

First Moravian Church

Founded 1908



Vision Statement

United in Christ, reaching out in love, changing lives.

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Anniversary Lovefeast

October 4, 2026

11:00 am Worship

Rev. Barbara Styers, Pastor

Watchword for the Week

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.
This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. Psalm 118:22,23

Prelude

Pastorale

Bach

Chiming of the Hour

Introit

All Nature's Works His Praise Declare

Gottfried Fink
Arr., Elliot Hadley

Welcome and Announcements

Meredith Cohoon

Call to Worship* (Ps. 19: 7-11)

Meredith Cohoon

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

People: the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

Leader: More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

**People: In keeping the law of the Lord, there is great reward.
Praise be to God!**

Liturgy*

Lydian Averitt

(Standing)

O Lord, our Lord, your greatness is seen in all the world.

We give thanks to you, for you are good; your love is eternal.

We glorify you, majestic Lord.

We praise your holy name.

The sacrifice which you desire is a humble spirit: O God, you will not reject a humble and repentant heart.

**If we confess our sins, you are just and will keep your promise;
you will forgive our sins and will purify us from all wrongdoing.**

Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker, humbly confessing our sins.

(Sitting)

Most holy and almighty God, our Savior, we confess our disobedience. We, like sheep, have gone astray, all of us turning to our own way. We have sinned and have done wrong. The good that we knew to do we have not done. We know that we have been unworthy servants and have fallen short of your glory. Help us, deliver us, and forgive our sins, O God of our salvation, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us.

Thus says the Lord: I, even I, am the God who blots out your transgressions for my own sake and will not remember your sins. Go and sin no more.

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another, exchanging signs of peace and reconciliation.

CASSEL (167 A)

Peace be to this con - gre - ga - tion, peace to ev - 'ry soul there - in;
peace, which flows from Christ's sal - va - tion, peace, the seal of can - celled sin,
peace, that speaks its heav'n - ly Giv - er, peace, to earth - ly minds un - known,
peace di - vine that lasts for - ev - er here e - rect its glo - rious throne.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The score ends with a double bar line.

(Sitting)

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being,
hear our prayer.

For the church universal, and for this congregation of your people,
we give you thanks, O God.

For this place in which we gather for praise and prayer, witness and service, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord,
we give you thanks, O God.

For your presence among us whenever your Word has been proclaimed, your sacramental gifts of bread and cup shared,

we give you thanks, O God.

For those who have been made your children by adoption and grace, who in this place were cleansed of sin, buried with Christ in the waters of baptism, and raised to new and eternal life,

we give you thanks, O God.

For disciples young and old who have been nurtured here in faith,

we give you thanks, O God.

For all who have come here asking your blessing in marriage, seeking to love with your love,

we give you thanks, O God.

For Church leaders, teachers, and pastors who have led and loved us, and by the offering of their gifts, equipped us for the work of ministry,

we give you thanks, O God.

For faithful stewards among us who have lived for others, serving you by loving neighbors,

we give you thanks, O God.

For all the saints who have stood among us, whose memory still enlivens our faith and emboldens our witness,

we give you thanks, O God.

For the ministries of worship and mission, nurture and fellowship, and for all whose lives have been touched by them,

we give you thanks, O God.¹

Gracious God, as we celebrate our past and rejoice in our present, we also look forward with eager eyes to the future. We pray that you continue to make your love known among us. Make this church a blessing to those around us, and embolden us to move forward with strength and perseverance toward what lies ahead. **Amen.**

Confirmation and Affirmation of Baptism (p. 170) Rev. Barbara Styers

Today we welcome Alex and Mary Jordan Johnson Livengood as members.

Offering Our Prayers of Intercession Meredith Cohoon

Offering Our Gifts Rev. Barbara Styers

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* Eric H. Thiman

Doxology*

Appreciation for Gay Cass Rev. Barbara Styers

Scripture 1 Corinthians 3:10-17 Rev. Barbara Styers

¹ The first half of the liturgy is reprinted from the 1995 *Moravian Book of Worship*. The prayer of thanksgiving is reprinted by permission from the *Book of Occasional Services* © 1999 Presbyterian Church (USA), a Corporation for Congregational Ministries Division, Office of Theology and Worship.

