

In order to maintain the reverence appropriate to a worship service, we ask that you not turn the pages in your program until that portion of the service is completed. Please refrain from conversation during the prelude and service. Turn off all cell phones, pagers, and similar devices so they will not interrupt the service. Photography and recording devices are not permitted during the service.



Moravian University is proud to be an All-Steinway School.

To all who join us to celebrate the spirit of this season,

On behalf of Moravian University, I welcome you to our 2024 Christmas Vespers service. The service unites two worship traditions in the Moravian Church: the *Singstunde* and the candlelight service. Since the 1720s, Moravians have been known for their worshipful singing, and a Moravian *Singstunde* (singing hour) is a service of music without preaching. In tonight's service, the music has been carefully selected and arranged to bring the Christmas message to listeners without the need of a sermon.

The Moravian candlelight service originated in 1747 in Marienborn, Germany, when candles with red trimming were distributed at the children's Christmas service. Bethlehem's first candle service was conducted in 1756. The beloved hymn "Morning Star," originally written for a child's voice and a chorus of children, was composed in 1836 by Francis Florentine Hagen, an alumnus of the Moravian Theological Seminary Class of 1835. A version for soprano and mixed chorus was published by 1876. By long tradition, however, it is sung by a child soloist with responses from the mixed choir and congregation.

The donations taken at Christmas Vespers directly support student financial aid at Moravian University. We are happy to be able to share this distinctive and moving Christmas worship with you. I hope you will join me in thanking Dr. Paula Zerkle and all of our musicians for making this possible.

Bryon L. Grigsby'90, P'22, P'26 President of Moravian University

# Moravian University Christmas Vespers

#### **PRESIDING**

The Reverend Jennika M. Eckhaus Borger '98, S'01 CHAPLAIN MORAVIAN UNIVERSITY

#### **LITURGISTS**

Nicole L. Loyd
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT,
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, AND DEAN OF STUDENTS
December 6

Bryon L. Grigsby '90, P'22, P'26
PRESIDENT OF MORAVIAN UNIVERSITY

December 7

Carol A. Traupman-Carr
PROVOST, VICE PRESIDENT FOR
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, AND PROFESSOR OF MUSIC
December 8

Katherine Hancock Ragsdale INTERIM VICE PRESIDENT AND DEAN OF THE SEMINARIES December 13

G. Christopher Hunt VICE PRESIDENT AND DEAN FOR EQUITY AND INCLUSION December 14

Heather Hosfeld '92
VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL

December 15

#### MORAVIAN UNIVERSITY CHOIRS

Paula Ring Zerkle, *music director and conductor* Barbara Thomson, *organist* 

#### **SACRISTANS**

HEAD SACRISTANS Jae M. Egge, Kristian R. Wolf

ASSISTANT HEAD SACRISTAN Elly C. Rothrock

HEAD USHER Morgen I. Johnson

ASSISTANT HEAD USHER Lexi Chamberlain

**CORNER CAPTAINS** 

Zachery Bingaman Kylie A. Dowd Tori L. Harper Rachel Casimir Gabriella Brennan Freay Emma Harvey Allison Danneberger Alanis Colon Ortiz Ava G. Larsen Victoria A. DiMondo Celia Gloy Ava Piotti

Juliana L. Thompson Mary K. West

# **PRELUDE MUSIC**

**Achieved Is the Glorious Work** 

Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

Fughetta from op. 120

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827), arr. M. Lewis

Owen Cassel, Abby Bresalier, Yami Gottrecht, Evan Hawk, Jay Daniels, Joshua Testa, trombone Moravian University Trombone Ensemble Ralph Brodt, director

Sonata in D Major

Joseph Bodin de Boismortier (1689–1755)

Gravement

Sonata in D Major

Johann Joachim Quantz (1697–1773)

Rigaudon

Matthew Tomko, Lindsay Detwiler, Alyssa Cassel, *flute Moravian University Flute Troupe*Robin Kani, *director* 

**Puer Natus (A Child Was Born)** 

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

**Ave Maria** 

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873–1943)

Ashley Golden, Amanda Koehler, Claire Light, Morgan Martin, clarinet
Peter Zimmer, bass clarinet
Moravian University Clarinet Ensemble
Elizabeth Brodt-Zimmer, director

