In apostolic times, Christians periodically observed a common meal called “agape” from the Greek word meaning “love.” The Lovefeast continued as an important part of Christian worship for centuries, but nearly faded away. Then in 1727, a small band of Moravians assembled by German religious and social reformer, Count Nicolaus Zinzendorf, reintroduced it, and Moravian missionaries and immigrants carried the custom to the Americas.

The first Lovefeasts of the Moravian Church in North America were held in Savannah, Georgia, from 1735 to 1740. In North Carolina, the first Lovefeast was held on the evening of November 17, 1753, the day the first Moravian colonists arrived at the settlement of Bethabara in what is now Winston-Salem.

Begun by Moravian students in 1965, the first Wake Forest Lovefeast drew fewer than 200 people. Nearly six decades later, this simple service has become one of our University’s oldest and most beloved traditions. Gathering each year as a community for Christmas Lovefeast helps assure that the abiding spirit and appreciable character of Wake Forest endure.
Wake Forest University
Annual Lovefeast

December 3, 2023 • 7 p.m. • Wait Chapel

Prelude
Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern ............... Dieterich Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707)
Noël .................................................. Jean-Francois Dandrieu (1682-1738)
Selections from Nun komm der Heiden heiland ........ Hugo Distler (1908-1942)
Morning Star ........................................ Margaret V. Sandresky (b. 1921)
Good King Wenceslas .................................. arr. Don Gillis (1912-1978)
Es ist ein Ros entsprungen .......................... Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Susan Bates, organist
Carolina Brass

Introduction
Festival Gloria ........................................... Craig Courtney (b. 1948)
Wake Forest University Chamber Choir & Concert Choir, Christopher Gilliam, director

Welcome .............................................. The Reverend Dr. Tim Auman
University Chaplain

Call to Worship ....................................... The Reverend Dr. Corey D. B. Walker
Dean of the School of Divinity

Lighting of the Advent Candle .................. Mackenzie Jackson ('24)
Wexford Carol (traditional Irish carol) .................. arr. Tim Fisher
Carolina Brass

Opening Hymn (Please stand with the choir as you are able.)
O Come, All Ye Faithful .............................................. ADESTE FIDELES
arr. Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015)
O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of Angels;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God, glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-20 ......................... Heidi Robinson
Associate Vice President for Career Education & Coaching

Prayer ..................................................... Elizabeth Johnson Orr
Associate University Chaplain for Spiritual Formation

Poem
“There Was a Time” ......................................... Fr. Joseph Breighner
Readers:
Davita DesRoches, Alternative Media Specialist in the Center for Learning, Access, and Student Success
Zakiyyah Niang, Assistant Dean of Students, Community Response and Caring Outreach
Anna Attal ('24)
The Reverend James Franklin, Campus Minister for Episcopal Student Fellowship
Serving of the Lovefeast *(Please wait until after the blessing to partake.)*
Gluten-free buns are available. Please let your diener know if you prefer one.

**Hymn**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* .................................................. **VENI EMMANUEL**

O come, O come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

**Hymn**

*What Child Is This?* .............................................................. **GREENSLEEVES**

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, one and all to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the lullaby, the virgin sings her lullaby,
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

**Music**

*Silent Night* ................................................................. **arr. Wilfred Roberts**

*Carolina Brass*

**Hymn**

*In the Bleak Midwinter* ....................................................... **CRANHAM**

In the bleak midwinter, Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone,
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, Long ago.

What can I give him, Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part,
Yet, what I can I give him, Give my heart.

**Hymn**

*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* .............................................. **MENDELSSOHN**

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th’ angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

**Music**

*The Bells of Dunkirk* .......................................................... **arr. Arthur Ephross**

*Flute Choir, Kathryn Levy, Director*

**Hymn**

*Go Tell It On the Mountain* ............................................... **GO TELL IT**

arr. Robert Hobby (b. 1962)

Refrain (All): Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere,
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

Choir: While shepherds kept their watching, o’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain, All)

Choir: The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth. (Refrain, All)

Choir: Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain, All)
Blessing
President Susan Wente and Dr. Chris Hardy

Come, Lord Jesus, our guest to be, and bless these gifts bestowed by Thee.
Bless thy dear ones everywhere, and keep them in thy loving care. Amen.

Partaking of the Lovefeast

Music


Wake Forest University Chamber Choir & Concert Choir, Christopher Gilliam, director

The boy born in Bethlehem, alleluia. Rejoice Jerusalem, alleluia.
In joy of heart
Let us adore the newborn Christ with a new song.

The Son has assumed flesh, alleluia. The Father most high, alleluia.
In joy of heart
Let us adore the newborn Christ with a new song.

Per Gabriel's greeting, alleluia. The virgin conceived a Son, alleluia.
In joy of heart
Let us adore the newborn Christ with a new song.

He lies in the manger, alleluia. He who rules without end, alleluia.
In joy of heart
Let us adore the newborn Christ with a new song.

