

Moravian Worship Service in Celebration of the Chief Elder Festival

Duke Divinity School

York Chapel

Thursday, November 11, 2004

PRELUDE

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

OPENING HYMN "We Who Here Together Are Assembled"



We who here to geth er are as sem-bled, join ing hearts and
hands in one, bind our-selves, with love that's un dis sem bled,
Christ to love and serve a lone. O may our im - per fect songs and
prais es be well-pleas - ing un to you, Lord Je sus.
Say: "My peace I leave with you." A men, a men, be it so.

LITURGY FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY*

Almighty God, you are the one who called this universe into being. Out of nothing you created everything that is.

By your power you hold together all space and time and substance.

By your hand alone, Creator God, the inanimate elements became alive so that we could live and move and have our being.

We celebrate life, the precious life you have given us, and we celebrate that unity of mind and emotions, of body and soul, that you want us to enjoy and share with each other.

We rejoice in the centrality of Jesus Christ in all your works, for he was with you from the very beginning and is supreme over all creation.

We praise you that Christ is before all things, and that in him all things hold together, especially our very fragile, vulnerable, and often broken lives.



Lord of all being, throned a far,
 Lord of all life, be low, a bove,
 your glo ry flames from sun and star;
 whose light is truth, whose warmth is love,
 cen ter and soul of ev 'ry sphere,
 be fore your ev er blaz ing throne
 yet to each lov ing heart how near!
 we ask no lus ter of our own.

(Kneeling or sitting)

We know that we will remain less than the whole persons you have called us to be in Christ Jesus until we acknowledge our sins to you, and so we bow before you and pray

Almighty God, we confess that we have tried to run away and hide from you. We constantly deceive ourselves into thinking that we can live without you. We have made idols of our own achievements. We have treated other persons as though they did not bear your image. We have failed to enfold and include all persons within the outstretched and open arms of Jesus Christ, our Savior. And we have left undone those deeds of lovingkindness and godly justice that you want us to pursue in your name. Bring your Spirit upon us in a gracious, healing way. Make us agents of reconciliation as we live within your holy presence. Amen

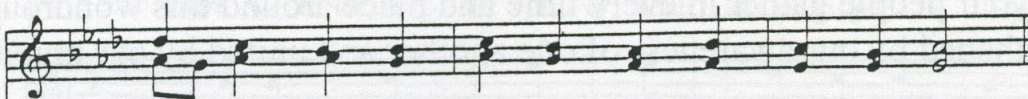
(Sitting)



1 Chris tian hearts, in love u nit ed, seek a - lone in
 2 Come then, come, O flock of Je sus, cov e nant with
 3 Grant, Lord, that with thy di rec - tion, "Love each oth er,"
 4 O that such may be our un ion as thine with the
 Je sus rest; has he not your love ex cit ed? Then let love in
 him a new; un to him, who con- quered for us, pledge we love and
 we com- ply, aim- ing with un feigned af fec- tion thy love to ex
 Fa ther is, and not one of our com- mun- ion e'er for- sake the
 spire each breast. Mem bers - on our Head de pend ing,
 ser vice true; and should our love's un - ion ho ly
 em pli fy; let our mu tual love be glow ing;
 path of bliss; may our light break forth with bright ness,



lights - re flect ing him, our Sun, breth ren - his com
firm ly linked no more re main, wait ye at his
thus the world will plain ly see that we, as on
from thy light re - flect ed shine; thus the world will



mands at tend ing, we in him, our Lord, are one.
foot stool low ly, till he draw it close a gain.
one stem grow ing, liv ing branch es are in thee.
bear us wit ness that we, Lord, are tru ly thine.

We thank you, gracious God, for establishing the church as a single body of interdependent members, each having a place and purpose.

We know that we need each other and are called to appreciate the great variety of gifts you have given us to use.

Help us to rejoice with those who are feeling joy and delight.

Help us to sing with those who are singing your love and praise.

Help us to taste the agony of those who are hurting.

Help us to share the burden of those who are in distress.

Take away jealousy and resentment from our hearts when we see others achieving success.

Fill us with that spirit of unity in Christ that lets us see and feel and know that we all belong to you through the grace we have received.

Teach us to know and love the world-wide church called out of all peoples and nations. Make visible the unity that you desire as we express a spirit of reconciliation in all our relationships. Show us that we are part of the one and only body of Jesus Christ, unified by faith, scattered for witness and service. Lead us to appreciate the richness of our diversity and your creative power at work in our various traditions and customs. Make us all one with you by the inspiration and guidance of your Spirit.

Lead us into live worthy of our calling in Christ, with all lowliness, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another in love, and eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. We pray for this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Let us stand and greet each other with the right hand of fellowship and say, "The peace of God be with you."

Let us pray together of for the grace that we need, saying:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

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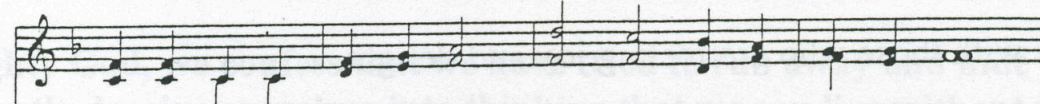
Dear God, as we your people gather in every time and place around this wondrous earth, may we be strengthened by our awareness of one another and united by our mutual prayers.

