



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves - 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

Email: sharonmoravian@caribsurf.com

Church Office/Pastor's Study Tel: 425-4011

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164

Even them will I bring to
my holy mountain, and
make them joyful in my
house of prayer...

—Isaiah 56:7

Sunday, August 16, 2020

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: The Psalmist declared that *"God is near to all who call upon him, who call upon him in truth"* (Ps 145:18). That promise we have today as we worship – God is among us, to sanctify and to bless. Welcome is extended to all.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris
(Manse: 246-546-0344)

Associate Pastor:
Rev. Movelle Kellman

WATCHWORD: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you."
(Psalm 67:5)

Provincial Theme 2020: *"Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T."*



ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Call to Worship (Psalm 135:1 – 3):

Leader: Praise the name of the LORD; Praise Him, O you servants of the LORD!
You who stand in the house of the LORD, In the courts of the house of
our God,

Congregation: *Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; Sing praises to His name, for it is
pleasant.*

Hymn 161 – *O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing*

Confession of Faith I (p. 240 – Liturgy Book)

Hymn 191 – *I've Found A Friend; O Such A Friend*

Welcome & Celebrations

Adoration In Songs & Choruses

Blessing of Tithes & Offerings

Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 56:1 – 8

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 15:10 – 20

Hymn of Preparation: 186 – *Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult*

Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn 284 – *O Thou Who Camest From Above*

Notices & Concerns

The Doxology (Sung)

Organ Postlude



Visit our Website at <http://sharonmoravian.info>; Visit our Facebook Page and subscribe to our YouTube Channel. These are means by which we can connect to our brothers and sisters, and get the word out on what's happening in the church. Like us; Follow us; Re-post us.



**O for a thousand tongues to sing
My dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of his grace!**

**Jesus, the name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease,
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'Tis life, and health, and peace.**

**His grace subdues the power of sin,
He sets the prisoner free,
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me.**

**He speaks, and listening to his voice,
New life the dead receive,
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
The humble poor believe.**

**Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
Your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come;
And leap, ye lame, for joy!**

**Look unto him, ye nations; own
Your God, ye fallen race;
Look and be saved through faith alone,
Be justified by grace.**



Confession of Faith I

I believe in the one only God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Who created all things, and was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself;

Glory be to You, O Lord most high.

I believe in God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who chose us in him before the foundation of the world;

Who delivered us out of the power of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love;

Who has blessed us in every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ;

Who made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; having foreordained us unto adoption as sons through Jesus Christ unto himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him I truly believe.

I believe in the only begotten Son of God, by whom are all things and we through him;

Who became flesh, and dwelt among us;

And took on him the form of a servant; Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of man;

He was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin;

He spoke that which he did know, and bore witness of that which he had seen;

As many as received him, to them gave he the right to become children of God.

In him I truly believe.

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world;

Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, and the third day rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father, from whence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

This is my Lord, who redeemed me, a lost and undone human creature, purchased and gained me from sin, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood, and with his innocent suffering and dying; to the end that I should be his own, and in his kingdom live under him and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence and happiness; even as he, being risen from the dead, lives and reigns, world without end.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, who proceeds from the Father, and whom our Lord Jesus Christ sent, after he went away, that he should be our Comforter, and abide with us for ever;

That he should help our infirmity, and make intercession for us, with groanings which cannot be uttered; that he should bear witness with our spirit, that we are children of God, and teach us to cry, Abba, Father;

That he should shed abroad in our hearts the love of God;

And make our bodies his holy temple;

And that he should work in us the will of God, dividing his gifts to each one, even as he will.

In him I truly believe.

