Gathering

Call to Worship
Victoria Lasley (MDiv ’17)

Centering

Liturgy of Reconciliation
Victoria Lasley
Kim Thornton (MDiv ’18)

Pastoral Prayer
Angelica Regalado (MDiv ’17)

* Congregational Song: “Seek the Lord, Whose Willing Presence”

The Epistle Lesson

Romans 8:12-17
Virginia Tobiassen

Proclaiming

Sermon: “Let the Record Show”
Virginia Tobiassen

Responding

* Congregational Song: “Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing”
MUO #54

Sending

* Benediction
Virginia Tobiassen

* Please stand in body and/or spirit.
Seek the Lord, Whose Willing Presence

1 Seek the Lord, whose willing presence
2 “For my thoughts are not like your thoughts,”
3 “As the life-charged dew of heaven
4 Seek the Lord, whose willing presence

moves your heart to make appeal. Turn from wickedness
says the Lord, “nor your ways mine. Farther still than
births the seed and stirs the mill, so my word goes
moves your heart to make appeal. Turn from wickedness

ness and evil; God will pardon, cleanse, and heal.
earth from heaven are things human from divine,”
forth with power to perfect my gracious will."
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Notes for Today's Worship

About the Worship Leader
Rev. Virginia Tobiassen (MDiv’10) is pastor at Home Moravian Church in Winston-Salem. She also serves on the Salem Congregation Board of Elders, chairs the Interprovincial Board of Communication, and is an adjunct instructor at Salem College. Rev. Tobiassen is the author of two books, *Am I Glowing Yet? Understanding and Coping with the Common and Not-So-Common Miseries of Pregnancy* (Chicago Review Press, 1995) and *The Gift of the Magi Retold in Rhyme* (The Ashe Street House, 2002).

Worship
Today’s worship service was planned by Rev. Virginia Tobiassen, Jamie Jessup (MDiv ‘19), and Demi McCoy (MDiv ‘17).

The altar design was created by Demi McCoy.

The bulletin cover image is the logo of the Moravian Church of North America.

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Moravian Denominational Day
Today we celebrate our final Denominational Day of the year as we welcome alumna Ginny Tobiassen, a minister in the Moravian Church of North America, as our preacher. We offer a special welcome to friends and guests from the Moravian Church who are worshipping with us today. This afternoon at 12:45, Rev. Tobiassen will host an information session to discuss ministry opportunities, networking, and more within the Moravian tradition in Wingate Hall 107B. All are invited.

Davis Chapel During Lent
Throughout the season of Lent, the chapel space will display visual reminders of our wilderness journey of fasting and repentance. The tapestries at the front have been replaced with purple cloth, symbolizing suffering and penitence. The altar design, including sand and stones, symbolizes desert and wilderness. The fountain will remain off, reminding us of our longing and thirst for God. The open windows, and the single candle in the middle of the altar, symbolize God’s light and presence with us, even in darkness.

Worship Team Members
For feedback, suggestions, or offers to participate in worship, please contact a member of the worship team:

Andrea Marulanda Gutiérrez  Michaiah Hinds  Brian Hollingsworth  Jamie Jessup
Amanda Kerr  Demi McCoy  Sophia Russell  Benjamin Smith

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With joyfulness and longing we look to you, O Lord;
The years have all been crowded with tokens of your love;
receive us in your mercy, and cheer us with your word.
and many who have sought you now worship you above.
Crown us with love enduring and promises of grace,
But we, O Lord, still need you, our pilgrim feet to stay,
and let your holy blessing remain within this place.
for evil often triumphs as faith to fear gives way.
Almighty God, enthroned above all, you alone are God over the nations of the earth. Even the planets, the stars, and the galaxies are placed by your hand.

Where could we go from your Spirit? Where could we flee from your presence? If we go up to the heavens, you are there; if we go down into the cavens of the earth or the depths of the sea, you are there.

God of all creation, we sing praises to your name; we stand jubilant before your glory, power, and beauty.

God of certainty, God of truth, our confidence is in you and in you alone. Yet we live in a fallen world and we are imperfect people.

Our world is filled with pain and alienation. We know of illness when body or mind is failing, and the loneliness of spirit it brings.

We know of separation from parent or child, from friend or neighbor, and the emptiness of life it brings.

We know of strangeness in new communities and in changing communities, and the longing it brings.

We know of alienation caused by unemployment or poverty or discrimination, and the pain it brings.

We have become strangers to our relatives, and foreigners to our own families.

How can we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? Let our cry for help come to you.

I am a God nearby, says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? I am the Lord your God. I have called you out from the peoples and you shall be holy to me.

We declare your praise, the One who called us out of darkness into your wonderful light. We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to you.
Let us in faith keep our eyes fixed on the promises of God, though we see them and greet them from a distance.

We confess that we are strangers and foreigners on the earth, a people who are seeking our true home.

We desire a better place, that is, a heavenly one. Indeed, God has prepared a city for us.

Let us lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

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O then what raptured greetings on Canaan's happy shore;
Bring near your great salvation, O Lamb for sinners slain;

what knitting severed friendships up, where partings are no more!
fill up the roll of your elect, then take your power, and reign!

Then eyes with joy shall sparkle that brimmed with tears of late, no
Appear, Desire of nations, your exiles long for home; show

orphans left without a home, nor mourners desolate
in the heav'n your promised sign; great Prince and Saviour, come. Amen.