

SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

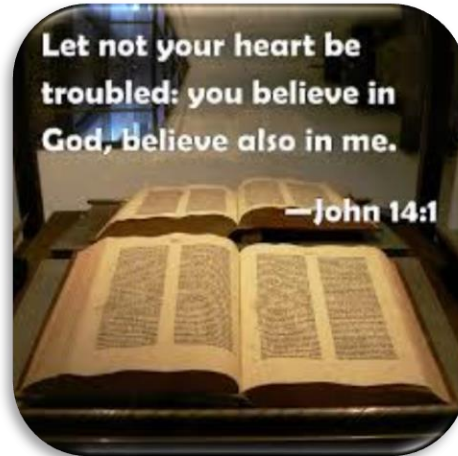
Email: sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com

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

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164



DO THIS IN
REMEMBRANCE
OF ME



Sunday, May 3, 2026

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Moravian Music Sunday

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: A sincere welcome is extended to all as we celebrate another “Lord’s Day” whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home and abroad. Today we celebrate Moravian Music Sunday, a day set apart for the celebration and promotion of music and hymnody in worship. We give God thanks today for his many and varied gifts. Welcome!

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

Associate Pastor: *Rev. David Ince*

Church Office/Pastor’s Study: 246-425-4011

Email: sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164

WATCHWORD: Jesus said, *“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*
(John 14:6)

Provincial Theme 2026:

“Grounded in Faith, Growing in Grace, Going in Power – Moving as One!”



ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship:

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Congregation: *Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*

Hymn: “*God of All Hope*” – by Rev. Denise Smith-Lewis **(Tune: My Hope Is Built)**

Litany for Music Sunday continued (Projected)

Worship In Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *“Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness” (2 Cor. 9:10, NIV).*

Offertory Hymn: “*Hope For Today*” – by Pastor Chioma Henry

(Tune: Christ For The World We Sing)

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Doxology: “*Thank, Thanks, I Give You Thanks*”

Greetings, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration In Songs & Choruses

The Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 2:2 – 10

Second Scripture Reading: John 14:1 – 14

Choir Anthem – “Total Praise”

The Sermon – – *Rt. Rev. Ezra Parris*

Prayer of Commitment and Intercession

Hymn 341 – “Praise God! Praise God With Singing” – by John Horn (Tune # 573)

MUSICAL INTERLUDE / Prayer of Preparation (p. 50 – Liturgy Book / p. 9 – Hymnal)

Reception: Judy Hinds (p. 61 – Liturgy Book)

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Eucharistic Prayer

Eucharistic Verse: 566-v. 1 – “Let Us Break Bread Together”

Consecration of the Bread

Distribution Hymns: 568 – “My Shepherd Is The Lamb”

576 – “With Deep Devotion”

Eucharistic Verse: 566-v. 2 – “Let Us Drink Wine Together”

Consecration of the Wine

Distribution Hymns: 225 – “*I Love The Lord, He Lent An Ear*” (James Montgomery)

191 – “*I’ve Found A Friend*”

367 – “*We Have This Hope*” (Edris M. V. Roberts)

Hymn of Thanksgiving: “*God Is Real Hope*” (Rev. Dr. Ulston Patmore Smith)

(Tune: Leaning On The Everlasting Arms)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Covenant Hymn: 447 – “What Brought Us Together” (Schlicht)

The Blessing

Organ Postlude



Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship:

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Congregation: *Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*



Opening Hymn –

“God of All Hope” – by Rev. Denise Smith-Lewis (Tune: My Hope Is Built)

God of all hope, you’re God alone
The Sovereign, seated on his throne.
God of our hope, we seek your face
And rest on your life-giving grace.

*O Sovereign, seated on the throne
I put my hope in you alone
I put my hope in you alone.*

God of our hope, we look to you
Creation groans, O Lord, renew
Breathe on us your life-giving breath
That cancels sickness, ransoms death.

God of our hope, here now we stand
Heaven and earth are your command
Our fears, our hopes, we give to you,
Knowing that you will bring us through.

God of our hope, we lift our eyes
From cares and doubts, our souls arise
We trust the God who cannot fail.
Christ vict'ry stands; we will prevail.

God of our hope, we will not fear
Our Saviour, Christ, is standing near
Cover with favour, pow'r, and peace
Your Holy Spirit, Lord, increase.



LITURGY FOR MORAVIAN MUSIC SUNDAY

(Continued)

#494

Irregular.

In the morning Lord, we praise your holy name,
In the night time we worship at your throne.
Holy Jesus we want to see your face,
We worship you.

Let us give thanks to the Father, who has enabled us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

In him all things in heaven and on earth were created.

He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, to which indeed we were called in the one body.

Above all, may we clothe ourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

#30

Irregular.

*You are wonderful,
You are marvelous,
You are good O Lord to me!
You are faithful,
You're incomparable,
You are good O Lord to me!*

Most gracious God, we give you thanks for every good gift. On this day especially, we thank you for your creative gifts to us, which cause us to enrich our lives and experience through science and art, literature and drama, words, and music.

For you, O Lord, have made us glad by your work; at the works of your hands, we sing for joy.

We thank you especially for your gifts to the Moravian Church: devotion to the Saviour, simplicity, our strong sense of community and fellowship, and our long-standing dedication to spreading your gospel.

We thank you for our musical heritage, through which we draw closer to you and to one another.

Inspire and bless those who write and compose, those who play and sing, those who lead and teach.

As you have helped us through the centuries to sing our faith, so move within each one of us today, that all our gifts may unite in your service.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus,

In whose holy name we pray. Amen.

