



Advent Liturgy

Moravian Book of Worship



One: Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, all the earth! The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people together will see it. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

**All: Rejoice greatly, shout for joy!
See, your king is coming to you. He
is righteous and brings salvation.**



**Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**

TUNE: ST. THEODULPH (151 G)



We praise you, the Lord God of Israel!
You came to the help of your people and
have set them free.

**You have raised up for us a mighty
Savior, a descendant of your
servant David.**



You promised through your holy prophets long ago that you would save us from our enemies, from the power of all those who hate us.

You have shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and have remembered your holy covenant.



With a solemn oath to our ancestor
Abraham, you promised to rescue us
from our enemies and allow us to serve
you without fear,

**So that we might be holy and
righteous before you all the days
of our life.**



By your tender mercy you cause the
bright dawn of salvation to rise on us,

**To give light to those who sit in
darkness and in the shadow of
death, to guide our feet into the
way of peace.**



The voice of the messenger echoes from the desert, calling us to prepare the way of the Lord and to make a straight path on which he may come. Let us confess our sins, so that our crooked ways will be made straight and the rough ways smooth.



Gracious Lord Jesus, you come to us with the good news of salvation, but too often we fail to notice. You come to us day by day, yet we close the doors of our hearts when it seems convenient to do things our own way. We ignore your presence and your leadership. We have failed to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with our God. Forgive us, merciful Lord. May we live so that the world will know that you have come. Amen.



Through John the Baptizer, we hear the Lord's promise: Turn away from your sins, and God will forgive your sins.



**Lift up your heads, you mighty gates;
behold the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here.**

**Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.**

TUNE: TRURO



**So come, my Sovereign, enter in;
let new and nobler life begin;
the Holy Spirit guide us on,
until our glorious goal is won.**

TUNE: TRURO



**"Hosanna in the highest!"
That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer,
the Lord of heav'n our King.
O may we ever praise him
with heart and life and voice
and in his blissful presence
eternally rejoice!**

TUNE: LANCASHIRE (151 M)



Eternal God, Ruler of all ages,
graciously you come to us in order that
we might come to you, through the
merit of Jesus Christ, strengthened by
the Holy Spirit.

**Help us and all your children to
respond to the call of your gospel
with faith, love, and hope.**



God of faith, you created humanity to serve and praise you; and even when we rebelled against you, you promised to send a Savior to redeem us from our sins:

Strengthen our faith in your saving work through Christ. As you chose the people of Israel to hear the promise of redemption through the prophets, may people today believe in your good will for all that you have made.



God of love, you fulfilled your promise of a redeemer in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ:

Grant us the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we may share your love with the sick and the afflicted, with the poor and the homeless, with the victims of injustice and discrimination, and with all who are experiencing times of trouble.



God of hope, you comfort us through our Savior's promise to return in glory at the end of time:

As we await the coming of the Prince of Peace, let us not despair. We long for you to inspire all the nations and peoples of the world to turn to cooperation and nurture, rather than to hatred and destruction.



God of faith, love, and hope, to you and
to you alone we pray:

**For you are our God, the only God,
forever and ever. Amen.**



Lord, you have kept the promise you made to our ancestors, and have come to the help of your servant people.

You remembered to show mercy to Abraham and Sarah and to all their descendants forever!



We praise you, Lord. You are enthroned in glory, yet you came and continue to come for all who will receive you. We praise you, for you are good, and your mercy endures forever.

To you be glory and power, forever and ever. Amen.



(ALL)

**Praise to you, O Lord, we render
for your love in Jesus shown;
may that love, so strong and tender,
bind us fast to him alone;**

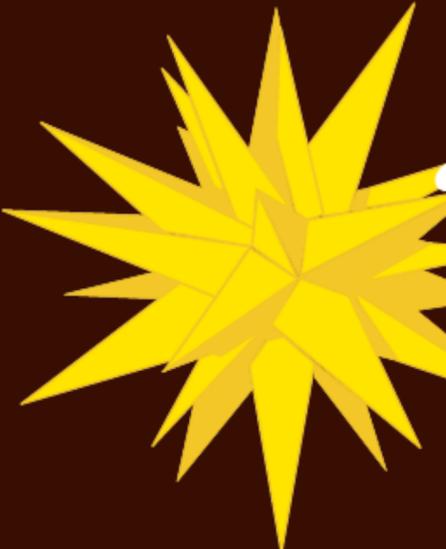
(CHOIR)

now and ever,

(ALL)

**now and ever,
gather us among your own.**

TUNE: REGENT SQUARE (585 D)



A Moravian Christmas

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