



Love Feast in Moravian Tradition  
December 9 and 10, 2023  
Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Peachtree City, Georgia



**Welcome to our Love Feast!** We pray that this service will bring you peace and help you to focus on the newborn baby in the manger.

**So WHAT EXACTLY IS A LOVE FEAST?**

The Love Feast is an ancient observance, dating from the early days of the Christian Church. You may find it mentioned in Acts, Chapter 2. It is a simple meal of the faithful in a service of worship.

Love Feasts are a cherished tradition of the Moravian Church. Sparked by the dissent of a priest, Jan Hus, who was burned at the stake over a century before Martin Luther nailed up his Ninety-Five Theses, *Unitas Fratrum*, as they were known, were nearly stomped out in two centuries of war and persecution.

A Lutheran nobleman, Count Nicholas von Zinzendorf, invited the struggling group to his estate in Germany, and they founded a community at Herrnhut. Five years later, on August 13, 1727, the believers came together to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion. For some time before this occasion the attitude in the community had been anything but one of brotherhood. Only through intense prayer and the working of the Holy Spirit did a revival take place in the hearts of the people. August 13 was to be a celebration for this renewed bond of love. Seven groups gathered and continued to sing hymns and pray together. As the experience became prolonged, Count Zinzendorf sent food and they broke bread together. It was truly a feast of love.

Moravians have always valued music highly, both in worship and at home. It is natural that music became an integral element of Love Feasts.

The Moravian Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America established full-communication ties in 1999, affirming their kinship in Christ. Christ Our Shepherd has offered Love Feasts since 2003.

During this service there are appointed times to eat a bun with coffee, and to light a beeswax candle. We will have participated in the blessing prior to being served. YOU MAY PARTAKE of the buns and drinks when they are served so that the hot beverage does not have a chance to cool.

PLEASE NOTE: Buns used this year are Holiday dinner rolls. The coffee is decaffeinated and includes 2% milk, Half-and-Half, and sugar. Apple Juice is available if you prefer. If you are experiencing the Love Feast at home, you may use whatever is convenient. If you do not prefer coffee, you may use whatever drink you like.

**CAUTION:** The candle you will be offered is made of beeswax, and should not drip as much as a regular candle. However, we ask that you take some precautions in the interest of safety:

1. Children under 12 must not handle lit candles; they will be given battery-powered candles.
2. Keep the candle close to you at all times to prevent contact with another person.
3. Please hold your candle upright at all times. Hold it upright 15 seconds after you extinguish it to prevent hot wax drips.
4. When you extinguish your candle, please blow gently so the wax does not splatter.

*If you choose not to keep your candle, please return it to a basket in the Narthex.*

If you would like to make a contribution to support our Worship & Music ministry you may do so at the end of the service by using the basket in the narthex or by scanning this QR code:

Thank you for attending!



# Love Feast in Moravian Tradition

Saturday, December 9, 2023

5:45 P.M., MUSICAL OFFERING; 6:00 P.M., PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Sunday, December 10, 2023

10:45 A.M., MUSICAL OFFERING; 11:00 A.M., PROCESSIONAL HYMN

or any time via the church's pages on FaceBook, YouTube, and COS' website

*Because this is a service of worship, we ask that you defer any applause until the end.  
In keeping with the Moravian preference for simplicity,  
no musicians wear robes or formal attire.*

## I

**Carols at the Door**

The Christ Our Shepherd "Moravian" Church Band

## II

**The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy  
Ding Dong! Merrily on High**

Peace Ringers

arr. Sondra K. Tucker  
arr. Douglas E. Wagner

**Silver Winds in the Night**

Love Feast Consort

arr. Jackson Berkey

## III

*Please stand to sing.*

**Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers**

arr. K. Lee Scott

CONGREGATION, Love Feast Choir; COS Brass; percussion; and organ

- 1 **ALL: Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;  
the evening is advancing, and darker night is near.  
The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.**
- 2 **MEN: The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;  
go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory; the bridegroom is at hand.**
- 3 CHOIR: The saints, who here in patience their cross and sufferings bore,  
shall live and reign for ever when sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold;  
in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.
- 4 **ALL: Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;  
arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see  
the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!**

*Please be seated.*

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION TO THE LOVE FEAST, AND PRAYER

Pastor Fritz

READING AND HEARING THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Dana Bogdanski

SERVING THE LOVE FEAST BUNS, COFFEE, AND APPLE JUICE

BLESSING:

Pastor Fritz

**COME, LORD JESUS, OUR GUEST TO BE,  
AND BLESS THESE GIFTS BESTOWED BY THEE.  
BLESS OUR LOVED ONES EVERYWHERE,  
AND KEEP THEM IN THY LOVING CARE. AMEN.**

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US IN EATING BUNS AND DRINKING COFFEE OR JUICE.