Ouverture a la Pastorelle

Georg Philipp Telemann (1681–1767)

Ouverture Menuet Vite

> Jaron Raspe, recorder; Karina Bernatowicz, violin; Ethan Custard, cello; Sean Riedy, keyboard Moravian University Baroque Ensemble Larry Lipkis, director

Canzon Seconda Sonata Giovanni Gabrielli (1557–1612), arr. M. Lewis Daniel Speer (1636–1707)

Moravian University Trombone Ensemble

#### **VESPERS SERVICE**

# **CHOIR**

Lux Aurumque Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

Lux, calida gravisque pura velut aurum, et canunt angeli molliter modo natum. Light,
warm and heavy as pure gold,
and the angels sing softly
to the newborn baby.

Vocalis

# CHOIR AND CONGREGATION

#### O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Veni Emmanuel)

- 1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high, And order all things, far and nigh; To us the path of knowledge show, And cause us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

**Text: Medieval Antiphon** 

3. O come, Desire of Nations, bind All people in one heart and mind; Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

# **LITURGY**

**One:** In the beginning, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God hovered over the waters.

All: In the beginning was the Word.

One: In the beginning, God created.

All: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**One:** *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.* 

**All:** The Word was with God in the beginning, and through the Word all things were made.

Without the Word nothing was made that has been made.

One: And God said, "Let there be light."

All: In the Word was life, and that life was the light of all people.

One: God saw that the light was good.

All: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

One: And God said, "Let us create humanity in our image." All: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

One: So God created humanity in the image of God.
All: And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.

One: "I am the Light of the world," says the Lord.

All: "Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

**One:** Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit;

All: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

# **CHOIR**

Locus Iste Jacob Narverud (b. 1986)

Locus iste a Deo factus est Dominus Deus Sabaoth. Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Osanna in excelsis. This place was made by God, a priceless sacrament; It is without reproach. Alleluia, Amen.
Nikki Guido, French horn
Moravian University Choir

#### WELCOME

The Reverend Jennika M. Eckhaus Borger'98, S'01, chaplain

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

**Old Testament Reading** Isaiah 9:2–7. *Read by students of Moravian University* 

December 6 – Ava Piotti December 13 – Zoey M. Bronson
December 7 – Victoria DiMondo December 14 – Tori L. Harper
December 8 – Matthew M. Messina December 15 – Jae M. Egge

#### New Testament Reading Luke 2:1-14. Read by students of Moravian and Lancaster Theological Seminaries

December 6 – Dawn Talley December 13 – Byrnese E. Craig December 7 – Kelly A. Johnson December 14 – Byrnese E. Craig December 8 – Stephen R. Whitehead December 15 – Amanda J. Muschett

**Prayer** Offered by members of Moravian University faculty and staff

December 6 – Aileen J. Thompson December 13 - Arash Naraghi December 7 – Carolanne M.V. Carty December 14 – Kristin A. Eicholtz December 15 – Catherine E. Williams December 8 - Natasha N. Woods

#### **OFFERTORY**

**Ave Maria** Jacob Arcadelt (1514–1575), arr. Robinson

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, Dominus tecum,

benedicta tu in mulieribus, blessed are you among women,

et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus. and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis. Holy Mary, pray for us. Moravian University Grey Hounds

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (ca. 1525–1594), arr. Robinson Adoramus te

Adoramus Te. Christe. We adore Thee, O Christ, et benedicimus tibi, and we bless Thee. quia per sanctam crucem tuam who by thy holy cross redemisti mundum. hast redeemed the world.

Qui passus es pro nobis, You, who has suffered death for us, Domine, Domine, miserere nobis. O Lord, O Lord, have mercy on us.

Moravian University Grey Hounds

Eleanor Daley (b. 1955) Os Justi

Os justi meditabitur sapientiam, The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, et lingua ejus loquetur judicium. and his tongue speaks what is just. Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsius; The law of his God is in his heart; et non supplantabuntur gressus ejus. and his feet do not falter. Alleluia.

Alleluia.

Abigail Rochlin and Faith Bonnet, soprano Moravian University Blue Stars

#### CONGREGATION

Please stand

#### Jesus, Call Thou Me (Jesu, Rufe Mich)

1. Jesus, call thou me, from the world to thee; Speed me ever, stay me never. Jesus, call thou me.

2. Not Jerusalem—lowly Bethlehem 'Twas that gave us Christ to save us; Not Jerusalem.

**Text: Adam Drese (1620–1701)** 

**3.** Favored Bethlehem! Honored is that name: Thence came Jesus to release us;

Favored Bethlehem!

