

8 Church Square, Lititz, PA 17543
Church Office: 717-626-8515
office@lititzmoravian.org
Website: www.lititzmoravian.org

Growing Faith, Sharing Hope, Living Love!

February 23, 2025
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
“LIFT” Worship &
African American Music Sunday
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

*Enter expectantly, pray reverently, greet each other warmly,
listen thoughtfully, sing joyfully, and leave faithfully.*

Chief Elder and Head of the Church: Jesus Christ
Pastors: Rev. Mark V. Breland, Rev. Sayward E. G. Lippincott
Director of Music Ministries: Dr. Jeffrey S. Gemmell
Trombone Choir & Handbell Choir Director: Marilyn Winfield
Children’s Ministry Coordinator: Allyson Miller
Lay Ministry Assistant: Greg Bomberger
Office Manager: Courtney Hackman
Administrative Assistant: Jaime Weik
Sexton: Josh Bailey
Custodian and Security: Dan Turnbull
Treasurer: Barbara McKenney
Financial Secretary: Mary Sweger
Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

**Stand, if you are able.*

Thought for Meditation:

“Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise.” - Martin Luther

Prelude: *I'm Gonna Sing/Ain't-a That Good News?*

Traditional Spirituals, arr. Larry Shackley

Welcome, Announcements & Greetings

Due to Covid and flu concerns, it's okay not to shake hands. Just greet your neighbor with a smile, a word of greeting, fist or elbow bump. Please pass prayer request cards to the aisle for the ushers during the first hymn. Please sign the Friendship Register and pass it through the pew. Please see an Usher or Sacristan if you would like: headphones to assist the hearing-impaired, large print bulletins, walker, wheelchair, or activity bags to help busy young children.

***Call to Worship (Pastor / Congregation)**

Let the rivers clap their hands;

let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord,

For God comes to judge the earth.

God will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

***Hymn: 707**

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing

Shared Joys and Concerns

(10:30 a.m.) Death Announcement for Alan Edgington

Trombone Choir

Prayer

LIFT Worship Leader

Scripture: Luke 6:27-38

“To you who are ready for the truth, I say this: Love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the supple moves of prayer for that person. If someone slaps you in the face, stand there and take it. If someone grabs your shirt, giftwrap your best coat and make a present of it. If someone takes unfair advantage of you, use the occasion to practice the servant life. No more payback. Live generously. Here is a simple rule of thumb for behavior: Ask yourself what you want people to do for you; then grab the initiative and do it for them! If you only love the lovable, do you expect a pat on the back? Run-of-the-mill sinners do that. If you only help those who help you, do you expect a medal? Garden-variety sinners do that. If you only give for what you hope to get out of it, do you think that's charity? The stingiest of pawnbrokers does that. I tell you, love your enemies. Help and give without expecting a return. You'll never—I promise—regret it. Live out this God-created identity the way our Father lives toward us, generously and graciously, even when we're at our worst. Our Father is kind; you be kind. Don't pick on people, jump on their failures, criticize their faults—unless, of course, you want the same treatment. Don't condemn those who are down; that hardness can boomerang. Be easy on people; you'll find life a lot easier. Give away your life; you'll find life given back, but not merely given back—given back with bonus and blessing. Giving, not getting, is the way. Generosity begets generosity.” 2

Children's Chat Hymn:

Jesus Loves the Little Children

*Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Every color, every race,
all are covered by His grace;
Jesus loves the little children of the world. (Twice)*

Baptist Hymnal 1991, 592, by C. H. Woolston, George F. Root

Children's Chat:

Pastor Sayward Lippincott

***Hymn:** See Page 6 of bulletin

Just A Closer Walk With Thee
From African American Heritage Hymnal #455

Message: Doodling Grace

Pastor Sayward Lippincott

The Offering of Tithes and Gifts and Joyful Noise (*You Belong*)

You Belong is a non-profit organization that provides services and programs for families, individuals living with disabilities, and their caregivers. Our goal is to ensure that everyone feels included and has access to the resources they need to thrive.

We offer Family Classes for kiddos and their grown-ups, Respite Care, Vocational Training for adults living with disabilities, and much more.

