

NEW DORP MORAVIAN CHURCH

Sunday, November 27th 2022
First Sunday of Advent

***Indicates everyone who is able is invited to stand**

PREPARATION: Welcome. We are glad that you are here to worship as we gather today. On this Lord's Day, let us turn our hearts toward God who can calm our fears, cool our turmoil of our souls, restore our hope, and fill our lives with abundant joy. As you share in quiet conversation, please be aware that others around you may be preparing for worship in moments of silence and prayer.

Also, please remember to silence your cell phone.

GREETINGS AND WELCOME

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL ELDER'S CONFERENCE

WATCHWORD FOR THE WEEK:

"Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!" Isaiah 2:5

A PRAYER TO PREPARE:

"Creator, you remind us through your Son that, through our eyes cannot see you, we can glimpse your image. Forgive us for the idols we make in our world, and help us be recreated in the image of our Savior. Amen"

(2022 Moravian Daily Text)

PRELUDE

*HYMN "O Come, O Come, Immanuel" MBW #274

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT STAR

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

"Advent & Palm Sunday with Hosanna" MBW# 49
(with Hosanna Canticle) MBW# 239

* LITURGY OF COVENANTING & INSTALLATION

Rev. Melissa Johnson, President of the Eastern District Executive Board & Sister Naomi Solomon, regional representative

Insert and On Screen

READINGS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

The Old Testament: **Isaiah 2:1-5** Page 700
The New Testament: **Romans 13:11-14** Page 169
The Gospel: **Matthew 24:36-44** Page 28

SPECIAL MUSIC

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

Rev. Walter C. Bishop

PRAYERS AND PRAISES

Response: "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" MBW # 825

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory Invitation
*Offertory Response Prayer "Praise God ..." MBW # 817

*HYMN "Come, O Long-Expected Jesus" MBW # 262

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments at the conclusion of our service.

If you have a prayer request, please contact the Church office. We are currently updating our contact information. Please fill out the "Contact Us" flyer and place it in the bas

PRAYER

*(The Right Hand of Fellowship is extended to Brother Bishop
as the following hymn is sung.)*

HYMN

MBW #432

We bid you welcome in the name
Of Jesus, our exalted Head.
Come as a servant; so He came,
And we receive you in His stead.

Come as a shepherd; guard and keep
Your fold from all that fosters sin,
And nourish lambs, and feed the sheep,
The wounded heal, the lost bring in.

Come as a teacher, sent from God,
Charged his whole counsel to declare;
Lift o'er our ranks the prophet's rod,
While we uphold your hands with prayer.

Come as a messenger of peace,
Filled with the Spirit, fired with love;
Live to behold our large increase,
And die to meet us all above.

Liturgy of Covenanting & Installation

(The Rev. Melissa Johnson, President of the Eastern District Executive
Board & Sister Naomi Solomon, regional representative)

Now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near
by the blood of Christ.

For he is our peace, who has made us all one.

So then we are no longer strangers and aliens.

***But we are citizens with the saints and members of the household
of God,***

Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ
Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

***In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy
temple in the Lord.***

HYMN 716

T. Batty (16,A)

On your ransomed congregation,
Lord, lift up your countenance;
be our help, joy and salvation;
life and health to us dispense.

In each heart, O fix your dwelling;
there erect a monument
of your love, all love excelling;
there fulfill your blest intent.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in the one
hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and
Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us
was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. The gifts he
gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some
evangelists, some pastors and teachers,

To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God.

Members and friends, today we covenant with Walter Bishop as he comes to serve as the Intentional Interim Pastor of the New Dorp Moravian congregation, upon appointment to this holy office in consultation with the Joint Board of this congregation and the Eastern District Executive Board, and with approval of the Provincial Elders' Conference of the Moravian Church. The period between long-term pastorates is a fertile time to reflect upon, and reassess the life, witness and mission of a congregation with a view to the future into which God is calling them. The Board has asked Brother Bishop to fulfill the duties of pastor during this time and to lead the congregation as you continue to prepare for the service of a called pastor.

(The pastor being covenanted with shall stand.)

Walter, do you promise in the presence of the Head of the Church and of this people that, by God's grace, you will endeavor in accordance with your ordination vows to carry out faithfully all your duties as a pastor of this congregation, being careful at all times to conduct yourself as an ordained servant of Christ?

I do.

Will you draw upon the unique skills of interim ministry to guide this congregation in listening and watching for God's presence in their midst?

I will, with God's help.

(The members of the Joint Board shall stand.)

Do you, the officers of this congregation, now receive Walter Bishop as pastor and shepherd of this flock?

We do.

Do you promise to respect, to pray for, and work with Walter in defending and upholding the doctrine and discipline of the church? And do you promise to provide him with appropriate emotional, spiritual, and financial support as he serves among you?

We do.

Will you work alongside Walter to undertake the special tasks that are needed during a transitional period to help the congregation to reflect on the past, learn from it, and creatively walk into the future?

We will, with God's help.

(The congregation shall stand.)

Will you, the people of this congregation, now accept Walter Bishop as your pastor for this season of ministry together? Will you encourage, respect, and pray for him as together you proclaim the Kingdom of God in this community?

We will.

Will you covenant with Walter to participate in the life of the congregation, share and listen to one another's cares and concerns, share in the decisions of this time of transition and in preparations for the future?

We will, with God's help.

As you covenant with each other and with God in this hour, I charge you the people of the New Dorp Moravian Congregation, to remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: "I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me, and I in them, they are the ones who bear much fruit." Likewise, I charge you, Walter, to remember the words of our Lord Jesus to Peter: "Do you love me? Feed my lambs. Tend my sheep. Feed my sheep."

(Joint Board members, EDEB and PEC members present, and all ordained pastors present are invited to come forward for the "laying on of hands" surrounding Brother Bishop.)

In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the great Head of the Church, and by the authority of the Provincial Elders' Conference, I declare Brother Walter Bishop to be duly installed as pastor of the New Dorp congregation. Let us pray.