***Carol of the Bells***

arr. George Winston, adapted Sarah Juhasz  
Sarah Juhasz, handbell soloist

***A Christmas Prelude***

Charles Callahan  
Rita DeNell, flute; strings

COLLECTING THE CUPS  
***Wexford Carol***

arr. Joseph Martin  
Cheryl Dietmeyer, Larry Peterson; piano duet

**IV**

***Festive***

The OK Factor  
Karla Colahan, violin; Olivia Diercks, cello

***Come Run, Ye Shepherds***

Hal Hopson  
Love Feast Choir; piano

Come run, ye shepherds! The Star is shining,  
the gates of Bethlehem high are lifted,  
Make haste to enter, and find the stable,  
And kneel down and worship the newborn King.

Come play your pipe, come play your drum;  
Make merry and dance the way along,  
For Christ is born, yes, Christ is born;  
Yes, Jesus, our Savior, is born.

Sing Noel on the way to Bethlehem;  
Come and join us; Jesus, the Savior, is born.

The prophets wrote, the sages spoke  
of this night of wonder, this night of joy;  
Come join our hearts, come join our voices  
in praise of the newborn King.

Come play your pipe, come play your drum;  
Make merry and dance the way along,  
For Christ is born, yes, Christ is born;  
Yes, Jesus, our Savior, is born.

**Child of Peace**

Jeffrey Van

Love Feast Choir; Kendra Campbell-Milburn, soloist; Domenic Ravita, guitar

Sleep, o sleep Thou lovely Child divine;  
Love distilled in humble form so fine.  
May Thy slumber keep Thee now from pain;  
Long and weary journey yet remains.  
    God of love who gave this little one,  
    God of love who came to overcome,  
    Holy Spirit, God and Christ in one child.

Wise men sought a King and journeyed far,  
Guided by a strange and glorious star,  
Offering gifts of incense, myrrh and gold,  
Witnessing the holy birth foretold.  
    When we seek Thee Jesus may we be  
    Guided to Thy cradle there to see  
    Prophesies fulfilled and hope revealed.

Child of peace who came so long ago,  
Child of love still with us here we know,  
May Thy tears of passion freely flow,  
Melting hearts within us cold as snow,  
    He is come to be our dearest kin,  
    He is come to take from us our sin,  
    Jesus come and make us safe within You.

**To Bethlehem**

David McK. Williams

Love Feast Choir; Dewey Patrick, soloist

O, I would go to Bethlehem, Where Mary and her Darling are,  
I'd travel quickly to them, Led by the light of one great star,  
The lovely shining Christmas star.  
And I would see the Holy Babe with Mother Mary keeping  
Her watch o'er Jesus sleeping.

O, I would go to Bethlehem, Beneath the peaceful midnight sky,  
To see the Child and greet Him, And hear the Virgin's lullaby,  
Her sweet and gentle lullaby.  
And I would see the Angels there, And watch them bending above Him  
To worship and to love Him.

O, I would go to Bethlehem, The pretty lambs are playing there,  
And Jesus smiles upon them With laughing innocence so fair  
Upon His baby face so fair.  
I'd rock His cradle for Him there, And hush the angels' singing  
When they to earth are winging. ▶

O, I would go to Bethlehem, And with the Kings my offering bring,  
For there, in stable lowly, Is born tonight a mighty King,  
My true and dear and only King;  
I bring to Him my only gift, A love that faileth never,  
O take it, Jesus ever.

*Please stand to sing.*

**Angels We Have Heard on High**

arr. Walter Pelz

CONGREGATION, Love Feast Choir and Orchestra

- 1 **ALL: Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.**
- 2 CHOIR: Shepherds why this jubilee? Why these songs of happy cheer?  
What great brightness did you see? What glad tidings did you hear?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.
- 3 CHOIR: Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.
- 4 **ALL: See him in a manger laid, whom the angels praise above,  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.**

*Please be seated.*

V

**Two Voltas**

Michael Praetorius, arr. Colin Kirkpatrick  
Love Feast Woodwinds

**Fum, Fum, Fum**

arr. Valerie Stephenson

Joyful Noise Ringers

**Away in a Manger**

arr. Joel Raney

Joyful Noise Ringers; Rita DeNell, flute; strings; piano

**Some Children See Him**

Alfred Burt, transcribed/arr. Chris R. Hansen  
Brad Milburn, soloist; strings; piano

Some children see Him lily white, the baby Jesus born this night.  
Some children see Him lily white, with tresses soft and fair.  
Some children see Him bronzed and brown, The Lord of Heav'n to earth come down.  
Some children see Him bronzed and brown, with dark and heavy hair.

