February 9, 2024

To: Pastors and Musicians

From: Bruce Earnest, D.M.A., Executive Director
       Christopher G. Ogburn, Ph.D., Director of Programming and Resident Musicologist

Subject: Moravian Music Sunday: April 28, 2024

Recognizing that music is a means of proclaiming the Gospel, Northern and Southern Provinces approved and designated (in 1968) Moravian Music Sunday for the fifth Sunday of Easter, which will be April 28, 2024 (but it is acceptable to celebrate whenever it is convenient for you).

This year, our theme is In All Things, Love. This will also be the theme of the Unitas Chorale Concert in Nazareth, PA on April 28 and the Moramus Chorale Concert in Winston-Salem, NC on May 10.

WORSHIP PLANNING

Materials designed to assist your worship planning team in the preparation for Moravian Music Sunday are available in PDF format on the Moravian Music Foundation’s website (www.MoravianMusic.org). We’ll also be happy to send you WORD documents upon your request (for these materials, please contact Chris at christopher@moravianmusic.org). We offer a proposed order of worship, a bulletin insert, and a statement which may be read as part of your Moravian Music Sunday celebration.

Of course, you may include more music than is listed in the order of worship! In planning this service, we encourage you to make use of all the musicians in your congregation, from children through adults. While we do celebrate the music of those who have come before, it is equally important that we remember we are all part of a living tradition. As Moravians have done for centuries, we encourage congregations to consider including any new music written by members and friends; if you ask soon, someone may be inspired to write a hymn text or music based upon the themes of the service (if they do, please share it with us!).

Please let us know what you have done with your celebration; we like to share ideas with others and learn from your experience.