(8:00 a.m.) Offertory Organ Music

(10:30 a.m.) Offertory Anthem: *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

Traditional Spiritual

*Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.
I looked over Jordan, and what did I see, coming for to carry me home?
A band of angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home.
If you get there before I do, coming for to carry me home;
Tell all my friends I'm coming too, coming for to carry me home.
I'm sometimes up, and I'm sometimes down, coming for to carry me home;
But still my soul feels heavenly bound, coming for to carry me home.*

***Offertory Response: 815**

Our Tithes and Off'rings, Lord, We Bring

Offering Prayer

LIFT Worship Leader

We Shall Overcome - A Liturgy of Thanksgiving and Hope

***Hymn: 539**

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

(Pastor / Congregation)

O God, we praise you today for the hope and inspiration that you continue to give to oppressed people everywhere. Give us the resources to join hands and hearts with those who continue to strive for equal rights.

For our desire is to love righteousness and justice as you do—living in a way that is just and fair—evidence that we are your children, reflecting your glory and bringing honor to your holy name.

Creator God of all that is, we praise you today, lifting up our voices in thanksgiving for the lives of all persons of African ancestry:

Who have led our nation;

Who have stood up to injustice;

Who have pointed the way to freedom;

Who honor you through the arts;

Who have made great discoveries in the sciences;

Who have celebrated the gifts of life and the wonders of your creation.

For we acknowledge that these actions are for our mutual benefit, so that your grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to your glory.

Almighty God, empower and guide us to be voices of justice, of hope, and of peace in our world.

Holy Spirit, guide us to use this moment to examine our hearts, to determine how self-serving we are and the extent to which we look out for the wellbeing of the less privileged around us. Help us to be quick to forgive instead of being quick to judge and stereotype others.

O Holy One, heal our hearts of the pain caused by racism. Work within each of us to heal our world, our communities, and our lives; that our children will grow up in a world unscathed and untouched by this sin.

Lord, make us more holy, make us more holy.

Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.

Correct me, O Lord, but in justice; not in your anger, lest you bring me to nothing.

I alone am the one who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

The earth is full of your steadfast love, O Lord. Fill our hearts with love for you and our neighbor. Amen.

(Below has been adapted from “Prayer” by Maya Angelou)

(Pause after each prayer statement)

In your mercy hear us today:

For those who have no voice, we ask you to speak through us.

For those who feel unworthy, we ask you to pour your love out in waterfalls of tenderness.

For those who live in pain, emotional and physical, we ask you to bathe them in the river of your healing.

For those who are lonely, we ask you to guide us to be their companions.

For those who are grieving all kinds of loss today, help us to share their pain and be a strong shoulder on which to lean.

For those who struggle with forgiving those who have wronged them, be their peace and path to total healing.

For those who are depressed, we ask you to help us to be beacons of hope along their path.

ALL: Dear Creator, you who are the borderless sea of goodness and love, by the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us that our lives will manifest your reign in your world.

***Hymn # 542 vv. 1-3, 5 (AAHH*)**

We Shall Overcome

We shall overcome (x 2)

We shall overcome someday

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe

We shall overcome someday

We'll walk hand in hand, (x 2)

We'll walk hand in hand someday

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe

We'll walk hand in hand someday

We shall live in peace, (x 2)

We shall live in peace someday

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe

We shall overcome someday

God will see us through (x 2)

God will see us through someday

Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe

The truth shall set us free someday

***Benediction**

Postlude: *Soon and Very Soon*

Andraé Crouch, arr. Jack Schrader

455 JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE

..but Judah still walks with God, and is faithful to the Holy One.

Hosea 11:12

1. I am weak but Thou art strong;
 2. Through this world of toil and snares,
 3. When my fee - ble life is o'er,

Refrain: *Just a clos - er walk with Thee,*

Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
 If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
 Time for me will be no more;

Grant it, Je - sus, if You please?

I'll be sat - is - fied as long
 Who with me my bur - den shares?
 Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er

Dai - ly walk - ing close to Thee,

As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.
 None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.
 To Thy king - dom shore, to Thy shore.

Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Text: Anonymous

Tune: CLOSER WALK, 777 8; Anonymous

Copyright Information: Streamed with Permission Under One License #A-739829 & CCLI #1147353, CCLI streaming #20323191. *AAHH: African American Heritage Hymnal, 2001

We Shall Overcome - A Liturgy of Thanksgiving and Hope

MBW: Moravian Book of Worship, 1995

Psalm 98:8-9, Psalm 33:4-5, Jeremiah 10:24, Psalm 51:4; II Corinthians 4:15

<https://danceforallpeople.com/prayer-by-maya-angelou/>

Written by: Rev. Desna A. Henry Goulbourne, 2023

Serving Today:

Sacristan: (8:00 a.m.) Don Stoner (10:30 a.m.) Don Stoner

Head Usher: Tim Hartel

Scripture Readers: (8:00 a.m.) (10:30 a.m.) LIFT Worship Leader

Sound Booth Personnel: Chris Rickson

No Nursery on LIFT Sunday



Please take note of the updated procedure to request bulletin, SPIRE and social media publications.

