



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

Mission Statement:

***Growing Faith, Sharing Hope, Living Love!***

**Great Sabbath Lovefeast  
Saturday, April 4, 2026  
4:00 p.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  
Pastor: 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: Andy Weik  
Treasurer: Barbara McKenney  
Financial Secretary: Mary Sweger  
Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

*\*Stand, if you are able.*

**Prelude on the Green**

Trombone Choir

**Prelude:** “Air” from *Orchestral Suite No. 3*

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

**Hymn**

Tune: *Latrobe* (Hymn #349)

**Met around the sacred tomb, friends of Jesus, shedding tears.  
Midst this sad sepulchral gloom now our faith gives way to fears,  
Gathered here in loss and grief, struggling now to find belief.**

(Pastor / **Congregation**)

By Thy dying words,  
By Thine atoning Death,  
By Thy rest in the grave.

**Bless and comfort us,  
Gracious Lord and God.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Scripture from Holy Week Readings:**

*The Burial of Jesus*  
p. 104 (Music Edition, p. 139)

**Anthem:** *Sie flochten ihn eine Dornenkrone*  
(*They Made a Crown of Thorns for Him*)

Johannes Herbst (1735-1812)  
Edited and arranged by J. Gemmell

*This anthem was composed for the Great Sabbath Lovefeast,  
Lititz Moravian Congregation, 1790.*

They made a crown of thorns for him and placed it upon his head;  
And laid a purple robe on him and bowed their knees before him.

They led him bound, and he carried his cross.

See him! See him! This is the Lamb of God,  
My friend most beautiful among the children of mankind.

Matthew 27:29;

English version by Deann Buffington

**Meditation:** *The Waiting*

Pastor Sayward Lippincott

**Lovefeast Explanation**

## The Great Sabbath Lovefeast

*(The Lovefeast is served during the following hymns)*

### Hymn

*Cassel*

Lord of life! Now sweetly slumber, with the dead awhile a guest;  
After torments without number, glorious is Your hard-earned rest;  
Lo! The dreadful conflict's ended; by Your sufferings You have won;  
Over all Your power's extended; take my heart, O claim Your own.

O, what love is here displayed! See the Father's only Son  
To the silent tomb conveyed; ah, my soul, what have you done!  
Yet, while I, my sins bewailing, own that they His blood have spilt,  
May that blood, for me prevailing, wash away my sins and guilt.

### Hymn: 795

*Rejoice*

The sepulcher is holding, today within its band,  
The Lord who holds creation within His strong right hand.  
Today a stone is hiding from gaze of mortal eye,  
The Lord, whose glory hideth the brightness of the sky.

The Life of all is sleeping, but hell is quaking sore;  
And Adam bursts the fetters which prisoned him before.  
All praise to Thee, Lord Jesus, whose providence of love  
Hath won for us, Thy people, the Sabbath-rest above.

Thou God of my salvation in whom I trust by faith,  
Who hast for my transgression lain in the dust of death;  
I place upon Thy merit while here my confidence;  
And will commend my spirit to Thee, when I go hence.

### Hymn: 684

*Judgment*

Jesus' body once interred, sanctifies his people's rest,  
And the place which keeps their bodies,  
Since earth lodged that heavenly guest,  
Now is hallowed; now is hallowed;  
We lie down in hope most blest.

### Hymn: 774

*Eden*

In this sepulchral Eden the tree of life I've found,  
Here is my treasure hidden, I tread on hallowed ground;  
Ye sick, ye faint and weary, howe'er your ailments vary,  
Come hither, and make sure of a most perfect cure.

(Continued on next page)

Here lies in death's embraces, my Bridegroom, Lord and God;  
With awe my soul retraces the dark and dolorous road  
That leads to this last station; here in sweet meditation  
I'll dwell by day and night, till faith is changed to sight.

**Hymn:**

*West*

God gave His only Son, that sinners who believe,  
Might not be lost but be His own, and in His Kingdom live.

His Cross dispels each doubt; we bury in His tomb  
Each thought of unbelief and fear, each lingering shade of gloom.

Why should we fear to trust the place where Jesus lay?  
He'll raise our bodies from the dust, and unto life convey.

*(Grace before partaking of the Lovefeast)*

**Grace: 779**

*Herrnhut*

Jesus' mercies never fail, this we prove at every meal;  
Lord, we thank Thee for Thy grace,  
Gladly join to sing Thy praise.

Lord, the gifts Thou dost bestow can refresh and cheer us too;  
But no gift can to the heart  
Be what Thou, our Savior, art. Amen.

