

A hand holding a lit candle with a red ribbon bow, with a book open in the foreground.

# *Moravian College Christmas Vespers*

*Central Moravian Church  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania*

*December 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, & 12, 2010*



# Moravian College Christmas Vespers

PRESIDING

C. Hopeton Clennon

CHAPLAIN

MORAVIAN COLLEGE & MORAVIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

LITURGISTS

Frank L. Crouch

VICE PRESIDENT & DEAN

MORAVIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

*December 3*

Christopher M. Thomforde

PRESIDENT

MORAVIAN COLLEGE & MORAVIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

*December 4*

Beverly J. Kochard

VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS

MORAVIAN COLLEGE

*December 5*

Dennis A. Domchek

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

MORAVIAN COLLEGE

*December 10*

Gordon Weil

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & DEAN OF THE FACULTY

MORAVIAN COLLEGE

*December 11*

Wayne E. Killian

ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN

MORAVIAN COLLEGE

*December 12*

MORAVIAN CHOIR

Paula Ring Zerkle, Conductor

MORAVIAN COLLEGE WOMEN'S CHORUS

Eduardo Azzati, Conductor

Russell Jackson, Organ

HEAD SACRISTANS

Jessica Olonovich · Benjamin Teel

HEAD USHER

Elizabeth Kussler

USHERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS VESPERS SERVICES ARE MEMBERS OF

Omicron Gamma Omega and Sigma Sigma Sigma · December 3

Alpha Sigma Alpha · December 4

Zeta Tau Alpha · December 5

Delta Tau Delta · December 10

Alpha Sigma Tau · December 11

Sigma Phi Epsilon · December 12

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.



## PRELUDE

Greiner Zanner

Heinrich Finck (1444-1527)

EDITED BY J. GLASEL

Winter Winds

Michael Battipaglia '13

Michael Accurso, organ · Zachery Kneeland, glockenspiel

Moravian College Brass Ensemble

Lawrence Wright, director

Anne Hoffman and Sean O'Hara, trumpet · Rena Sinerco, French horn

Caitlin Worrich, trombone · Alicia Roeder, baritone · Phillip Wallens, tuba

Autumn Pastel

Everett Gates (b. 1914)

Soloists

Patrick Scheirer, December 3-5 · Elizabeth Brodt, December 10-12

Gesu Bambino

Pietro A. Yon (1886-1943)

ARRANGED BY WILLIAM RYDEN

Moravian College Clarinet Choir

Deborah Andrus, director

Jennifer Beierle, Elizabeth Brodt, Laura Kemmerer, Julie Montes De Oca,

Patrick Scheirer, Melissa Zirkel, B-flat clarinet

Eric Weiss, bass clarinet

In These Delightful Pleasant Groves

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

ARRANGED BY L. LIPKIS

Giga

J. C. Schickhardt (1682-1762)

Moravian College Baroque Ensemble

Larry Lipkis, director

Justin Holquin, flute · Adam Dart, oboe · Cody Anne Lutz, violin · Jessica Mitchell, cello

Hymn and Fugue on "Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Bonnie Banks-Beers (b. 1967)

Moravian College Flute Ensemble

Robin Kani, director

Victoria Clark, Cailin Fogerty, Justin Holquin, Ariel Hudak, Krysti Nappi, Rose Poskay, Charles Quinlan

Two Motets

Johannes Brahms (1883-1897)

ARRANGED BY DAVID JOLLEY

Schaffe in mir, Gott, ein rein Herz

Troste mich wieder mit deiner Hulfe

Moravian College Brass Ensemble

## VESPERS SERVICE

### CHOIR

Ave Maria

Josquin Desprez (c. 1440-1521)

Ave Maria, gratia plena  
Dominus tecum, Virgo serena

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with you, serene Virgin.

Ave cujus conceptio,  
Solemni plena gaudio,  
Coelestia, terrestria,  
Nova replet laetitia.

Hail whose conception,  
Full of solemn joy,  
Fills heaven and earth  
With new rejoicing.

