Friedland Moravian Church Workers' Lovefeast Ode

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Hymn 444

Covenant (185A)

Grace and peace from God, our blessed Savior, be with all who love his name; church of Christ, his service deem a favor, joyfully his death proclaim, be prepared for rest or for employment, from activity derive enjoyment, serve with zeal and faithfulness, filled with love his name confess.

Chosen flock, your faithful Shepherd follow, who laid down his life for you; all your days unto his service hallow, each to be disciples true; evermore rejoice to do his pleasure, be the fullness of his grace your treasure; should success your labor crown, give the praise to him alone.

Scripture

Hymn 633

Nun Danket (146A)

On this, our festive day, your people here adore you; we come to sing and pray and lay our gifts before you. Your hand has helped us on through ev'ry passing year; now, Father, Spirit, Son, our grateful praises hear!

Your faithful servants bless in all earth's varied places; your name they all confess among earth's many races, until that day shall come when multitudes untold shall find their glorious home in heav'n's eternal fold!

Prayer

Lovefeast

At this point in the service, the Dieners will serve. When everyone is served, we will pray the Moravian blessing and partake together.

Hymn 454 T. Hyfrydol

Praise the Lord! You heav'ns, adore him, praise him, angels in the height; sun and moon, rejoice before him; praise him, all you stars and light. Praise the Lord! For he has spoken; worlds his mighty voice obeyed; laws which never shall be broken for their guidance he has made.

Praise the Lord! For he is glorious; never shall his promise fail; God has made his saints victorious; sin and death shall not prevail. Praise the God of our salvation; hosts on high, his pow'r proclaim; heav'n and earth and all creation, praise and glorify his name.

Worship, honor, glory, blessing, Lord, we offer as our gift; young and old, your praise expressing, our glad songs to you we lift. All the saints in heav'n adore you; we would join their glad acclaim; as your angels serve before you, so on earth we praise your name.

Hymn 205

Berthelsdorf (141A)

Own your congregation, gracious Paschal Lamb; we are here assembled in your holy name; look upon your people whom you by your blood have in love redeemed and brought nigh to God.

You have kindly led us through our joys and tears; now accept our praises and remove our fears. Grant us all with gladness to obey your voice; let your will and pleasure be our only choice.

The Bible teaches us that while we are many people and while God gives each one of us different gifts for ministry and for service in His name, we are one body. We are His Body here on earth with our mission being to witness to others of His love and of His presence with us through the Holy Spirit who lives within each of His children. In this way, everyone in the Church is a worker because each one has been given a gift to use in ministry. In whatever way we are called to service, we are all joined together into the one mission He has given to all of His servants.

Today we celebrate and give thanks to God for calling us, for giving us the gifts we need to serve Him in His Church, and for enabling us to keep His commandment to love one another as He has loved us. We rejoice and express our gratitude for all who have heard His call and who freely give of themselves, their energy, their time, and their talents.

May God richly bless each one of you in all that you do in His service.

Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval. John 6:27 (NIV) We all behold one vision, a stark reality: the author of salvation was nailed upon a tree. Yet resurrected justice gives rise that we may share free reconciliation and hope amid despair.

Now let us be united and let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word. We all are one in mission, we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. "We All Are One in Mission" words by Rusty Edwards ©1986 by Hope Publishing Company CCLI No. 956342

Message

Hymn 445

Covenant (185A)

Bless, O Lord, we pray, your congregation; bless each home and family; bless the youth, the rising generation; blessed may your dear children be; bless your servants, grant them help and favor; you to glorify be their endeavor. Lord, on you we humbly call; let your blessing rest on all.

Hymn 543 Bechler (159D)

Sing hallelujah, praise the Lord! Sing with a cheerful voice; exalt our God with one accord, and in his name rejoice. Ne'er cease to sing, O ransomed host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, until in realms of endless light your praises shall unite.

There we to all eternity shall join th' angelic lays and sing in perfect harmony to God our Savior's praise; he has redeemed us by his blood, And made us kings and priests to God; for us, for us, the Lamb was slain! Praise ye the Lord! Amen.

Benediction

Postlude

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May your church, arrayed in the glorious dress of the Lord and Savior's spotless righteousness, be both now and ever by your blood kept clean, and in all its members may your grace be seen.

Hymn 399 Worship (159A)

All hail, our church's Elder dear, O Jesus, glorious head!
To your disciples now appear as risen from the dead.
Let our rejoicing souls in you the tokens of your passion view and hear your gentle voice anew say, "Peace be unto you."

Remembering what our fathers told you did in their young day, this solemn jubilee we hold. May we, as then did they, ourselves in covenant now bind with soul and strength, with heart and mind, through life, in death, on land, o'er sea to you disciples be.

Revive your work; amid the years our members still employ on needy souls to sow in tears, with hope to reap in joy. Though wide the fields, the lab'rers few, if you our failing faith renew, though weak, we as your servants, Lord, may still fulfill your word.

O Lord, in whom we all are one, if faithful found and true, your will on earth by each be done as each in heav'n would do.

To you ourselves we first would give; live to your glory while we live, from step to step on you rely, then in your service die.

Hymn 461 St. Anne (14H)

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure; sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame, from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone, short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, remain our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home!

Following a brief, silent prayer for absent loved ones and those with special needs, we will pray aloud the Moravian blessing.

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.

Partake

As we partake, we will fellowship with one another. Then the Dieners will return to take up the coffee mugs as we sing the following hymns.

Hymn 670 Graceham (581K)

'Tis a pleasant thing to see brothers in the Lord agree, sisters of a God of love live as they shall live above, acting each a Christian part, one in word and one in heart.

Where divine affection lives, there the Lord his blessing gives; there his will on earth is done; there his heav'n is half begun. Great example from above, teach us all like you to love.

Hymn 662 Havn (82D)

Jesus makes my heart rejoice, I'm his sheep and know his voice; he's a Shepherd, kind and gracious, and his pastures are delicious; constant love to me he shows, yea, my very name he knows.

Trusting his mild staff always, I go in and out in peace; he will feed me with the treasure of his grace in richest measure; when athirst to him I cry, living water he'll supply.

Should not I for gladness leap, led by Jesus as his sheep? For when these blessed days are over to the arms of my dear Savior I shall be conveyed to rest. Amen, yea, my lot is blessed.

Offering

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

Hymn 511 Aurelia (151L)

We all are one in mission, we all are one in call, our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all. A single, great commission compels us from above to plan and work together that all may know Christ's love.

We all are called for service to witness in God's name. Our ministries are diff'rent, our purpose is the same: to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace so ev'ry folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.