Some children see Him almond eyed, this Savior whom we kneel beside.  
Some children see Him almond eyed, with skin of golden hue.  
Some children see Him dark as they, sweet Mary's Son to whom we pray.  
Some children see Him dark as they, and oh, they love Him too! ►

The children in each different place will see the baby Jesus' face  
like theirs, but bright with heav'nly grace, and filled with holy light.  
O lay aside each earthly thing and with thy heart as offering,  
come worship now the infant King. 'Tis Love that's born tonight!  
'Tis Love that's born tonight!

***Climb to the Top of the Highest Mountain***

Carolyn Jennings

Love Feast Choir and Orchestra; piano  
Marian Groover and Kendra Campbell-Milburn, soloists

Climb to the top of the highest mountain, Joyous tidings proclaim to the world,  
Lift up your voice, Shout the good news: Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd, He will carry the lambs in his arms,  
He will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you.

He who made the stars in the heaven, He who fashioned the earth and the sea,  
From time eternal he was God, the Alpha and Omega, He. Behold, your Lord!

He will come in power and glory, He will rule with mercy and truth,  
Hope of the nations, Light of all the world, Light of all.

He will love the little children, He will hold them in his arms.  
Love him and trust him as a child, Behold, your Lord comes to you.  
Love him/Trust him as a child.

**VI**

Moravian Carol

***Christ the Lord, the Lord Most Glorious***

Edward Leinbach

CONGREGATION, Love Feast Choir, Joyful Noise Ringers, organ, strings  
*Music located on the back page.*

- 1 **Christ the Lord, the Lord most glorious, now is born; O shout aloud!  
Man by him is made victorious; praise your Savior, hail your God!**
- 2 **Praise the Lord, for on us shineth Christ, the Sun of righteousness;  
He to us in love inclineth, cheers our souls with pardoning grace.**
- 3 **Praise the Lord, whose saving splendor shines into the darkest night.  
O what praises shall we render for this never-ceasing light.**
- 4 **Praise the Lord, God our salvation. Praise him who retrieved our loss.  
Sing with awe and love's sensation, "Hallelujah, God with us!"**

Moravian Carol

**Morning Star, O Cheering Sight**

Francis Hagen

Charlotte Pointek, soloist

CONGREGATION, Love Feast Choir, Joyful Noise Ringers, and organ

*Music located on the back page.*

- 1 *Solo: Morning star, O cheering sight! Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night!*  
**ALL: Morning star, o cheering sight!**  
**Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's night!**  
*Solo: Jesus mine, ALL: in me shine.*  
*Solo: In me shine, ALL: Jesus mine.*  
**Fill my heart with light divine.**
- 2 *Morning star, thy glory bright far excels the sun's clear light.*  
**Morning star, thy glory bright far excels the sun's clear light.**  
*Jesus be, constantly; constantly, Jesus be*  
**More than thousand suns to me.**
- 3 *Thy glad beams, thou morning star, cheer the nations near and far.*  
**Thy glad beams, thou morning star, cheer the nations near and far.**  
*Thee we own, Lord alone. Lord alone, thee we own,*  
**Our dear savior, God's dear Son.**
- 4 *Morning star, my soul's true light, tarry not, dispel my night.*  
**Morning star, my soul's true light, tarry not, dispel my night.**  
*Jesus mine, in me shine. In me shine, Jesus mine.*  
**Fill my heart with light divine.**

Candlelight Carol: **Silent Night**

arr. Michael Burkhardt

CONGREGATION, Love Feast Choir, Joyful Noise Ringers, organ, strings, flutes, guitar

*You are invited to light a candle to be reminded that Christ is living in and among us.*

*Tip the UNLIT candle to light from the burning candle.*

- 1 **Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright**  
**round yon virgin mother and child.**  
**Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace.**
- 2 **Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;**  
**glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!**  
**Christ, the Savior, is born!**
- 3 **Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light**  
**radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,**  
**Jesus Lord, at thy birth.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor Miriam

