



# Moravian Music Foundation

March 6, 2026

To: Pastors, Musicians, and Worship Leaders  
From: Christopher G. Ogburn, Ph.D., Executive Director and Staff Musicologist  
Subject: Moravian Music Sunday: May 3, 2026

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 **May 3, 2026** (but it is acceptable to celebrate whenever it is convenient for your congregation).

In the United States, this year marks the Semiquincentennial – 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Considering all that is going on in the world, we believe that this is an opportune moment to look back and reflect on what the Moravians did when they found themselves coming to the end of a long and difficult period of conflict. Called upon to celebrate the end of the Revolutionary War, the Moravians did what they always do, they turned to music. Out of this was born the *Psalm of Joy*. Importantly, the Moravians did not revel in victory, but rather sought unity in the promise of peace. At this moment, we choose to honor that legacy by searching for peace in whatever form it can be found.

## 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/moravian-music-sunday-2026/](http://www.MoravianMusic.org/moravian-music-sunday-2026/)). We'll also be happy to send you WORD documents upon your request (for these materials, please contact Chris at [christopher@moravianmusic.org](mailto:christopher@moravianmusic.org) or Erik at 336-725-0651 ext. 4). We offer a proposed order of worship, a liturgy, music suggestions, 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 and add your own ideas to our music suggestions! In planning this service, we encourage you to make use of all the musicians in your congregation, from children to 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.

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