Hear us and help us all, we pray.

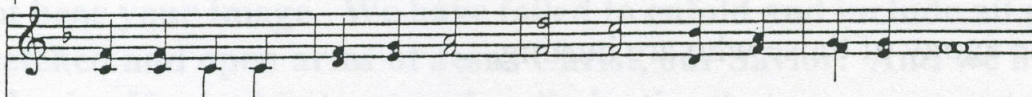
May the variety of traditions and customs of your whole church become a multitude of lights to reveal the good news needed by people everywhere. May the variety of our ministries and service convey your redemptive love and bind us ever closer to one another

Grant us grace to unite in essentials, to accept diversity in non-essentials, and to love one another in all things.

(Standing)



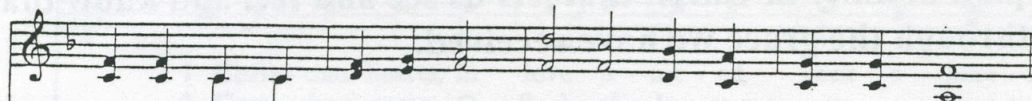
Join we all with one ac cord; praise we all our com-mon Lord;
One the name in which we pray, one our Sav ior day by day;



for we all have heard his voice, all have made his will our choice.
with one Cup and with one Bread thus one cov-'nant way we tread.



Part ners with the saints of old, no more stran gers in the fold,
One in spir it, one in life, one a mid earth's fre-quent strife,



one the Shep-herd who us sought, one the flock his blood has bought.
one in faith and one in love, one in hope of heav'n a bove.

ANTHEM

Mikhail Ipolitov-Ivanov

“Bless Thou the Lord”

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ezekiel 34.11-16, 23-24

GOSPEL LESSON

John 10:1-10

SERMON

“How Shall We Know the Shepherd’s Voice?”

PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN "Sing Hallelujah, Praise the Lord"

1 Sing hal-le-lu-jah, praise the Lord! Sing with a cheer-ful voice,
2 There we to all e-ter-ni-ty shall join th'an-gel-ic lays

ex- alt our God with one ac-cord, and in his name re-joice.
and sing in per-fect har-mo-ny to God our Sav-ior's praise;

Ne'er cease to sing, O ran-somed host, praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost,
he has re-deemed us by his blood, and made us kings and priests to God;

un-til in realms of end-less light your prais-es shall u-nite.
for us, for us, the Lamb was slain! Praise ye the Lord! A-men.

BENEDICTION

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev Lehoma Goode, Home Moravian Church, Winston-Salem, NC
Liturgists: Amy Grunewald, *Senior MDiv*; Suzanne Parker, *Junior MDiv*;
Fran Saylor, *Middler MDiv*; Heather Vacek, *Middler MDiv*
Organist & Pianist: Dr David Arcus, *Chapel and Divinity School Organist*
Choir Director

CHRIST AS CHIEF ELDER FESTIVAL, NOVEMBER 13, 1741

Prior to 1741, the Moravian Church was governed by an elected Chief Elder who presided over the affairs of the communities in Europe and the expanding mission fields in North America. This individual's primary job was to oversee the Church's activities and ensure that they were remaining true to the will of Christ. When it was realized that the job had become too large for a single person, the synodical conference decided to declare Christ Himself as the Chief Elder. The decision was announced to the European Congregations on November 13, 1741, and its anniversary remains a festival day in the worldwide Moravian Church.

[Information taken from C. Daniel Crews' pamphlet, *Moravian Meanings*, Winston-Salem, NC: Moravian Archives, 1996).]

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Black Seminarians Union, the Office of Black Church Studies, the Chaplain's Office and Black Campus Ministries invite you attend the annual Thanksgiving Service of Praise and Celebration, Sunday evening, November 21, 7:00 pm in York Chapel. Guests include NCCU Gospel Choir, Duke University's United in Praise, and guest speaker, Pastor Cheryl Moore of Zion Temple UCC in Durham. Food and fellowship following the service in the Student Lounge. All are cordially invited to attend.

Contact person: Aurellia Anderson, 613-1089.

Morning Prayer meets 8:20-8:40 am in York Chapel, Monday through Friday Contact Mark Graves (mark.graves@duke.edu) for more information.

Interested in helping out in weekly worship? Contact York Chapel intern Emily Davis Oliver at emily.davis@duke.edu to get on the "call list" for lectors, liturgists, communion servers.

The Divinity Choir, under the direction of Mr Allan Friedman, will present Mozart's *Missa Brevis* as part of morning worship Thursday, November 18 at 10:10 am in Duke Chapel. Dr David Arcus will deliver the message. Please take note of the change of location.

Liturgy for Christian Unity and hymns reprinted from the 1995 Moravian Book of Worship with permission from the Interprovincial Board of Communications, Moravian Church in North America, Bethlehem, PA, www.moravian.org.