To God be glory in the Church which is in Christ Jesus, the holy universal Christian Church,
in the communion of saints, at all times, and from eternity to eternity. *Amen.*



Hymn191 –

**I've found a friend; O such a friend!
He loved me ere I knew him;
He drew me with the cords of love,
And thus he bound me to him;
And round my heart still closely twine
Those ties which naught can sever,
For I am his, and he is mine,
Forever and forever.**

**I've found a friend; O such a friend!
He bled, he died to save me;
And not alone the gift of life,
But his own self he gave me.
Nought that I have mine own I call,
I'll hold it for the giver;
My heart, my strength, my life, my all
Are his, and his forever.**

**I've found a friend, O such a friend!
So kind, and true, and tender!
So wise a counselor and guide,
So mighty a defender!
From him who loves me now so well
What power my soul shall sever?
Shall life or death, shall earth or hell?
No! I am his for ever.**



Welcome & Celebrations:

The Psalmist declared that “God is near to all who call upon him, who call upon him in truth” (Ps 145:18). That promise we have today as we worship – God is among us, to sanctify and to bless. Welcome is extended to all.





***Today:** Rashad Armstrong, Rogan Moore & Kerry Skeete
Advanced: Kim Roberts (17th), Ajani Ifill & Anthony Ifill (18th), Marva Holder (19th), Caleb Browne, Callie Browne & Arya Mainarde (20th), Xavier Archer & Fraulene Headley (21st), Harriet Skeete (22nd)*



***Congratulations to:** Bro. George & Sis. Margaret Best who will celebrate their 41st wedding anniversary on August 18, 2020; Bro. Trevor & Sis. Una Campbell who will celebrate their wedding anniversary on August 19, 2020.*



Adoration In Songs & Choruses



Blessing of Tithes & Offerings



Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 56:1 – 8

- 1 Thus saith the LORD, Keep ye judgment, and do justice: for my salvation is near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.**
- 2 Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil.**
- 3 Neither let the son of the stranger, that hath joined himself to the LORD, speak, saying, The LORD hath utterly separated me from his people: neither let the eunuch say, Behold, I am a dry tree.**
- 4 For thus saith the LORD unto the eunuchs that keep my sabbaths, and choose the things that please me, and take hold of my covenant;**
- 5 Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.**
- 6 Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant;**

- 7 Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.
- 8 The Lord GOD, which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.



Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 15:10 – 20

- 10 And he called the multitude, and said unto them, Hear, and understand:
- 11 Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.
- 12 Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?
- 13 But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.
- 14 Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.
- 15 Then answered Peter and said unto him, Declare unto us this parable.
- 16 And Jesus said, Are ye also yet without understanding?
- 17 Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught?
- 18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.
- 19 For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:
- 20 These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.



Hymn of Preparation: 186 –

**Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild, restless sea
Day by day his sweet voice soundeth,
Saying, 'Christian, follow Me;'**

**As of old apostles heard it
By the Galilean lake,
Turned from home, and toil, and kindred,
Leaving all for his dear sake.**

**Jesus calls us from the worship
Of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us,
Saying, 'Christian, love me more.'**

**In our joys and in our sorrows,
Days of toil and hours of ease,
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
'Christian, love me more than these.'**

**Jesus calls us; by thy mercies,
Saviour make us hear thy call,
Give our hearts to thy obedience,
Serve and love thee best of all.**



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn 284 –

**O Thou, who camest from above
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.**

**There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return,**

In humble prayer and fervent praise.

**Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work and speak and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up the gift in me;**

**Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
And make the sacrifice complete.**



NOTICES & CONCERNS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

This Week:

Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (D. C. Moore Centre)

Tuesday: Missionary Festival at Mount Tabor – 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday: Online Bible Study – 6:00 p.m.

Next Sunday: Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m.



IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST

- † Bethlehem & Faith Deeper Life Services Online – Aug. 27, Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24 – 7:30 p.m. FaceBook & YouTube. Preacher: Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis.**
- † Missionary Festival at Mount Tabor – Tuesday, Aug. 18th, 7:00 p.m. Preacher: Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith.**
- † Missionary & Rally at Centenary – Sunday, 23rd, 8:00 a.m.**



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. From the Provincial Board:

- † The Rev. Anique Elmes-Matthew currently on Study Leave, has requested and has been granted Leave of Absence from August 1, 2020 – July 31, 2022.**
- † The Rev. Vankys Isaac who currently serves as the Pastor of the Bethany and Emmaus Moravian congregations on St. John, Virgin Islands Conference, has accepted a call to serve as the Associate Pastor of the Nisky Moravian Church in St. Thomas Virgin Islands Conference. This call takes effect from September 1, 2020.**

Please pray for Bro. Isaac and family as they make this transition and continue in the service of the Lord.