*Please extinguish your candles after the Benediction.*

*Be careful not to tip the candle until the wax has hardened.*

*Please stand to sing.*

**O Come, All Ye Faithful**

arr. Cathy Moglebust

Congregation, Love Feast Choir, Joyful Noise Ringers, Love Feast Orchestra, organ



1 **ALL: O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!**  
**O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;**  
**come and behold him, born the king of angels:**

*Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

2 **ALL: The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,**  
**born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;**  
**Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! Refrain**

Interlude: handbells and organ

3 **WOMEN: Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,**  
**sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!**  
**ALL: Glory to God in the highest: Refrain**

4 **Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;**  
**Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!**  
**Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: Refrain**

*Please be seated.*

### **The First Noel**

arr. Cathy Moglebust

Peace Ringers, Joyful Noise Ringers, Love Feast Orchestra

*It is our prayer that this Love Feast will focus your season on God's unconditional love for us  
in sending his Son to be born in a manger.*

*We are grateful for your presence.*

*May God bless you richly.*

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## THE MUSICIANS

### Love Feast Choir

Soprano: Claire Avery-Wilson, Sue Byers, Carolyn Callison, Kendra Campbell-Milburn,  
Rita DeNell, Marty Hagberg, Etsuko Karnitis, Sue Hamre-Smith, April Peterson,  
Delee Rehak, Nancy Shepack

Alto: Cheryl Dietmeyer, Minka Fulton, Cinda King, Madelyn Lee, Sue Summers

Tenor: Neil Basu, David Beecher, Evan Gundersen, Jim Hagberg, Jeff James, Kathie Manes,  
Brad Milburn, Dewey Patrick

Bass: Dave Byers, Karl Dietmeyer, Michael Johnson, Richard King, Tom Rehak

### Peace Ringers

Marty Benoit, Christie Burton, Sue Byers, Karl Dietmeyer, Linda Grabill, Sarah Juhasz,  
Kathie Manes, Joni Siepert

### Joyful Noise Ringers

Marty Benoit, Karl Dietmeyer, Minka Fulton, Lauri Gambrel, Linda Grabill, Casie Groover,  
Sarah Juhasz, Penny Kahley, Lynn Kalinke, Pat Oliver, Joni Siepert, David Turk, Sara Turk

## Love Feast Consort

Solo Piccolo: Carolyn Callison  
Solo Flute: Rita DeNell  
Solo Alto Flute: Sarah DeNell  
Flute: Penny Kahley, Lynn Kalinke, Sarah Wampler  
Clarinet: Maiya Frederick, Megan Irvin  
Bass Flute: Sara Turk  
Flugelhorn: Morgan Hebert  
Baritone Saxophone: Domenic Ravita  
Piano: Cheryl Dietmeyer  
Percussion: David Beecher

## Love Feast Orchestra

Piccolo: Carolyn Callison  
Flute: Sarah Wampler, Sara Turk, Rita DeNell, Sarah DeNell  
Clarinet: Megan Irvin, Maiya Frederick  
Saxophone: Dominic Ravita  
Trumpet: Morgan Hebert, Ethan Hoellrich, Richard King, Alex Dohany  
Alto Horn: Lauri Gambrel  
French Horn: Madeline Therriault, Chelby Gambrel  
Trombone: Elliott Keyser, Mayson Groover, Oliver Ravita  
Euphonium: Xander Lee, Dave Byers  
Tuba: Xavier Lee, Sarah Juhasz  
Timpani: James McDaniel  
Percussion: Penny Kahley, Brad Milburn, David Turk, Sarah Wampler  
Violin I: Karla Colahan, Bronwen Feagins  
Violin II: Gerardo Perez, Muriel Chan  
Viola: Zoura Chan, Hayoung Kim  
Cello: Olivia Diercks, Sophia Madani, Marlee Rafter  
Bass: Andrew Lakley

## The OK Factor

Karla Colahan, violin  
Olivia Diercks, cello

Piano: David Beecher, Linda Daily, Cheryl Dietmeyer

## Conductors

Dave Byers, Karl Dietmeyer, James C. Hagberg, Larry Peterson

## Minister in Music Emeritus

David Beecher

## Director of Brass and Woodwind Ensembles

Karl Dietmeyer

## Director of String Ensemble

Jim Hagberg

## Administrative Assistant for Worship and Music

Joni Siepert

## Administrative Assistant for Ensembles

Elizabeth Wampler

## Director of Technology for Worship and Presentation

Brad Milburn

## Tech Team Support

Josef Agada, Curt Griffin, Eric, Justin and Shelly Jakubowski, Carol Jensen-Linton,  
Giovanni Okoronkwo