THE LOVEFEAST

CELEBRATING THE ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. (Psalm 127:1)

Serving the Lovefeast

Highly Favored Congregation

Bless, O Lord, This Congregation

Holy Spirit, Still Creating

Blessing

**Come, Lord Jesus, Our Guest to be
And bless these gifts bestowed by thee.
Bless our dear ones everywhere
And keep them in Thy loving care. Amen.**

Anthems

Christ Our Rock, Our Cornerstone!

Lloyd Larson

Collection of the Cups

The Church's One Foundation

Remembering What Our Fathers

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn*

Bless, O Lord, We Pray

MBW 445

Charge and Benediction*

Rev. Barbara Styers

Chiming of the Hour

Postlude

Praise God Ye Sons of Men

Walther

**The congregation is invited to stand in body or spirit.*

**Everyone is invited to a reception in
Old Fellowship Hall following the service.**

FLOWER DEDICATION

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Gay Cass, with love and gratitude for her service as Treasurer of First Moravian Church (1982-2026).

ENJOY "A LEISURELY AFTERNOON" LATER TODAY

The anniversary celebration continues this afternoon at 4:00pm with the Chancel Choir concert, "A Leisurely Afternoon." The program includes solo, duet, trio and choral pieces from a range of familiar musicals, operettas and operas, including: *The Barber of Seville* (1816); *Carmen* (1875); *The Mikado* (1885); *Showboat* (1927); *Carousel* (1945); *Candide* (1956); *Godspell* (1971); *Sweeney Todd*, *The Demon of Fleet Street* (1979); *Les Misérables* (1980); *Cats* (1981); *The Phantom of the Opera* (1986); *The Secret Garden* (1989); and Disney's animated musical film, *Pocahontas* (1995).

Following the concert, enjoy a hot dog supper in Old Fellowship Hall, courtesy of the Men's Fellowship.

SUNDAY STAMPEDE: PATHWAYS

Join us during the month of October as our Mission Committee collects pillows and dish-drying racks for Pathways! The Pathways Center, a program of Greensboro Urban Ministry, began operation in 1981 and provides temporary housing for up to 16 families with children who are experiencing homelessness.

Families come to Pathways for a variety of reasons, such as eviction from housing they could not afford, living in overcrowded or substandard housing, and domestic problems. Pathways' primary purpose is to provide a safe environment for families while they are searching for other housing options. During their stay, families participate in case management and establish a plan for housing stability. Families are not charged any fee to move in. This allows them to pay off back bills and to save money for housing/utility deposits.

At Pathways, each family has a private living space, which includes beds, a kitchenette, and a bathroom. Residents share a lounge, TV room, computer lab/library, laundry room, meditation room, and outdoor playground/picnic area. The program provides new linens for each family that moves in, so there is an ongoing need for pillows, as well as dish-drying racks (the countertop type with plastic pan underneath) to help outfit their kitchenettes. Help us fill the little red wheelbarrow in the narthex during the month of October for Pathways!

Fill the box: This month's emphasis is mustard. Place your donations in the SimpleWays Community Support and Nutrition Program wooden food collection box in the narthex on Sunday or in the plastic bin on the back porch of the Moravian House at other times.

A SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

The Mission Committee is seeking a volunteer who will serve as the coordinator for the night shelter meals we prepare throughout the year at Greensboro Urban Ministry. That person will line up church groups to be responsible for each evening meal we are assigned to provide and act as the liaison between GUM and the groups (to determine how many clients need to be fed). During 2026, the Mission Committee, Friendship Circle, Sisters Circle, Men's Fellowship and Church Board provided meals. A final meal in November will involve the entire congregation providing chili and cornbread. Please contact Beth Smith (336-601-6370) if you are willing to take on this role.

HOW TO REACH OUR NEW TREASURER

Our new Treasurer, Mary Elen Kollman, can be reached at (336) 448-3849, mekollman@gmail.com, or treasurer@greensboromoravian.org. Her office hours at First Moravian are Mondays from 1:00 to 3:30pm, and most Fridays from 10:00am to 12:45 pm. If it is a quick question, you can call her at Messiah Moravian Church, Mondays through Fridays, at (336) 765-5961.