Ave cujus nativitas  
Nostra fuit solemnitas  
Ut lucifer lux oriens  
Verum solem praeveniens

Hail whose nativity  
Was our festivity,  
The rising, light-bearing light  
Coming before the true sun.

Ave pia humilitas,  
Sine viro foecunditas,  
Cujus annunciatio  
Nostra fuit salvatio.

Hail pious humility,  
Fecundity without a man,  
Whose annunciation  
Was our salvation.

Ave vera virginitas,  
Immaculata castitas,  
Cujus purificatio  
Nostra fuit purgatio.

Hail true virginity,  
Immaculate chastity,  
Whose purification  
Was our cleansing.

Ave praeclara omnibus  
Angelicus virtutibus,  
Cujus fuit assumptio  
Nostra glorificatio.

Hail most splendid  
With all angelic virtues,  
Whose assumption  
Was our glorification.

O Mater Dei,  
Memento mei.  
Amen.

O Mother of God,  
Remember me.  
Amen.

### LITURGY\*

#### CONGREGATION AND CHOIR

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emanuel  
MEDIEVAL ANTIPHON

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!

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!

\*PLEASE STAND.



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

*In the beginning was the Word.*

In the beginning, God created.

*And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

*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.*

And God said, "Let there be light."

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

God saw that the light was good.

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

And God said, "Let us create humanity in our image."

*And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

So God created humanity in the image of God.

*And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.*

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

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

Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit;

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

### CHOIR

#### Hodie Christus Natus Est

Imant Raminsh (b. 1943)

Hodie Christus natus est:  
Hodie Salvator apparuit;  
Hodie in terra canunt Angeli,  
Laetantur Archangeli:  
Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, alleluia.

Today Christ is born:  
Today the Savior has appeared;  
Today the Angels sing on earth,  
The Archangels rejoice:  
Today the righteous rejoice, saying:  
Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!

### WELCOME

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 9:2-7. Read by students of Moravian College*

December 3 · Kristen D. Labert  
December 4 · Tara L. Chiarella  
December 5 · Charles R. Welsko

December 10 · Andréa A. DeCarlo  
December 11 · Jessica A. Olonovich  
December 12 · Lauren P. Taylor

#### New Testament Reading *Luke 2:1-14. Read by students of Moravian Theological Seminary*

December 3 · Patricia A. Smith  
December 4 · Alfred W. Jones III  
December 5 · Chris A. Druckenmiller

December 10 · Jeffrey L. Jones  
December 11 · Laura Gordon  
December 12 · Susan Bennetch

#### Prayer *Offered by members of the Faculty and Administration*

December 3 · Nathan B. Shank  
December 4 · Michele M. August-Brady  
December 5 · Kelly Denton-Borhaug

December 10 · Theresa Flowers Seifert  
December 11 · Timothy Luckritz Marquis  
December 12 · G. Christopher Hunt

### OFFERTORY

#### MORAVIAN COLLEGE WOMEN'S CHORUS

#### Psalm 13

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Herr, wie lange willst du mein so ganz vergessen?  
Wie lange verbirgest du dein Antlitz vor mir?  
Wie lange soll ich sorgen in meiner Seele  
Und mich ängsten in meinem Herzen täglich?  
Wie lange soll sich mein Feind über mich erheben?  
Schau doch und erhöre mich, Herr, mein Gott!  
Erleuchte meine Augen, daß ich nicht im Tode  
entschlafe.

Daß nicht mein Feind rühme, er sei mein mächtig  
worden,  
Und meine Widersacher sich nicht freuen, daß  
ich niederliege.  
Ich hoffe aber darauf, daß du so gnädig bist;  
Mein Herz freuet sich, daß du so gerne hilfst.  
Ich will dem Herren singen,  
Daß er so wohl an mir tut.

Lord, how long wilt thou forget me and forsake me?  
How long wilt thou rage and hide thy face far from me?  
How long shall I have trouble in my soul  
And give over my heart to sorrow daily?  
How long shall still my enemy rise against me?  
Look on me and give ear to me, Lord, my God!  
Enlighten thou my vision, lest I sleep  
in death.