In an effort to streamline requests, we have created a form to be completed and submitted to the office.

A paper form is available in the office or we can email you an electronic version.

Thank You



The office will be

CLOSED

from February 24th through March 7th for renovations.



Announcements February 23, 2025

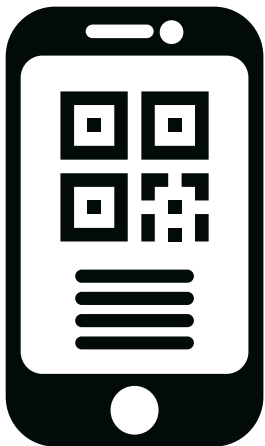
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

It may be cold ❄️ outside, but we're too excited to not start thinking about warmer ☀️ days and Vacation Bible School!

This year's fun, exciting theme is
🧪 'Changemakers Lab!' ⚗️

✍️ Mark your calendars 📅 for June 22nd - 26th and sign up today by scanning the QR code below.

Don't miss out—you won't want to have FOMO!



Simply scan the QR code with your cell phone to sign up today!



Class Membership

**Has it been on your heart to become a member of
Lititz Moravian Church?**

**Join us for our Membership Class
on March 29th from 9-11 AM.**



**It's a wonderful opportunity to learn more about our
congregation, deepen your faith, and take the next step in
your journey with us.**

We'd love to welcome you!

✝ Learn the Moravian approach to Christian faith and living!

**✝ Explore the opportunities for growing in Christ here at
Lititz Moravian!**

**✝ Enjoy informal, inspirational discussions with the pastors
and others inquiring about church membership.**

**To let us know you are coming,
please reach out to Pastor Mark at 717-626-8515.**

Please take note of new policy




Maintenance
Request
Forms

If you see a repair or an area that requires maintenance attention, please fill out a form and place in container and the office will forward the information to our Grounds and Maintenance Team.

If you would prefer to submit your request by email, please email:

Courtney@lititzmoravian.org

We will address each request as quickly as possible.



Forms are located
outside both
office doors

Thank you for your help in keeping our Church Campus maintained and well kept!



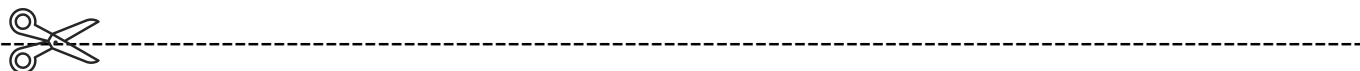
As we look forward to Easter, would you like to honor or remember a loved one by placing a lily in church on Easter Sunday?

If so, please return this form to the Church Office or place in the Sunday offering plate no later than Sunday, April 13th.

The cost for lilies is \$18 per plant. Please attach your payment to the order form at the time you turn in the order.

You may pick them up following the 10:30 a.m. service on Easter Sunday, April 20.

Please make checks payable to Lititz Moravian Flower Fund with "Easter Lilies" in the memo line. **Deadline to order is April 13th.**



Your Name: _____

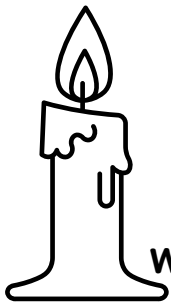
First Plant:
In HONOR or In MEMORY of: _____

Second Plant:
In HONOR or In MEMORY of: _____

Third Plant:
In HONOR or In MEMORY of: _____

Number of Plants: _____ x \$18 = _____

Please indicate if you are enclosing cash or check number: _____



Just a quick note...

Candle making will be canceled for February 27th.

We will be making candles this year; HOWEVER due to the renovation in the social hall, we are delaying the start of candle making.

Stay tuned for updates!!

Lititz

Day of Prayer



Friday, March 7th at 7pm

Lititz United Methodist Church

201 E. Market Street, Lititz

music by Lititz Moravian Trombone Choir at 6:30pm

Featured Performance, "If God Should Speak"

ALL ARE WELCOME

Volunteers needed

Nursery Care



We're looking for caring individuals to help watch the kiddos in the nursery during worship services. This is a wonderful way to serve our community and allow parents to fully engage in worship while knowing their little ones are in good hands.

If you enjoy spending time with children and can lend a hand, we'd love to have you join us! Volunteers will be scheduled on a rotating basis, so you won't miss every service.

Interested? Please sign up by scanning the QR code or contact Sue Bomberger at 717-723-1526.