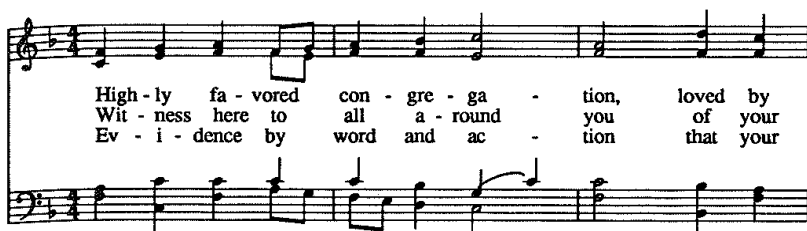
NEXT FMC BOOK CLUB: OCTOBER 5 AT 6:30 PM

The FMC Book Club meets Monday, October 5 at 6:30pm in Old Fellowship Hall to discuss *Bookends* by Liz Curtis Higgs.

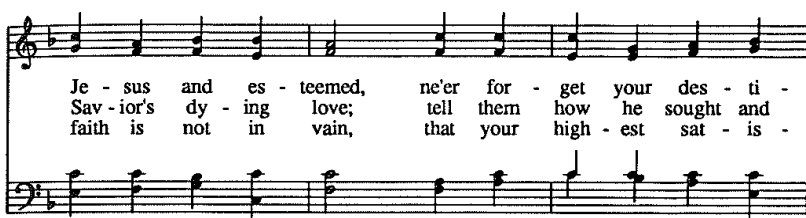
THE LOVEFEAST HYMNS

Highly Favored Congregation

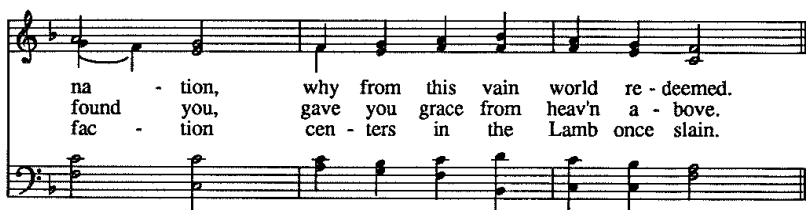
BATTY (16 A)



High - ly fa - vored con - gre - ga - tion, loved by
Wit - ness here to all a - round you of your
Ev - i - dence by word and ac - tion that your



Je - sus and es - teemed, ne'er for - get your des - ti -
Sav - ior's dy - ing love; tell them how he sought and
faith is not in vain, that your high - est sat - is -



na - tion, why from this vain world re - deemed.
found you, gave you grace from heav'n a - bove.
fac - tion cen - ters in the Lamb once slain.

Bless, O Lord, This Congregation

AUSTRIAN HYMN



Bless, O Lord, this con-gre-ga-tion, gath-er us with - in your fold;
May we call to rec - ol - lec - tion all your gui-dance through the years,



may we walk in love be - fore you as your saints in days of old.
keep - ing us, O gra - cious Sav - ior, stead - fast 'mid our doubts and fears.



Grant your peace to rest up - on us; let our prayers to you be heard;
For all those who've gone be - fore us, faith - ful through their earth - ly days



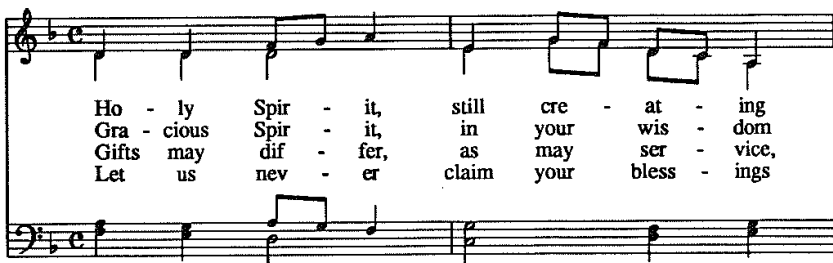
speak sal - va - tion to our spir - its as you prom - ised in your word.
in their ser - vice in our church - es, now ac - cept our heart - felt praise.