**Partaking of Lovefeast**

**Choir Anthems During Lovefeast:**

*Go, Congregation, Go! and Surely He Has Borne Our Griefs*

John Antes (1740-1811)

Go, congregation, go! Go and see thy Savior in Gethsemane.

There is a scene which with amazement must strike thee;

There, astonished gaze, thy Maker prays.

Surely, he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows.

He was wounded for our transgressions; he was bruised for our iniquities;

The chastisement of our peace lay upon him,

And with his stripes we are healed.

Christian Gregor (1723-1801)

Michelle Phillips, soprano

Blessed are they, blessed are all they who have fallen asleep in our Lord Jesus;  
Blessed martyrs, blessed followers of Christ, lovers of their fellow men.  
Angels brought to them crowns of glory; called them;  
And they entered into the joy of their Lord.

Dan Graybill, tenor

**Hymn: 364**

*Lindsey House*

Jesus, Thy soul, forever blest, hath gone among the dead,  
And to His peaceful place of rest Thy dying thief hath led,  
And all for us; that when, 'ere long, we shall resign our breath,  
We may not fear to go among the unseen shades of death.

**Hymn: 763**

*Passion Chorale*

The passion theme pursuing, I bow at Joseph's tomb,  
My Saviour's body viewing, embalmed in sweet perfume;  
There I behold Him sleeping, at rest from death's hard strife,  
Absolved from pain and weeping; on Him hangs all my life.

**Hymn: 73**

*Prague*

Lord Jesus, who our souls to save,  
Didst rest and slumber in the grave,  
Now grant us all in Thee to rest,  
And here to live as seems Thee best.

Give us the strength, the dauntless faith,  
That Thou hast purchased with Thy death,  
And lead us to that glorious place,  
Where we shall see the Father's face.

O Lamb of God, who once was slain,  
We thank Thee for that bitter pain.  
Let us partake thy Death, that we  
May enter into Life with Thee.

**Hymn: 506**

*Holy Lord*

Holy Lord, Holy Lord, by Thy Body given to death,  
Mortify my sinful nature, 'til I yield my dying breath!  
Ah, protect Thy feeble creature;  
Grant that I, by nothing drawn aside; Thine abide, Thine abide.

**Hymn: 675**

*Confession*

I would not live alway; no, welcome the tomb,  
Since Jesus hath lain there, I dread not its gloom,  
There sweet be my rest, 'til He bid me arise  
To hail Him in triumph descending the skies.

**Hymn: 279**

*Pilgrimage*

The bitterness of death is past  
For each believer, when, at last,  
The trumpet's sound shall wake the dead,  
And Christ shall come, our glorious Head;  
When nations underground shall rise  
To meet their Saviour in the skies;  
We too shall share their glorious part,  
If Christ now dwells within our heart.

**\*Hymn: 769**

*St. Theodulph*

All praise to Thee, Lord Jesus, whose Providence of love  
Hath won for us, Thy people, the Sabbath rest above.  
To Christ, the King of glory, who in the tomb was laid,  
To Father and to Spirit eternal laud be paid.

**Service ends with no benediction or postlude,  
but in silent anticipation of Easter Triumph.**

## Serving during Great Sabbath

**Pastors:** Rev. Sayward E. G. Lippincott  
**Director of Music / Organist / Choir Director:** Dr. Jeffrey S. Gemmell  
**Trombone & Handbell Choir Director:** Marilyn Winfield  
**Sacristan:** Bob Turgyan  
**Sound Booth:** Thaddeus Lippincott

**Thank you to all those who helped in the preparation  
and serving of the Lovefeast.**

### Orchestra

**Flute:** Jessica Kistler, Diane Bainbridge  
**Violin:** Venona Detrick, Elizabeth Hess  
**Viola:** Emily Sheffer  
**Cello:** Ai-Lin Hsieh  
**Bass:** John Yerger

### *Easter*

#### **Resurrection Day Service Schedule Sunday, April 5, 2026**

3:00 a.m. Trombone Choir members - breakfast  
3:30 a.m. Trombone Choir begins to announce the Greatest Good  
News to Lititz  
6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service - Beginning in silence in the Sanctuary  
and concluding with walk to God's Acre  
8:00 a.m. Holy Communion - Chapel of Brothers House  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School Resurrection Day Celebration -  
Fellowship Hall  
10:30 a.m. Resurrection Day Worship Celebration - Sanctuary

**Please use this page to jot down any special notes, thoughts, or messages that spoke to your heart during today's worship service.**

**Whether it's a meaningful Scripture, a moment of inspiration, or something you want to remember and reflect on later—**

**this space is just for you.**