Let not my foe say now that he prevails  
against me,  
And let my enemies not boast in triumph that they  
see me shaken.  
But thou, Lord, art my refuge, for thou art merciful;  
My heart has rejoiced that thou art strong to help,  
I praise the Lord with singing,  
For He does great things for me.

#### O magnum mysterium

Guy Forbes (b. 1957)  
RESPONSORY FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum,  
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum jacentem in  
praesepio:  
o beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare  
Dominum Christum  
Alleluia!

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament,  
That the animals should see the new-born Lord lying  
in a manger.  
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear  
Christ the Lord.  
Alleluia!

#### Glory to God

Kevin Johnson (b. 1961)

Peace on earth!  
Glory to God in the highest.  
Praise the Father and the Son,  
*Glory to God in the highest.*  
You alone are the Holy one.  
*Peace to God's people on earth.*  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
*Glory to God in the highest.*  
Glory to your name we sing!  
*Peace to God's people on earth.*

Father God we worship you.  
*Glory to God in the highest.*  
Mother God we worship you.  
*Peace to God's people on earth.*  
Take my sin and made me whole.  
*Glory to God in the highest.*  
Lord, revive my aching soul!  
*Peace to God's people on earth.*  
Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.  
Peace on earth!  
Glory to God in the highest.

#### Soloists

Emma Cougle, December 3 & 12 · Melissa Walters, December 4 & 10 · Heather Stinson, December 5 & 11



CONGREGATION

Jesus, Call Thou Me

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

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

Favored Bethlehem! Honored is that name;  
Thence came Jesus to release us;  
Favored Bethlehem!

Wondrous child divine! Warm this heart of mine;  
Keep it burning, for thee yearning,  
Wondrous child divine!

*Jesu, rufe mich*  
TEXT: ADAM DRESE (1620-1701)

CHOIR

Svaagat

Victor Paranjoti (1906-1960)

Koti Koti ham Bhaarat vaasii  
Svaagat karte miit pravaasii Svaagat!  
Ek isse ke ham abhilashii  
Prema hamaara ho avinaashii

Tens of millions, we citizens of India,  
We welcome you, friends, welcome!  
We cherish one ambitious desire:  
That our love remain eternal.

Koti Koti ham Bhaarat vaasii  
Svaagat karte miit pravaasii Svaagat!  
Vishwa shaanti ke parama pujaarii  
Maanavata ke hii hitakaarii

Tens of millions, we citizens of India  
We welcome you, friends, welcome!  
We are the devotees of universal peace,  
And seekers of human welfare.

Milana hamaaraa mangalakaarii  
Shraddha arpita tumhen hamaarii  
Koti Koti ham Bhaarat vaasii  
Svaagat karte miit pravaasii Svaagat!

Our meeting is auspicious.  
We repose our trust in you.  
Tens of millions, we citizens of India  
Welcome you, fellow travelers, welcome!

Eka isii ke ham avihlaashaa  
Prema hamaaraa ho avinaashii  
Koti Koti ham Bhaarat vaasii Svaagat!  
Svaagat! Svaagat! Svaagat!

We cherish one ambitious desire,  
That our love remain eternal.  
Tens of millions, we citizens of India, welcome!  
Welcome! Welcome! Welcome!

*Gianna Miranda and Heather Stinson, soprano · Addison Rymar and Jeffrey Bell, tenor  
Aaron Hetrick, percussion*

Neujahrslied

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)  
TEXT: JOHANN PETER HEBEL (1760-1826)

Mit der Freude zieht der Schmerz  
traulich durch die Zeiten,  
schwere Stürme, milde Weste,  
bange Sorgen, frohe Feste  
wandeln sich zur Seiten.

Joy comes along with pain,  
Faithfully through the ages,  
Violent storms, mild breezes,  
Anxious worries, happy feasts  
Ever changing from side to side.

Und wo manche Thräne fällt,  
blüht auch manche Rose,  
schon gemischt, noch eh' wir's bitten  
ist für Thronen und für Hütten  
Schmerz und Lust im Loose.