**4.** Wondrous child divine, warm this heart of mine! Keep it burning, for thee yearning, Wondrous child divine!

# **CHOIR**

Gaudete arr. P. Zerkle

Gaudete! Christus est natus, ex Maria Virgine: Gaudete!

Tempus ad est gratiæ, Hoc quod optabamus;

Carmina læticiæ Devote redamus. Deus homo factus est, Natura mirante;

Mundus renovatus est A Christo regnante.

Ezichielis porta Clausa per transitur; Unde Lux est orta, Salus invenitur.

Ergo nostra concio Psallat jam in lustro;

Benedicat Domino; Salus Regi nostro.

Rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary; rejoice! The time of grace has come for which we have prayed;

Let us devoutly sing songs of joy.

God is made man, while nature wonders; The world is renewed by Christ the King.

The closed gate of Ezekiel has been passed through; From where the Light has risen, salvation is found. Therefore, let our assembly sing praises now at this time

of purification;

Let it bless the Lord; greetings to our King.

Samuel Lingen, Nina Worsley, Nicole Bellesfield, Abigail Rochlin, Jaymie Roddy, soloists

Amari Anaya, Jacob Kremer, percussion

Moravian University Choir

Sing Lullaby Herbert Howells (1892–1983)

Sing lullaby while snow doth gently fall.
Sing lullaby to Jesus, born in an oxen stall.
Sing lullaby to Jesus, born now in Bethlehem,
The naked blackthorn's growing to weave his diadem.
Sing lullaby while thickly snow doth fall.
Sing lullaby to Jesus, the Saviour of all.

Moravian Chorale

Laudamus Te Karl Jenkins (b. 1944)

Laudamus te,<br/>benedicimus te,<br/>adoramus te,<br/>glorificamus te.We praise you,<br/>we bless you,<br/>we worship you,<br/>we glorify you.Moravian University Choir

Kyrie Sean Riedy '26

Kyrie eleison,God have mercy,Christe eleison,Christ have mercy,Kyrie eleison.God have mercy.

Vocalis

Deck the Halls arr. James McKelvey

Deck the halls with boughs of holly, 'Tis the season to be jolly, Don we now our gay apparel, Troll the ancient yuletide carol.

See the blazing yule before us, Strike the harp and join the chorus, Follow me in merry measure, While I tell of yuletide treasure.

Fast away the old year passes, Hail the new, ye lads and lasses, Sing we joyous all together, Heedless of the wind and weather.

> Devon DeProspo, soprano Moravian University Choir

#### It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Eddie Pola (1907–1995), George Wyle (1916–2003), arr. Kirby Shaw

It's the most wonderful time of the year with the kids jingle belling and everyone telling you, "be of good cheer" It's the most wonderful time of the year.

There'll be parties for hosting Marshmallows for toasting And caroling out in the snow There'll be scary ghost stories And tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago.

It's the hap-happiest season of all With those holiday greetings and gay happy meetings When friends come to call It's the hap-happiest season of all.

It's the most wonderful time of the year There'll be much mistletoeing And hearts will be glowing When loved ones are near It's the most wonderful time of the year.

Moravian University Choir

# CHOIR AND CONGREGATION

# **On This Day Earth Shall Ring**

Gustav Holst (1874–1934) Text: Swedish carol

1. On this day earth shall ring
With the song children sing
To the Lord, Christ our king,
Born on earth to save us;
Him the Father gave us.
Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

3. God's bright star o'er his head, Wise men three to him led, Kneel they low by his bed, Lay their gifts before him, Praise him and adore him. *Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.* 

2. His the doom, ours the mirth; When he came down to earth, Bethlehem saw his birth; Ox and ass beside him, From the cold would hide him. *Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.* 

4. On this day angels sing;
With their song earth shall ring.
Praising Christ, heaven's king,
Born on earth to save us.
Peace and love he gave us.
Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

#### **Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence**

# Picardy Text: From the Liturgy of St. James

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
 And with fear and trembling stand.
 Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
 For with blessing in his hand,
 Christ our God to earth descendeth,
 Our full homage to demand.