O Magnum Mysterium ........................................... arr. Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

Wake Forest University Chamber Choir & Concert Choir, Christopher Gilliam, director

O great mystery,
and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord,
lying in a manger!
Blessed is the virgin whose womb
was worthy to bear
the Lord, Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Lighting of the Candles (Please stand as you are able.)

Hymn (The choir and congregation will sing antiphonally.)

Morning Star .................................................. HAGEN
Francis Florentine Hagen (1815-1907)

Choir: Morning Star, O cheering sight!
Ere Thou cam'st how dark earth's night!
People: Morning Star, O cheering sight!
Ere Thou cam'st how dark earth's night!
Choir: Jesus mine,
People: In me shine,
Choir: In me shine,
People: Jesus mine;
All: Fill my heart with light divine.

Choir: Morning Star, my soul's true Light, Tarry not, dispel my night;
People: Morning Star, my soul's true Light, Tarry not, dispel my night.
Choir: Jesus mine,
People: In me shine,
Choir: In me shine,
People: Jesus mine;
All: Fill my heart with light divine.

Silent Night .................................................. STILLE NACHT
arr. Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

All (in unison): Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child; Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heav'nly peace. Sleep in heavenly peace.

All (in unison): Silent night, holy night! Son of God love's pure light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.

SHORT CHORAL INTERLUDE
All (in unison): Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing, “Alleluia” to our King,  
“Christ the Savior is born,” “Christ the Savior is born.”

**Hymn (Please remain standing.)**  
Joy to the World. .................................................. ANTIOCH  
arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

All: Joy to the world! The Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;  
let ev’ry heart prepare Him room, And heav’n and nature sing,  
and heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

All: Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, Repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Low voices: No more let sin and sorrow grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessing flow, Far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

All (raising candles): He rules the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love,  
and wonders of His love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

**Benediction**......................... The Reverend Dr. K. Monet Rice-Jalloh  
Associate University Chaplain

**Choral Response**  
The Work of Christmas ................................. Dan Forrest  
Text by Howard Thurman

Wake Forest University Chamber Choir & Concert Choir, Christopher Gilliam, director

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music from the heart.

**Organ Postlude**  
Toccata from Dieu parmi nous ......................... Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)  
(from La Nativité du Seigneur)  
Susan Bates, organist

Freewill offering supports the Chaplain’s Emergency Fund, which provides financial assistance to members of the Wake Forest Community during times of crisis.  
Please scan the QR code to donate or to learn more.
**Participants:**

**Carolina Brass**
- Tim Hudson, trumpet
- Rob McConnell, trumpet
- Bob Campbell, horn
- David Wulfek, trombone
- Justin Worley, tuba
- Arnold Sykes, percussion

**String Quartet**
- Medb Glatt ('26), violin 1
- Murren Kelly ('24), violin 2
- Annee Bess Blair ('26), viola
- Sarah Bo ('26), cello

**Flute Choir**
- Kathryn Levy, director
- Caitlin Fealy ('26)
- Megan Francisco*
- Riley Henshaw ('24)
- Bradley Jiang ('27)

**Organist**
- Susan Bates

**Wake Forest University Chamber Choir**
- Christopher Gilliam, Director of Choral Activities, Assistant Professor of Music
- Joanne Inkman, piano, Associate Teaching Professor of Music

**Soprano 1**
- Sarah Ambrose ('24)
- Tori Cascone ('25)
- Kacey Liang ('27)
- Katherine Maize ('26)
- Isa Meeker ('26)

**Soprano 2**
- Sophia Keeley ('25)
- Anna Kitts ('25)
- Hannah Murrow ('24)
- Aditi Samavedy ('24)
- Sky Shi ('24)
- Cami Wilson ('24)

**Alto 1**
- Isabel Cali ('26)
- Alexandra Eliasek ('25)
- Michelle Ferrone ('27)
- Carly Galbreth ('27)
- Blythe Green ('27)
- Neily Raymond ('27)
- Maya Roth ('27)
- Lauren Veldhuizen ('26)
- Kate Wingate ('27)

**Alto 2**
- Elise Lipezker ('25)
- Harriet Middleton ('24)
- Ashley Mullan (MS '24)
- Alydia Warden ('26)

**Tenor 1**
- Max Digman (MDiv '25)
- Adam Mauch ('24)
- Colby Mitchell ('26)

**Tenor 2**
- Harrison Abromavage ('25)
- Sidd Advani ('27)
- Chris Keiser ('23)

**Bass 1**
- Will Callewaert ('26)
- Erhan Elvander ('27)
- Luke Miller ('26)
- Wesley Seneff ('26)

**Bass 2**
- Nathaniel Avery ('24)
- Nate Beskid ('24)
- Will Gardner ('25)
- Bradley Jiang ('27)
- Freddy Swimmer ('27)

**Interpreter provided by Communication Access Partners**
- Judy Thomas
One of the greatest joys of the holiday season is lifting up others. This year has been especially challenging for some members of our Wake Forest community. In the spirit of the season, please consider making a gift to the Chaplain’s Emergency Fund. Throughout the year, the Chaplain’s Fund supports students, staff and faculty who are facing financial hardship.

Make a gift to the Chaplain’s Fund at go.wfu.edu/cef.