And where many tears fall  
Many roses also bloom.  
Already mixed, even before we ask for it,  
For those enthroned and those in shacks  
Pain and pleasure on the loose.

War's nicht so im alten Jahr?  
Wird's im neuen enden?  
Sonnen wallen auf und nieder,  
Wolken geh'n und kommen wieder,  
und kein Wunsch wird's wenden.

Was it not so in the old days?  
Will it not come in the future?  
Suns wander up and down,  
Clouds go and come again  
And no wish will be granted to us.

Gebe denn, der über uns  
wägt mit rechter Wage,  
jedem Sinn für seine Freuden,  
jedem Muth für seine Leiden  
in die neuen Tage.

Grant whatever weighs upon us  
With the right balance  
Each sensory experience for its joys  
Each show of courage for its suffering  
In the new days ahead.

Bénissez-Nous

*Traditional Sephardic Song from Bayonne, France*  
ARRANGED BY STEPHEN COHEN  
TEXT: HEBREW PSALM 118:1

Bénissez-nous, Dieu de lumière,  
éloignez de nous les malheurs,  
et sur notre famille entière  
étendez vos saintes faveurs.

Bless us, God of light  
take away our misfortunes,  
and on our whole family  
extend your holy favors.

Hodu ladonai kitov,  
ki l' olam chasdo.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.

As Joseph Was A-Walking

*Appalachian Carol*  
ARRANGED BY JOSEPH WILLCOX JENKINS

As Joseph was a-walking, he heard an angel sing,  
This night there shall be born our gracious heavenly King.

He neither shall be born in housen nor in hall,  
Nor in the place of Paradise but in an oxen stall.

He neither shall be clothed in purple, nor in pall;  
But all in fair white linen, as wear sweet babies all.

He neither shall be bedded in silver nor in gold,  
But in a wooden cradle that rocks out in the cold.

As Joseph was a-walking, thus did the angel sing,  
And Mary's child at midnight was born to be our King.

*Melissa Walters, Jasmine Thomas, and Heather Stinson, soprano*



**Lux Aurumque**

Lux, calida gravisque pura velut aurum  
et canunt angeli molliter modo natum.

*Gianna Miranda, soprano*

Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

Light, warm and heavy as pure gold,  
and the angels sing softly to the new-born baby.

**Deck the Halls**

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.

*Amanda Cavoto, soprano · Megan Weaver, Kim Van Orden, Melissa Zirkel, Kayla Smull, Carolyn Whyley, alto  
Adam Dart, Addison Rymar, Douglas Kaetz, Steven Gaden, Jeff Bell, tenor*

*Traditional English Carol*  
ARRANGED BY JAMES MCKELVY

**CONGREGATION AND CHOIR****On This Day Earth Shall Ring**

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)  
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*  
LITURGY OF ST. JAMES

1. 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.

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.

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

**CANDLELIGHT SERVICE****Behold a Great, a Heavenly Light**

*Vom Himmel hoch*  
TEXT: ST. AMBROSE (340-397)

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.  
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.

3. He left his bright, his glorious throne;  
He bowed the heavens, to earth came down,  
And thus his wondrous race began,  
As God with God to serve his land.  
4. Incarnate God, exert thy power;  
Arise, thou glorious conqueror;  
Subdue sin, death, and every foe,  
Erect thy kingdom here below.

**Once in Royal David's City**

*Irby*  
TEXT: CECIL FRANCES ALEXANDER (1823-95)

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)

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!

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 blessed evermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

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 (1624-77)

1. Morning Star, O cheering sight!  
Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night!  
Jesus mine, in me shine;  
Fill my heart with light divine.  
2. Morning Star, thy glory bright  
Far excels the sun's clear light:  
Jesus be, constantly,  
More than thousand suns to me.

3. Thy glad beams, thou Morning Star,  
Cheer the nations near and far;  
Thee we own, Lord alone,  
Our great Savior, God's dear Son.  
4. Morning Star, my soul's true light,  
Tarry not, dispel my night;  
Jesus mine, in me shine;  
Fill my heart with light divine.

