

***You are always very welcome here!***  
**Sunday Worship Services: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday School for everyone: 9:15 a.m.**

8 Church Square, Lititz, PA 17543  
717-626-8515, fax: 717-626-8258  
www.lititzmoravian.org e-mail: office@lititzmoravian.org

### **The Moravian Vigil Service**

As early Christians shared a meal together whenever they gathered for worship, so the Moravian Church revived that tradition with the Lovefeast. It is a song service with a simple shared meal of a sweet bun and coffee or chocolate milk. However, like family meals for special occasions, it is about much more than the food. A Lovefeast is an opportunity to signify our unity in the love of Christ as a family of sisters and brothers in the Lord. The hymns and anthems are chosen to convey the message of this special occasion. The Christmas Lovefeast, with its lighted candles, is one of the most beautiful services of the Moravian Church. The candle, made of pure beeswax by our own candle makers, reminds us of the purity of the One whose birth we celebrate; the light reminds us that He came as the Light of the World; and calls us to spread His light. As we conclude this time of worshipping Christ, our newborn King, we raise our candles as a prayer that God will shine His light in our hearts and, through us, to shine in a world that needs the light of the Lord.

We are pleased to serve Fair Trade coffee during this worship service. Purchasing Fair Trade products ensures a fair price to the grower as well as social and environmental production standards.

**Please, no cameras or recording devices.**  
**Please turn off your cell phones and pagers.**  
**DVDs are available—to order (\$12 each),**  
**stop by the Sound Booth near the parking lot exit.**



## **An Advent Season Gift for Moravian Open Door**



Each Advent season we are reminded of the family long ago who was homeless, had no room at the inn, and not even a crib for their expected infant. Yet they were provided for.

Moravian Open Door (MOD) is a Moravian ministry in New York City that provides a safe, clean, temporary home for up to 40 homeless men and women aged 50 years and older. While the facility (called Moravian House) provides accommodation in single and double rooms, the staff provides supportive services to rebuild lives and help residents move to affordable permanent housing.

During the pandemic of COVID-19, MOD mourned the loss of some of its residents to the virus, and some other residents and even the staff were sickened by the disease and recovered. Keeping everyone safe with extra sanitizing of building areas, providing residents precautionary items such as masks and hand sanitizer, and providing extra food for residents who have lost income has put a great strain on MOD's budget.

MOD receives no government funding at all. MOD needs the financial support of Moravian congregations to continue its important service to the homeless.

Please respond generously with your  
“No Room at the Inn” gift to support this ministry.

### **Moravian Open Door**

347 E. 18th Street | New York, NY 10003  
212-995-5810 | [info@moravianhouse.org](mailto:info@moravianhouse.org)



## ***Christmas Vigil Service***

**December 20, 21, & 24, 2025 5:00 p.m.**

**December 20 & 24, 2025 7:30 p.m.**

### **Welcome to Worship**

#### **Congregation**

The Lititz Moravian Congregation warmly welcomes you to this Christmas Lovefeast Candlelight Worship Service! Our wish for you is that through this special worship time together, you will be touched by the love of our Savior and find the joy and peace that comes from committing or re-committing to living your life in His service.



Please come back any Sunday for worship at 8:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. If you are searching for a faith community in which to belong, we invite you to consider making Lititz Moravian your church home.

Our “no room in the inn” offering this evening, as has been our custom for many years, supports the Moravian Open Door mission to the formerly homeless in New York City. On the back of this insert is more information on this important ministry. Thank you for your gift to Christ's needy ones.

#### **An Invitation to Worship**

We encourage you, as the prelude begins, to use these moments for quiet mediation, prayer, and preparation for worship. May deep peace from the Prince of Peace, who came as a babe to Bethlehem's manger, surround you and all who share in this worship experience.

Instructions for the Lovefeast

The female dieners (servers) will bring a basket of sweet buns to each pew. The person on the aisle receives the basket and passes it to (but not over) the divider. If you are in the balcony, pass the basket to the end of the row. Each person is invited to take a napkin and one bun *as the basket returns*.

The male dieners (servers) will then bring trays of beverages to each pew. There is a choice of decaffeinated coffee (unsweetened, with half and half) or chocolate milk. As best as you can in each pew, please take a count of your beverage preferences and pass it on to the person seated along the aisle. For example, “Our pew would like two chocolate milks, and three coffees.”

Worshippers wait until all have been served, and we have shared in the blessing. Thereafter, worshippers partake of the Lovefeast while the choir provides the ministry of music. Later, servers will return to collect the mugs while the worship continues.

