ the Savior is born!