*Soloists*

*Jacob Roth, December 3 · Olivia Zehl, December 4 · Rhys Williams, December 5  
Anna Hauser, December 10 · Katie Urban, December 11 · Lia Hetrick, December 12*



## CLOSING LITURGY\*

This is the message we have heard from God and declare to you;  
*God is light. In God there is no darkness at all.*

If we claim to have fellowship with God, yet walk in the darkness;  
*We do not live by the truth.*

But if we walk in the light, as God is in the light;  
*We have fellowship with one another in Christ's name.*

Lord, let now your servants depart in peace;  
*For our eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples.*  
*Amen.*

### Angels, from the Realms of Glory

*Regent Square*

TEXT: JAMES MONTGOMERY (1771-1854)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Angels, from the realms of glory,<br>Wing your flight o'er all the earth;<br>Ye who sang creation's story<br>Now proclaim Messiah's birth:<br>Come and worship, come and worship,<br>Worship Christ, the newborn king. | 3. Sages, leave your contemplations,<br>Brighter visions beam afar;<br>Seek the great desire of nations;<br>Ye have seen his natal star:<br>Come and worship, come and worship,<br>Worship Christ, the newborn king. |
| 2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,<br>Watching o'er your flocks by night.<br>God incarnate now residing,<br>Yonder shines the infant light:<br>Come and worship, come and worship,<br>Worship Christ, the newborn king.  | 4. All creation, join in praising<br>God the Father, Spirit, Son,<br>Evermore your voices raising<br>To the endless Three in One:<br>Come and worship, come and worship,<br>Worship Christ, the newborn king.        |

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

From "All Creatures Now Are Merry Minded"

No. 5 from *The Triumphs of Oriana*

John Bennet (b.c. 1575; fl. 1599-1614)

*Moravian Choir and Brass Ensemble*

## AN INVITATION

On Saturday, December 11, immediately following the Vespers service,  
everyone is invited to a carol sing-along across the street in Peter Hall.  
Refreshments will be provided.

*The carol sing-along is sponsored by Gamma Pi chapter of Delta Omicron, an international music honors fraternity.*

## THE MORAVIAN CHOIR

*Paula Ring Zerkle, director*

### SOPRANO 1

Tara Blasser · Emma Cogle · Cindy DaPra · Sierra Downs · Ariel Hudak · Gianna Miranda  
Rachel Ruisard · Heather Stinson · Lauren Taylor · Jazzy Thomas · Melissa Walters

### SOPRANO 2

Alexandra Borden · Amanda Cavoto · Jennifer Checkley · Julia Damiani · Sienna Mae Heath  
Amanda Kostalis · Lauren Marsh · Shannon Murray · Kathryn Romig · Liz Sgambelluri · Rebecca Stenger

### ALTO 1

Samantha Beard · Gabriella Breithaupt · Emily Brown · Maggie Callahan · Andréa DeCarlo · Kelly Halloran  
Nina Patton · Kayla Smull · Megan Strohlein · Maddie Webb · Carolyn Whyley · Melissa Zirkel

### ALTO 2

Jennifer Beierle · Arielle Brent · Alexandra Fontini · Andrea Heineman · Hannah Moyer  
Krysti Nappi · Erica Novoa · Katelyn Remp · Kim Van Orden · Megan Weaver

### TENOR 1

Jeffrey Bell · Adam Dart · Joshua Fink · Anthony Hendrickson  
Jordan Roman · Addison Rymar · Phillip Wallens · James Zengerle

### TENOR 2

Michael Battipaglia · Andrew Cogen · James Drago · Dan Ferman · Steve Gaden  
Douglas Kaetz · Soren Mattson · Matt Stover · Greg Woods

### BASS 1

Preston Ambrosky · Kevin Bagar · Robbie Brown · Zachary Carson · John Diener · Liam Huczko  
Zak Kneeland · Greg Morton · Brian Ulrich · Erik Wicklund

### BASS 2

Michael Accurso · Adam Benefield · Jerone Darden · David Fahim · Aaron Hetrick · Gerard Hummel  
Albert Lazaro · Tom Lazaro · Nicolas Robertson · Justin Sinkbeil · Kevin Weaver