3. At his feet the six-wingéd seraph; Cherubim, with sleepless eye, Veil their faces to the presence, As with ceaseless voice they cry, Alleluia, alleluia, Alleluia, Lord most high!

2. Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads its vanguard on the way, As the light of light descendeth From the realms of endless day, That the powers of Hell may vanish As the darkness clears away.

#### **CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

#### Behold a Great, a Heavenly Light (Vom Himmel hoch)

**Text: St. Ambrose (337–397)** 

- 1. Behold a great, a heavenly light, From Bethlehem's manger shining bright, Around those who in darkness dwell, The night of evil to dispel.
  - He bowed the heavens, to earth came down, And thus his wondrous race began, As God with God to serve his land.
- 2. What heights, what depths of love divine, In thy blest incarnation shine! Let heaven and earth unite their lays, To magnify thy boundless grace.
- 4. Incarnate God, exert thy power; Arise, thou glorious conqueror; Subdue sin, death, and every foe; Erect thy kingdom here below.

**3.** He left his bright, his glorious throne;

# **Once in Royal David's City**

#### Irby **Text: Cecil Frances Alexander (1818–1895)**

1. Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle-shed, Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for his bed; Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of all. And his shelter was a stable. And his cradle was a stall: With the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.

#### Good Christians, Now Rejoice (In dulci jubilo)

- Text: Henry Suso (c. 1300)
- 1. Good Christians, now rejoice, with heart and soul and voice; Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
- 2. Good Christians, now rejoice, with heart and soul and voice; Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven's door, and we are blesséd evermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
- 3. Good Christians, now rejoice, with heart and soul and voice; Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

#### **Morning Star**

# Francis Florentine Hagen (1815–1907) Text: Johann Scheffler (1624–1677)

**1. Solo:** Morning Star, O cheering sight! **3. Solo:** Thy glad beams, thou Morning Star,

Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night! Cheer the nations near and far.

All: Morning Star, O cheering sight! All: Thy glad beams, thou Morning Star,

Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night! Cheer the nations near and far.

Solo: Jesus mine,
All: in me shine;
All: Lord alone;

Solo: In me shine,Solo: Lord alone,All: Jesus mine.All: Thee we own.

Fill my heart with light divine. Our great Savior, God's dear Son.

2. Solo: Morning Star, thy glory bright 4. Solo: Morning Star, my soul's true light,

Far excels the sun's clear light.

Tarry not, dispel my night.

All: Morning Star, thy glory bright All: Morning Star, my soul's true light,

Far excels the sun's clear light.

Tarry not, dispel my night.

Solo: Jesus be,
All: constantly;
Solo: Constantly,
Solo: In me shine,
All: Jesus be.
All: Jesus mine.

More than thousand suns to me. Fill my heart with light divine.

Morning Star soloists:

December 6 – Gabrielle Silfies | December 7 – Madeline Silfies | December 8 – Emma Hoffman December 13 – Veronica Myts | December 14 – Lena Grube | December 15 – Felicity Galgocy

#### **CLOSING LITURGY**

Please stand

**One:** This is the message we have heard from God and declare to you:

All: God is light. In God there is no darkness at all.

One: If we claim to have fellowship with God, yet walk in the darkness,

**All:** We do not live by the truth.

One: But if we walk in the light, as God is in the light,

**All:** We have fellowship with one another in Christ's name.

**One:** Lord, let now your servants depart in peace,

All: For our eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared

in the presence of all peoples. Amen.

#### **CHOIR AND CONGREGATION**

# **Angels, from the Realms of Glory**

**Regent Square** 

Text: James Montgomery (1771–1854)

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;

Ye who sang creation's story

Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship,

Worship Christ, the newborn king.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,

Watching o'er your flocks by night.

God incarnate now residing,

Yonder shines the infant light:

Come and worship, come and worship,

Worship Christ, the newborn king.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations,

Brighter visions beam afar;

Seek the great desire of nations;

Ye have seen his natal star:

Come and worship, come and worship,

Worship Christ, the newborn king.

4. All creation, join in praising

God the Father, Spirit, Son,

Evermore your voices raising

To the endless Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship,

Worship Christ, the newborn king.

