

ADVENT LOVEFEAST  
IN THE MORAVIAN TRADITION

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hymn No. 213 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING (responsive)

Sing, O heaven, and be joyful, O earth, for the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it!

REJOICE GREATLY, O DAUGHTER OF ZION; SHOUT, O DAUGHTER OF JERUSALEM; BEHOLD, THY KING COMETH UNTO THEE; HE IS JUST, AND HAVING SALVATION.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David, as He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets, who have been since the world began:

THAT WE SHOULD BE SAVED FROM OUR ENEMIES, AND FROM THE HAND OF ALL WHO HATE US:

To perform the mercy promised unto the fathers, and to remember His holy covenant:

THAT HE WOULD GRANT UNTO US THAT WE, BEING DELIVERED FROM THE HAND OF OUR ENEMIES, MIGHT SERVE HIM WITHOUT FEAR, IN HOLINESS AND RIGHTEOUSNESS BEFORE HIM ALL THE DAYS OF OUR LIFE.

Behold, His tabernacle shall be with men; yea, He will be their God, and they shall be His people.

JUSTICE AND JUDGMENT ARE THE HABITATION OF THY THRONE, O GOD: MERCY AND TRUTH SHALL GO BEFORE THY FACE.

Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of Thy countenance.

A BRUISED REED HE WILL NOT BREAK, AND THE SMOKING FLAX HE WILL NOT QUENCH: HE WILL BRING FORTH JUDGMENT UNTO TRUTH.

Say unto those who are of a fearful heart, Be strong and fear not. Behold, your God will come and save you.

HE SHALL FEED HIS FLOCK LIKE A SHEPHERD. HE SHALL GATHER THE LAMBS IN HIS ARMS, AND CARRY THEM IN HIS BOSOM.

The voice of the herald cries: Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Therefore, rejoice in God your Saviour! For He Who is mighty has done great things, and holy is His Name.

THROUGH THE TENDER MERCY OF OUR GOD, THE DAYSPRING FROM ON HIGH HAS VISITED US, TO GIVE LIGHT TO THOSE WHO SIT IN DARKNESS AND IN THE SHADOW OF DEATH, TO GUIDE OUR FEET INTO THE WAY OF PEACE.

Blessed be Thou Who dwellest between the cherubim, and graciously regardest them of low estate! Praise the Lord, for He is good, and His mercy endureth forever.

TO HIM BE GLORY AND POWER, FROM EVERLASTING TO EVERLASTING.  
AMEN.

#### EXPLANATION AND DISTRIBUTION

#### HYMNS

##### Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

Text: Charles Wesley      Tune: Hyfrydol, Rowland H. Prichard

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's Strength and Consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Long-desired of every nation,  
Joy of every waiting heart.

Born, Thy people to deliver;  
Born a Child, yet God our King;  
Born, to reign in us forever;  
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit,  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By thine all-sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

##### HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED

Text: James Montgomery      Tune: Ellacombe,  
Gesangbuch der H. W. k. Hofkapelle

Hail to the Lord's Anointed! Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression, And rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy To those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy, And bid the weak be strong,  
To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight

He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth;  
And joy and hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth,  
Before Him, on the mountains, Shall Peace, the herald, go,  
And righteousness, in fountains, From hill to valley flow

O'er every foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest;  
From age to age more glorious, All blessing and all blest,  
The time of time shall never His covenant remove;  
His Name shall stand for ever; That Name to us is Love

#### HOW SHALL I MEET MY SAVIOUR?

Text· Paul Gerhardt      Tune· St Theodulph, Melchior Teschner

How shall I meet my Saviour? How shall I welcome Thee?  
What manner of behavior Is now required of me?  
I wait for Thy salvation; Grant me Thy Spirit's light,  
Thus will my preparation Be pleasing in Thy sight

Love caused Thine incarnation; Love brought Thee down to me;  
Thy thirst for my salvation Procured my liberty,  
O love beyond all telling, That led Thee to embrace,  
In love all love excelling, Our lost and fallen race!

Rejoice, then, ye sad-hearted, Who sit in deepest gloom,  
Who mourn o'er joys departed, And tremble at your doom,  
He Who alone can cheer you Is standing at the door;  
He brings His pity near you And bids you weep no more

#### BLESSING

Come, Lord Jesus, our Guest to be,  
and bless these gifts bestowed by Thee. Amen.

#### PARTAKING OF LOVEFEAST

#### SPECIAL MUSIC

HYMN "Morning Star, O Cheering Sight" (on back)

#### BENEDICTION

## THE MORAVIAN LOVEFEAST

The early Christians met and broke bread together to signify their union, fellowship and love. In 1727, the Moravian Church revived this practice, and it has established the custom of celebrating the great 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 in 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 the settlement of Bethabara on November 17, 1753.

### Morning Star, O Cheering Sight

Johann Scheffler, 1624-1677 (1657)  
Bennet Harvey, Jr., tr., 1829-1894 (1885)

HAGEN 77.3.3.7 (310, B)  
F. F. Hagen, 1818-1907 (1836)

SOLO

1 Morn-ing Star O cheer-ing sight! Ere Thou cam'st how dark earth's night!  
2 Morn-ing Star, Thy glo - ry bright Far ex - cels the sun's clear light;  
3 Thy glad beams, Thou Morn-ing Star Cheer the na tions near and far  
4 Morn-ing Star, my soul's true Light, Tar ry not dis - pel my night,

CHORUS

Morn-ing Star, O cheer-ing sight! Ere Thou cam'st how dark earth's night!  
Morn-ing Star, Thy glo - ry bright Far ex - cels the sun's clear light.  
Thy glad beams, Thou Morn-ing Star, Cheer the na tions near and far,  
Morn-ing Star, my soul's true Light Tar ry not, dis pel my night;

SOLO                      CHORUS                      SOLO                      CHORUS

Je - sus mine, In me shine, In me shine, Je sus mine;  
Je sus be, Con - stant ly Con - stant ly Je sus be  
Thee we own, Lord a lone, Lord a lone, Thee we own  
Je sus mine, In me shine; In me shine, Je - sus mine;

Fill my heart with light di - vine.  
More than thou sand suns to me  
Man's great Sav - iour, God's dear Son  
Fill my heart with light di vine                      A - MEN