### MORAVIAN CHOIR OFFICERS

*Michael Accurso, president*

*Megan Weaver, first vice president · Jazzy Thomas, second vice president*

*Melissa Zirkel, secretary · Addison Rymar, treasurer · Russell Jackson, accompanist*



## THE MORAVIAN COLLEGE WOMEN'S CHORUS

*Eduardo Azzati, director*

### SOPRANO 1

Elizabeth Brodt · Christina Estadt · Kimberly Gatski · Ashley Jean · Gianna Miranda  
Rachel Ruisard · Heather Stinson · Liz Sgambelluri · Jazzy Thomas · Emmy Usera

### SOPRANO 2

Alexandra Borden · Jenn Checkley · Emma Cougle · Kelly Halloran · Lauren Marsh  
Julie Montes De Oca · Nina Patton · Danielle Renna · Katie Romig · Melissa Walters

### ALTO 1

Amelia Balderrama · Christina Bonavita · Maggie Callahan · Rebecca Grube  
Amaris Hardy · Allison Shelly · Kayla Smull · Megan Strohlein · Emily Virgilio

### ALTO 2

Jennifer Beierle · Gabriella Breithaupt · Arielle Brent · Alexandra Fontini  
Katelyn Remp · Kimberly Van Orden · Megan Weaver · Kimberleigh White

### MORAVIAN COLLEGE WOMEN'S CHORUS OFFICERS

*Emma Cougle, president · Amaris Hardy, vice president  
Jenn Checkley, secretary · Megan Weaver, treasurer*

## THE CHRISTMAS VESPERS SERVICE

On behalf of our entire College and Seminary community, welcome to our 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. Our newest generation of Moravian students, the Class of 2014, aided by Gamma Sigma Sigma, hand-decorated all 6,000 Christmas Vespers candles during freshman orientation weekend in August. Some 290 friends of the College distribute these candles at the six Vespers services.

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, a member 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 with a child soloist with responses from the mixed choir and congregation.

The offering taken at Christmas Vespers directly supports student financial aid at Moravian College.

We are happy to be able to share this distinctive and moving Christmas worship with you. I hope you will join me in thanking the hundreds of people who help make these services possible.

*Christopher M. Thomforde, President*  
MORAVIAN COLLEGE AND MORAVIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

## CENTRAL MORAVIAN CHURCH

For five decades, Moravian College's Christmas Vespers has been held in Central Moravian Church, the worship center for Bethlehem's first religious congregation. Built between 1803 and 1806, a time when the population of Bethlehem was just 580 people, it was intended to accommodate a congregation of 1,500. Today its seating capacity is 1,100.

A striking feature of the neoclassical-style sanctuary is the absence of interior pillars to support the heavy roof and belfry. Instead these are held in place by massive foundation walls, with 68-foot-long white oak timbers resting on the side walls. From the belfry, the Bethlehem Area Moravian Trombone Choir, the oldest brass choir in continuous existence in America, announces the death of members of the congregation, as well as festivals of the church and community. The belfry houses the oldest American-made tower clock, built in Bethlehem in 1754. The bell was hung in 1868.

The Moravians brought an outstanding musical culture with them to America, and their settlements were among the most prestigious places to make music in the colonies. Haydn's oratorio *The Creation* was performed for the first time in America in Central Moravian Church in 1811, as was Bach's masterpiece, the Mass in B minor, in 1900. The Mass earned the church a designation as a National Landmark of Music. On December 18, 1998, *USA Today* named Central Moravian Church one of the nation's "Ten Great Places to Reflect on Christmas Eve."

The Moravian Church had its origin in the pre-Reformation awakening under John Hus. Formal organization under the name *Unitas Fratrum* (the Unity of the Brethren) was effected in 1457. Because much of its early history centered in Moravia (now part of the Czech Republic), the Unity is known informally as the Moravian Church. It is recognized as the oldest organized Protestant denomination in the world.

The permanent settlement of Bethlehem was named on Christmas Eve 1741.