Text: Verse 1 © Allen W. Schattschneider; verse 2 © Albert H. Frank

Holy Spirit, Still Creating

Unison

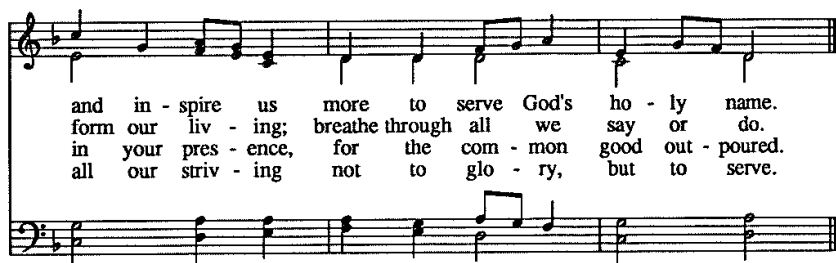
LIBERTY



Ho - ly Spir - it, still cre - at - ing
 Gra - cious Spir - it, in your wis - dom
 Gifts may dif - fer, as may ser - vice,
 Let us nev - er claim your bless - ings



Christ's one church in tongues of flame, move with - in us
 grant your gifts to us a - new; hal - low and trans -
 yet we fol - low one true Lord, man - i - fest - ed
 come as tro - phies we de - serve; make the goal of

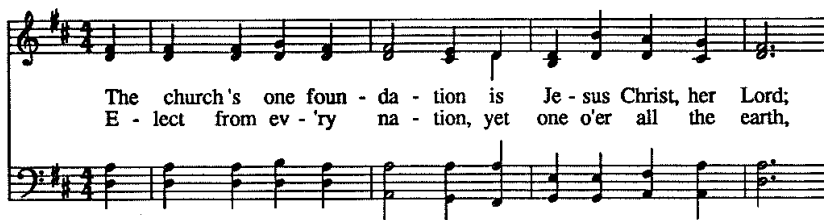


and in - spire us more to serve God's ho - ly name.
 form our liv - ing; breathe through all we say or do.
 in your pres - ence, for the com - mon good out - poured.
 all our striv - ing not to glo - ry, but to serve.

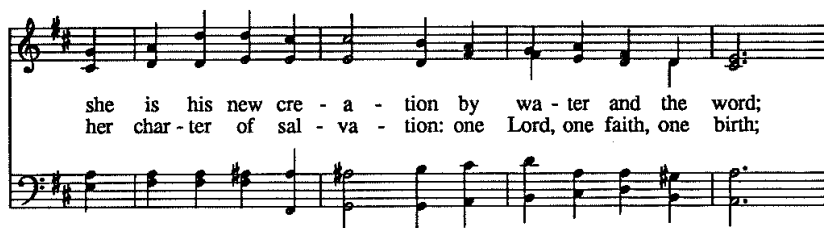
Text © C. Daniel Crews; tune harmonization © Broadman Press

The Church's One Foundation

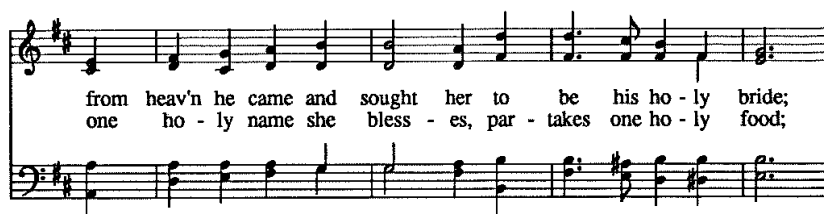
AURELIA (151 L)



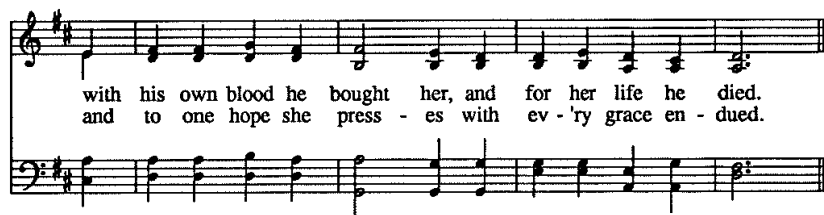
The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth;



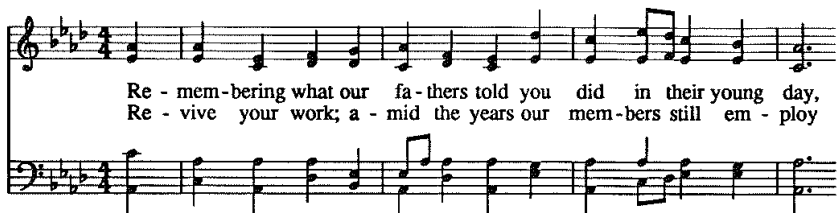
from heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food;



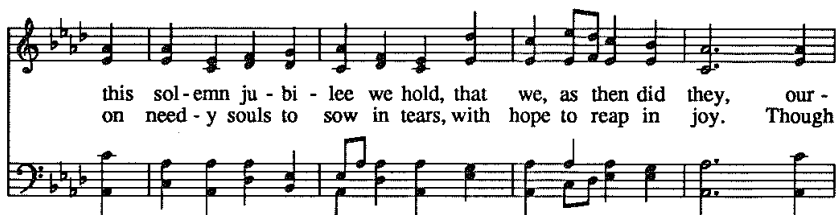
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.