#### BENEDICTION

Chaplain Eckhaus Borger

# **POSTLUDE**

**Russian Dance** 

The text is made up of rhythmic syllables.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893) / arr. Jeff Funk

Moravian University Choir

Fantasia on "In dulci jubilo," BWV 729

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Barbara Thomson, organ

# Moravian University Choir

Paula Ring Zerkle, director
Lynda Chen, accompanist
Samuel Lingen, president
Amari Anaya, vice president/manager
Sean Riedy, secretary
Jacob Kremer, treasurer

Soprano 1	Soprano 2	Alto 1	Alto 2
Elena Arzayus	Sherry Anderson*	Ava Aulicino*	Nicole Bellesfield
Devon DeProspo	Brittany Cicchino*	Karina Bernatowicz	Alyssa Cassel*
Dani Finken*	Rachel Corwin*	Faith Bonnet*	Lindsay Detwiler*
Alyssa Foli*	Sarah Fabian	Samantha Buckley	Ashley Golden*
Pearl Gillis*	Catherine Forrester*	Dakota Eckhoff	Ashlee Limbacher*
Morgan Martin*	Eva Giordano	Emma Fastiggi	Marisol Llaudes*
Elyn Millheim*	Brooke Gormley	Amanda Koehler*	Emma Pollackov*
Elaine Nguyen*	Lexi Jordan	Anna Portalatin	Abigail Rochlin*#
Madison Robb*#	Claire Light*	Sage Wilson*	Anna Spadavecchia
Jaymie Roddy*#	Logan Palau	Megan Zeruth	Holly Wiener*
Ellie Umstead*	Jordan Soffera*#		
	Nina Worsley*		
Tenor		Bass	
Brandon Bryan*		Amari Anaya*#	
Ryan Demarest*		Ryan Anderson*	
Joshua Fink*		Eli Breininger	
Sarah Guthrie*		Owen Cassel	
Evan Hawk*		Caden Ellis	
Kyle Johnston*		Coby Gumulak*	
David Marrero*		Christopher Kasper	

Jacob Kremer\*

Samuel Lingen\*#
Sean Riedy\*#

Andrew Miller\*#

Elijah Young\*

<sup>\*</sup> Member of Moravian Chorale #Member of Vocalis

#### Moravian University Blue Stars

Paula Ring Zerkle, director
Lynda Chen, accompanist
Sherry Anderson, president
Abigail Rochlin, Alyssa Cassel, vice presidents/managers
Madison Robb, secretary
Lindsay Detwiler, treasurer

Soprano 1	Soprano 2	Alto 1	Alto 2
Elena Arzayus	Sherry Anderson	Ava Aulicino	Nicole Bellesfield
Devon DeProspo	Brittany Cicchino	Karina Bernatowicz	Alyssa Cassel
Dani Finken	Rachel Corwin	Faith Bonnet	Lindsay Detwiler
Alyssa Foli	Sarah Fabian	Fatimah Bouri	Sarah Guthrie
Pearl Gillis	Catherine Forrester	Samatha Buckley	Ashlee Limbacher
Morgan Martin	Eva Giordano	Dakota Eckhoff	Marisol Llaudes
Elyn Millheim	Brooke Gormley	Emma Fastiggi	Emma Pollackov
Elaine Nguyen	Lexi Jordan	Amanda Koehler	Abigail Rochlin
Madison Robb	Claire Light	Anna Portalatin	Fenne Rudgers
Jaymie Roddy	Logan Palau	Sage Wilson	Anna Spadavecchia
Ellie Umstead	Jordan Soffera	Megan Zeruth	Holly Wiener
	Nina Worsley		

# Moravian University Grey Hounds

Paula Ring Zerkle, director
Lynda Chen, accompanist
Samuel Lingen, president
Amari Anaya, Sean Riedy, vice presidents/managers
Sean Riedy, secretary
Jacob Kremer, treasurer

lenor i	lenor 2	Bass
Ryan Demarest	Joshua Fink	Amari Anaya
Evan Hawk	Jacob Kremer	Ryan Anderson
Kyle Johnston	Samuel Lingen	Eli Breininger
Andrew Miller	David Marrero	Owen Cassel
Elijah Young	Sean Riedy	Caden Ellis
		Coby Gumulak
		Joshua Jones
		Christopher Kasper