Lititz Moravian Staff:

Pastor(s)	The Rev. Sayward E. G. Lippincott
Director of Music Ministries	Dr. Jeffrey S. Gemmell
Trombone Choir Director	Marilyn Winfield
Sunday School Choir Director	Jan Reidenbaugh, Sandy Roland
Co-Head Female Sacristans	Amy Sue Bomberger, Becky Turnbull
Male Sacristans	Gary Bailey, Jeff Elser, Don Stoner
Lay Ministry Assistant	Greg Bomberger
Sexton(s)	Josh Bailey, Andy Weik
Assistant Sexton	Courtney Hackman
Office Manager & IT Support	Courtney Hackman
Creative Operations Coordinator	Jaime Weik
Children’s Ministry Coordinator	Allyson Miller

Chamber Orchestra:

Flute:	Jessica Kistler, Carl Shuman, Johnny Grisbacher, Diane Bainbridge
Violin:	MaryLee Yerger, Corinne White, Laurie Williamson, Betsy Swartz, Elizabeth Hess, Venona Detrick, Michele Allen
Viola:	Emily Sheffer, Venona Detrick, Brooke Mead
Cello:	Ai-Lin Hsieh, Brian Mishler
Bass:	John Yerger
Brass:	Trombone Choir members: John Reidenbaugh, Paul Swope, John Grisbacher, Skip Walls, Jason Morris, Gentry Stoltzfus

Senior Choir Soloists:

Steve Bell, Dan Graybill, Fred Whitley, Brent Wolfe, Samantha Katzaman, Michelle Phillips, Rebecca Swartz, Tom Wentzel

Prelude:

*People, Look East*      *Resancon*, Traditional French, arr. Stephen L. Aber

Welcome

Prelude continues:

Selections from <i>Messiah</i>	G. F. Handel
<i>Sinfonie (Overture)</i>	
Recitative: <i>Comfort ye my people</i>	
Chorus: <i>And the glory of the Lord</i>	
<i>Pifa (“Pastoral Symphony”)</i>	
Recitative: <i>There were shepherds abiding in the field</i>	
Recitative: <i>And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them</i>	
Recitative: <i>And the angel said unto them</i>	
Recitative: <i>And suddenly there was with the angel</i>	
Chorus: <i>Glory to God</i>	

*Es ist ein Ros’ entsprungen*      Johannes Brahms

*Gesu Bambino*      Pietro Yon, arr. J. Leavitt

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*      *Third Mode Melody*, Thomas Tallis

Offertory:

“Pastorale” from *Christmas Concerto*      Arcangelo Corelli

**Offering:** Ushers will come to receive the offering. This offering is important as it offsets the costs associated with this service and surplus is sent to Moravian Open Door. Moravian Open Door is a not-for-profit (501c-3) organization committed to providing transitional housing and supportive services to the homeless, distressed, and underserved population of New York City.



Children’s Anthem:

<i>The Children’s Te Deum</i>	Henry Tucker
Choir:	<i>We praise Thee, we bless Thee, Thou who only art divine. No name is worthy such homage as Thine. Our heart’s adoration forever we will gladly bring to Thee, Our Redeemer, Creator, and King. To meet the glad echoes our voices we raise. And join with our souls in the anthem of praise.</i>
Solo:	<i>With angels in glory we herald the story, Glad tidings of joy and peace through our Savior and King.</i>
Choir:	<i>For mercies unnumbered, for tenderest care, For blessings Thy children so bounteously share.</i>
Solo:	<i>Now joyfully blending with rapture ascending, Our tribute of praise to Thee, blest Savior and King!</i>
Choir:	<i>Hallelujah, Amen.</i>

**Soloist: Karen Keffer**

Sunday School Choir:

Addy Bomberger, Kenzie Morris, Maddy Morris, Beatrix Muiter, Maxine Muiter, Oliver Styers, Zachary Styers, Eden Turnbull

Postlude:

“Praise Ye, the Lord of Hosts” from *Christmas Oratorio*  
Camille Saint-Saens

*From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*      *Von Himmel hoch*, arr. Wilbur Held

***Trombone Choir on Church Square following the service.***

The Moravian Star

Originating in the Moravian boarding schools in Germany in the nineteenth century as an exercise in geometry, the 26-point star reminds us of the "great and heavenly light from Bethlehem's manger shining bright." Jesus, who said, "I am the bright and Morning Star" is the star of promise, the star of fulfillment, and the star of hope. Each point, of our 110-point star, points to where the Light of the World is shining... for everyone, everywhere!

Come see the Putz!

Our Christmas Putz (a crèche scene with audio and special lighting) will be shown Saturday’s in December: 12 noon, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30. Enter the Brothers’ House (west of the church) and follow the Putz signs toward the lowest level. Viewings will also be held December 26—30 at 7:00 p.m. and after our December 31, 7:30 p.m. Watchnight service. The Putz seats approximately 40 people. The Putz can also be viewed online at the church’s website.