Remembering What Our Fathers

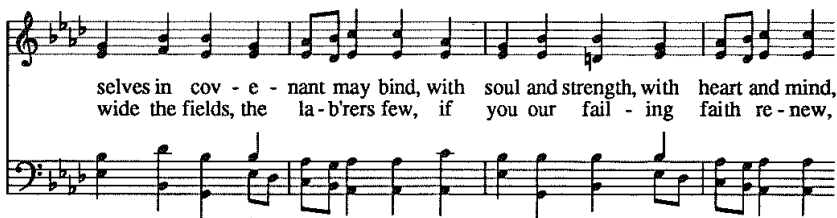
WORSHIP (159 A)



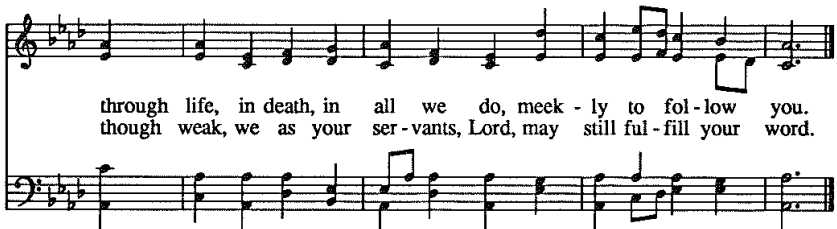
Re - mem - bering what our fa - thers told you did in their young day,
Re - vive your work; a - mid the years our mem - bers still em - ploy



this sol - emn ju - bi - lee we hold, that we, as then did they, our -
on need - y souls to sow in tears, with hope to reap in joy. Though



selves in cov - e - nant may bind, with soul and strength, with heart and mind,
wide the fields, the la - b'ers few, if you our fail - ing faith re - new,



through life, in death, in all we do, meek - ly to fol - low you.
though weak, we as your ser - vants, Lord, may still ful - fill your word.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

- Sun, Oct 4 Men's Fellowship Breakfast (8:30am, Conf Rm)
Worship, Anniversary Lovefeast & Tribute to Gay
(11:00am, Sanctuary)
Reception (following worship, OFH)
Chancel Choir Concert(4:00pm, Sanctuary)
Hot Dog Supper (following concert, OFH)
- Mon, Oct 5 FMC Book Club (6:30pm, OFH)
- Wed, Oct 7 Praise Band rehearsal (6:00pm, OFH)
Choir Practice (7:30pm, Sanctuary)
- Thurs, Oct 8 Line Dancing (11:00am, OFH)
- Sat, Oct 10 Chicken Pie Prep (7:00 & 11:00am, NFH)
- Sun, Oct 11 Sunday School (9:45am, Library)
Worship (11:00am, Sanctuary)
Board Meeting (12:30pm, Conf Rm)
Chicken Pie Prep (12:30pm, NFH)
Blessing of the Animals (4:00pm, OFH)

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Audrey Nuttal, 8th

FIRST MORAVIAN CHURCH STAFF

Office: M-F, 9:00am-1:00pm; ph. (336) 272-2196

Rev. Barbara Styers, Pastor: pastor@greensboromoravian.org

Meredith Cohoon, Director of Christian Education:

dce@greensboromoravian.org

Mary Elen Kollman, Treasurer: treasurer@greensboromoravian.org, or
mekollman@gmail.com, (336) 448-3849

Jane McKinney, Director of Music: mckinneyj@greensboro.edu

Ann Curtis, Organist/Pianist: anncurtis321@gmail.com

Kathryn Harris, Admin. Assistant; office@greensboromoravian.org

2024 CHURCH BOARD

Class of 2026
Mike Cockman
Vince Holbrook
Beth Smith

Class of 2027
Charles McKinney
James Paul
Keegan Smith, vice chair

Class of 2028
Bev Lozano
Lauren Petersen
Penny Wofford