Thank you for helping us create a loving space for everyone!



"Welcome Spring" Dance

being held on Friday, March 7th from 7 - 9:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Join Dwight and Cindy for an evening of dance instruction on rumba and nightclub 2-step, followed by fellowship and open dance.

Please bring non-perishable food items or toiletries for donation to Manheim Central Food Pantry.

Please RSVP to Dwight or Cindy at 717-665-9714 (if you haven't already).

Doodling

Grace...



Need to jot down a reminder, a note or something special you are taking away with today's worship? Use this space to write down things to remember once you get home!

**Congregational Watchword for 2025:
 You will again have compassion on us; you will
 hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.
 Micah 7:19 NIV**

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember in your prayers this week all of our nursing home residents and shut-ins at home.

Please remember in your prayers:

Serving our country in the military:

- Lt. Col. Neal Miller, Army;
- Sgt. Jason Stoner, Army Reserves;
- Lt. Dain Bomberger, US Navy;
- Major Andrew Kemp;
- Staff Sgt. Austin Heacock;
- Lance Corporal Shawn Stauffer, US Marine Corps

Prayers of Healing for:

- Barry Erb
- Dick Martin
- Harry Lefever
- Jeff Bamberger
- Joy Sawyer
- Cynthia Good
- Pastor Dean Jurgen
- Meda Hostetter
- Jeff Elser
- Lorrie Miller
- Cindy Walter
- Don Wier
- Barbara Stump
- Ellen McQueen
- Reverend Timothy Naisby

Pastoral Visitation:

Please contact Pastor Mark or Pastor Sayward to schedule a pastoral visit for yourself or family members.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Completed Month of January

| | 2024 | 2025 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tithes & Offerings | \$51,552 | \$60,517 |
| General Fund Other Income | \$9,397 | \$11,647 |
| General Fund Expenses | \$57,502 | \$76,862 |
| Net Income | \$3,448 | \$(4,698) |

YTD Through the Month of January

| | 2024 | 2025 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tithes & Offerings | \$51,552 | \$60,517 |
| General Fund Other Income | \$9,397 | \$11,647 |
| General Fund Expense | \$57,502 | \$76,862 |
| Net Income | \$3,448 | \$(4,698) |

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, February 23, 2025 - African American Music Sunday



8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. LIFT Worship with Joyful Noise

9:15 a.m. Sunday School Classes - All Ages

Monday, February 24, 2025 -

8:30 a.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

7:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Practice - Prep Room



Tuesday, February 25, 2025 -

8:30 a.m. Tai Chi Easy- Dance Studio

9:00 a.m. Quilting - Nursery

7:15 p.m. Trombone Choir Practice



Wednesday, February 26, 2025 -

8:30 a.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous - Fellowship Hall

7:15 p.m. Senior Choir Practice - Sanctuary



Thursday, February 27, 2025 -

10:00 a.m. Warwick Release Time

7:00 p.m. Yoga - Fellowship Hall

Friday, February 28, 2025 -

9:00 a.m. Beginner Community Yoga - Fellowship Hall



Saturday, March 1, 2025 -

Sunday, March 2, 2025 -

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship

9:15 a.m. Sunday School Classes - All Ages



In a Word, It's All About Love.

At the center of the Lord's Prayer, we pray, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us the instructions on how to make this happen, and the key word is "love."

In biblical Greek, there are four words that translate into English as "love": *agapē* (unconditional love), *eros* (romantic love), *philia* (neighborly love), and *storgē* (familial love). In Luke 6, *agapē* is used, as Jesus calls us to a radical love given unconditionally.

This is a world where we are called to:

- Love your enemies
- Do good to those who hate you
- Bless those who curse you
- Pray for those who abuse you
- Turn the other cheek
- Give away your coat AND your shirt
- Give to those who beg
- Do to others as you would have them do to you
- Be nonjudgmental
- Cease from condemnation
- Forgive, and you will be forgiven
- Give, and it will be given to you

Jesus is not calling on us to suffer from an abuser, nor is he asking us to give to someone taking advantage of us. Jesus is calling us to move the world closer to God's will: a world without enemies, where we bless rather than curse, and pray for others rather than condemn. This alone would radically transform the world.

Jesus is calling us to radically love others and redraw the lines of who we feel is in and who we think is out. Our calling and mission is to bring the heavenly world to our world as we love, pray for, include, and are gracious to all of God's children.

In a word, it is all about **agapē**-Love!

Chris Giesler, bishop and retired pastor, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

The Moravian Church

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025