2. The Moravian Church Cooperative Credit Union Office hours with effect from Tuesday, June 30th until Friday, August 29th will be as follows:
 - ✝ Tuesdays – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
 - ✝ Wednesdays – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 - ✝ Thursdays – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
3. Flowers are needed for our church! You will find on the Notice Board next to the main door to the church, a roster in the shape of flower. You may sign up to indicate that you would (1) cover the cost to obtain flowers for the arrangements or (2) provide the complete arrangements, for a particular Sunday(s). Feel free to join with others to provide the flowers to celebrate your birthday(s) etc.
4. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
5. Remember our Basket of Hope Ministry. There are still those in our community that are in need of our assistance. You are invited each Sunday to make donations of non-perishable food items, which can be deposited in the basket placed at the rostrum (Altar).



Doxology –

*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*



Organ Postlude



AVAILABLE:

- **Offering Envelopes for 2020** – We invite each member of the congregation to receive a box of envelopes and thereby seek to faithfully support the work of the church. Please request that a box be provided for you if none has been provided as yet.
- **Missionary Collection Boxes** – If you had a box last year, please collect it from the Vestry. If you desire a box for the first time, please inquire at the vestry after worship or at the Church Office.
- **Sharon Burgundy Shirts: Polos – \$30 / T-Shirts – \$15**
- **On order from the Church Office, copies of Sunday sermons on CD – \$2.00.**

- Greeting Cards (\$2.00) and Prints (\$20.00) of a painting of Sharon Church from the Church Office.
- Books by Rev. Neilson Waithe: Understanding the Caribbean Worker – \$25.00; Provocation – \$20.
- The Book, ‘Created in Their Image: *Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914*’ written by Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts. The cost is \$50.00.



PRAYER NEEDS:



Our Shut-ins: Daphne Bispham, Aileen Bowen, Royle Deane, Carl Forde, Grace Lashley, Muriel Moore, Erla Reid, Carol St. John.



Protocol for Worship Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic – 2020

In keeping with the directive given by the Prime Minister of Barbados:

1. Sanitisation stations shall be set up at the entrances and exits which shall be manned by ushers.
2. All attending shall sanitise their hands upon entering the church.
3. The names of all who attend service shall be recorded.
4. The temperature of each worshipper and minister shall be taken before entering the church, using a contactless thermometer;
 - persons whose temperature exceed 37.5° C shall not be allowed to enter the church;
 - persons who are coughing repeatedly, sneezing or exhibit any flu-like symptoms shall not be allowed to enter the church.
5. Face masks shall be worn throughout the service by all persons present in the church. Worship Leaders may remove their masks temporarily to fulfil their roles, provided that there is at least six feet between leaders, and between leaders and congregants.
6. There shall be no physical contact between attendees.
7. There shall be a physical distance of at least three feet between all attending except between members of the same household who may sit together; in which case, there shall be a distance of at least three feet between one group and adjacent groups or individuals.
8. Attendees shall be asked to deposit their offerings in fixed containers.

- 9. No hymnals, Bibles, leaflets or other materials shall be distributed to worshippers;**
- **Bibles, hymnals etc. should only be shared by family members;**
 - **The Lectern Bible shall also be removed and lesson readers shall be asked to use their own Bible.**
- 10. Communion, Baptism, Confirmation, Dedication, laying on of hands or anointing have been suspended for the time being.**
- 11. Windows and doors shall be kept open to allow for ventilation.**
- 12. Attendees shall be asked to maintain the recommended social distance when leaving the building.**
- 13. There shall be no congregating of worshippers inside or outside of the church, before or after service.**



AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

St. Thomas	1732
St. Croix	1734
St. John	1741
Antigua	1756
Barbados	1765
St. Kitts	1777
Tobago	1790
Trinidad	1890
Tortola	1993
Grenada	

**THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS CONFERENCE
OF THE
MORAVIAN CHURCH
EASTERN WEST INDIES PROVINCE**

Chairman:	The Rev. Algernon Lewis, B.A., M.A.
Vice Chairman:	The Rev. Dr. Errol Connor, B.A., S.T.M., D.Min
Secretary:	The Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith, B.A., M.A., Ph.D
Member:	Mrs. Karen Challenger-George, B.A., M.S.
Member:	Mr. Anselm Richards, BSc, MSc
Treasurer:	Ms. Elisa G. Hodge, B.S., M.B.A.
Assistant Treasurer:	Mrs. Megan Samuel Fields, CPA, LL.B (Hons), MSc FFL



Provincial Headquarters, P.O. Box 504, Cashew Hill, Antigua, W.I.
Tel: (268) 560-0185; Fax (268) 462-0643
E-mail: moravianchewip@gmail.com,

To: All Members of Staff/Congregations
cc Members of PEC, Bishops

From: Rev. Algernon Lewis
Chairman of PEC

Subject: Ministry on St. John

Date: August 12, 2020

Ref: PEC 172/20

FOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warm Christian greetings in the name of Jesus, our Chief Elder.

A Pastoral Team has been selected to lead the ministry at Emmaus and Bethany on St. John, in the Virgin Islands Conference effective September 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020. The team is led by Lay Minister of Christian Education, Sis Monique Richards, as Lay Pastor, with support from Retired Pastor, Rev. Ralph Prince, and Superintendent of the Virgin Islands Conference Rev. Eulencine Christopher.

The Provincial Board is confident that this Pastoral Team will enhance the work of ministry at Emmaus and Bethany while the Call Process continues.

Please pray for Sis. Richards, Bro. Prince, and Sis. Christopher and their families as they rise to this new challenge to serve the kingdom of God and the people of God.

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

St. Thomas 1732
 St. Croix 1734
 St. John 1741
 Antigua 1756
 Barbados 1765
 St. Kitts 1777
 Tobago 1790
 Trinidad 1890
 Tortola 1993
 Grenada

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Chairman: The Rev. Algernon Lewis, B.A., M.A.
 Vice Chairman: The Rev. Dr. Errol Connor, B.A., S.T.M., D.Min
 Secretary: The Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith, B.A., M.A., Ph.D
 Member: Mrs. Karen Challenger-George, B.A., M.S.
 Member: Mr. Anselm Richards, BSc, MSc
 Treasurer: Ms. Elisa G. Hodge, B.S., M.B.A.
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 Tel: (268) 560-0185; Fax (268) 462-0643
 E-mail: moravianchewip@gmail.com,**

To: All Members of Staff/Congregations
 cc Members of PEC, Bishops
From: Rev. Algernon Lewis
 Chairman of PEC
Subject: Provincial Notices
Date: August 15, 2020
Ref: PEC 173/20

FOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warm Christian greetings in the name of Jesus, our Chief Elder.

1. On Thursday, August 13, the Province held its first virtual Provincial August 13th Festival worship service. This was a huge undertaking and required lots of input and effort from many technicians across the Province. The event had some glitches, but we were able to worship together across the Province.

For those who tuned into YouTube but did not receive any content, we humbly apologize. There was a technical issue that prevented us from streaming on YouTube. To the Barbados Conference, we apologize for not being able to share your contribution due to a technical error.

To our members who contributed to the worship service and to all who joined the worship, thank you for your prayers and presence. Special thanks and appreciation to all the technicians who laid out and executed the plan. We will keep perfecting this art for the glory of God.

As we continue to reflect on what God did in the Moravian Church in 1727, let us continue to pray that the Spirit of God will be poured out among us so that we may advance the kingdom and S.H.I.F.T.

2. Our brothers and sisters in Trinidad, Tobago, and the Virgin Islands Conferences have once again been sent into lockdown and congregational worship has been curtailed. Let us keep them in prayer as we also take all the necessary precautions to prevent the spread of Covid19.