## Ushers

Tom Conrad, Stephen Gundersen, Ben and Harper McCumber, John Musil, Tom Smith

## Director of Worship and Music Ministries

Larry Peterson

Pastors: Fritz Wiese and Miriam Beecher

## Head Diener: Mike Oliver

Dieners: Jennifer Archer, Shirley Brown, Jan and Jim Christopher, Eileen and Tom Conrad,  
Sue Forward, Erin Gambrel, Pam Gould, Linda Grabill, Sam Kreutzer, Becky and Froska Lee,  
Jaycine Lester, Robbie Martin, Ethan Miller, Laura and John Musil, Pat Oliver, Meg Ravita,  
Katherine Shriner, Teresa Williams

Candle Dressers: Kathie Manes, coordinator; Jan Christopher, Eileen Conrad, Connie Earle,  
Pam Gould, Ethan Hoellrich, Rebecca Nicholson, Benya Spruck, Carol Talbott,  
Judie Thompson

Tea Light Candles : Cassie Crosby, Kathie Manes

Sanctuary Decor: Kathie Manes, coordinator; Dave and Sue Byers, Ethan Hoellrich,  
Cindy and Darryl Irvin, Eric and Shelly Jakubowski, Jaycine Lester,  
Rebecca Nicholson, Kayleigh and Charlotte Pointek, Chris and Rebecca Shriner, Carol Talbott

The Ludwig Timpani were given to the glory of God and in memory of:  
Paul and Dorothy Christopher, Paul Grice, Maude and Millen Grice, Katharyn Thoman Schneider,  
Margot and Leopold Vogt, T.J. and Irene Westbrook, Erlene Wolfe

The Adams Symphonic Chimes were given to the glory of God  
by Kathie Manes in memory of her husband, John.  
Kathie also gave our Love Feast mugs.

The Petit & Fritsen Handbells were refurbished to the glory of God  
by Kathie Manes in memory of her husband, John.

The Kawai Grand Piano was given by Rebecca Riskedahl Mitchell.

The Yamaha Grand Piano was given by Dolores and Jim Daniel.

The Xylophone provided courtesy of the Starr's Mill High School Band Department,  
Scott King, director; Bert Groover, assistant director.

**Soli Deo Gloria**

1. Christ the Lord, the Lord most glo-rious, Now is born; O  
 2. Praise the Lord, for on us shin-eth Christ, the Sun of  
 3. Praise the Lord, Whose sav-ing splen-dor Shines in - to the

shout a - loud! Man by Him is made vic - to - rious;  
 Right-eous - ness; He to us in love in - clin - eth,  
 dark - est night; O what prais-es shall we ren - der

Praise your Sav - iour, hail your God!  
 Cheers our souls with par - doning grace.  
 For this nev - er - ceas - ing Light. A - MEN.

4 Praise the Lord, God our Salvation,  
 Praise Him Who retrieved our loss;  
 Sing, with awe and love's sensation,  
 Hallelujah, God with us.

*Solo*  
 1 Morn-ing Star, O cheer-ing sight! Ere thou cam'st, how dark earth's  
 2 Morn-ing Star, thy glo - ry bright far ex - cels the sun's clear  
 3 Thy glad beams, thou Morn-ing Star, cheer the na - tions near and  
 4 Morn-ing Star, my soul's true light, tar - ry not, dis - pel my

*All*  
 night! Morn - ing Star, O cheer - ing sight! Ere thou  
 light. Morn - ing Star, thy glo - ry bright far ex -  
 far. Thy glad beams, thou Morn - ing Star, cheer the  
 night. Morn - ing Star, my soul's true light, tar - ry

*Solo* *All* *Solo*  
 cam'st, how dark earth's night! Je - sus mine, in me shine; in me  
 cels the sun's clear light. Je - sus be, con - stant - ly, con - stant -  
 na - tions near and far. Thee we own, Lord a - lone, Lord a -  
 not, dis - pel my night. Je - sus mine, in me shine; in me

*All*  
 shine, Je - sus mine, fill my heart with light di - vine.  
 ly, Je - sus be more than thou - sand suns to me.  
 lone, thee we own, our dear Sav - iour, God's dear Son.  
 shine, Je - sus mine, fill my heart with light di - vine.