#494

Irregular.

You have set me free, the victory you gave,
Now I'm pardoned from all my sinful ways;
I'll rejoice now and shout for I am saved,
I love you Lord.



WORSHIP IN TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory Sentence: *“Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness ” (2 Cor. 9:10, NIV).*

Offertory Hymn –

“Hope For Today” – by Pastor Chioma Henry

(Tune: Christ For The World We Sing)

Hope for today we pray
Our hearts to you we raise
When we are weak
Tempted and tried and tossed
Burdened with grief and loss
O may we see the cross
Of victory

Hope for today we pray
Our hearts to you we raise
Storms round us roll
Doubt and uncertainty
Fear of security
Yet, blessed Trinity
Guard thou our soul

Hope for today we pray
Our hearts to you we raise
From night's despair,
bring morning's joy and peace
mercy and grace release
O may our faith increase
For God is near

Hope for today we pray
Our hearts to you we raise
In strength we sing
All praise to you ascribe
Faithful, eternal Guide
In you we shall abide
God, Sovereign King



Prayer of Dedication of Offerings



Offertory Doxology:

Thanks, thanks, I give you thanks

*Thanks, thanks, I give you thanks
For all you've done
I am so blessed, my soul is at rest
O Lord, I give you thanks.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*



Greetings, Celebrations & Notices



Adoration in Songs & Choruses



Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: 1 Peter 2: 2 – 10

2. As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:
3. If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.
4. To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,
5. Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
6. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.
7. Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

8. And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.
9. But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light;
10. Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.



Second Scripture Reading: John 14: 1 – 14

1. Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
2. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
3. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.
4. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.
5. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?
6. Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
7. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.
8. Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us.
9. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?
10. Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.
11. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

12. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
13. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
14. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.



Choir Anthem – “Total Praise”



Sermon – – Rt. Rev. Ezra Parris



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn 341 –

Praise God! Praise God with singing,
 Rejoice thou Christian flock!
 Fear not though foes are bringing
 Their hosts against thy rock;
 For though they here assail thee,
 And seek thy very life,
 Let not thy courage fail thee;
 Thy God shall turn the strife.

O be not thou dismayèd
 Believing little band;
 God, in his might arrayèd
 To help thee is at hand.
 Upon his palms engraven
 Thy name is ever found;
 He knows, who dwells in heaven,
 The ills that thee surround.

His purpose stands unshaken –
 What he hath said he’ll do;
 And, when by all forsaken,

His Church he will renew.
With pity he beholds her,
E'en in her time of woe;
Still by his word upholds her,
And makes her thrive and grow.

To him belong our praises,
Who still abides our Lord,
Bestowing gifts and graces,
According to his word;
Nor will he e'er forsake us,
But will our guardian be,
And ever stable make us,
In love and unity.



MUSICAL INTERLUDE / Prayer of Preparation



THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNICANTS

Dearly beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, we welcome Judy Hinds who *has* already made a profession of faith in Christ and *has* been received into full communion with the Church, and now *wishes* to become a *member* of this congregation.

Naming the individuals, the minister says:

Judy Hinds do you reaffirm your faith in Christ and wish to worship and serve him in this congregation?

Answer : I do.

All: We rejoice to welcome and receive you into this congregation. May the blessing of God rest on all of us in our fellowship and service; may we help and enrich one another in love; may we live together in the spirit befitting the company of Christ's people, bearing witness to the strength and purpose of our Lord and Master Jesus Christ. Amen.

The minister and others so appointed give the right hand of fellowship to the new member during the singing of these verses.

TUNE: GÖRLITZ

Here in the name of Christ our Lord,
The Church's Head by all adored,
With Christian love and purpose true,
This Church in faith embraces you.

We welcome you among us here,
With joy that God has brought you near.
With heart and hand we pledge our love,
And pray God's blessing from above.

The God of peace you sanctify
And bless you richly from on high,
That spirit, soul and body may
Reflect God's presence every day.

Moravian Book of Worship, 1995, anon.

©Used with permission.



The Lord's Supper I

A Prayer for private preparation:

I confess to thee, O God, that I have sinned in thought, word and deed through my own fault; wherefore I pray thee to have mercy upon me. O Lord, forgive me all my sins, and deliver me from evil; confirm me in all goodness; and bring me to life everlasting, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The congregation stands as the minister brings the elements to the table.

Our Saviour saith, 'Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.'

I am the bread of life: whoever cometh to me shall never hunger; and whoever believeth in me shall never thirst.'

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold mercies.

But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy; grant us, gracious Lord, so to take this bread and drink this cup, that our fellowship with Thee may cleanse us from our sin and that we may evermore dwell in thee, and thou in us. Amen.

A hymn is sung, or the Sursum Corda is used:

Lift up your hearts:

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God:

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee O Lord, holy Father, almighty everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying,

*Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee O Lord most high.*

Prayer is offered, or this form may be used:

Let us pray.

All glory and thanksgiving be to thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, that thou didst take our nature upon thee, and suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; that thou didst make there a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the world; and didst institute, and in thy holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that thy precious death.

Wherefore, we commemorate thy last supper with thy disciples and having in remembrance thy work and passion, thy glorious resurrection and ascension, and pleading thy eternal sacrifice, we thy servants do set forth this memorial which thou willest us to make, giving thee thanks that thou hast counted us worthy to stand before thee.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O Lord, that with thy holy life-giving Spirit thou wilt bless and sanctify both us and these gifts of bread and wine which we set before thee; that this bread which we break may be to us the communion of thy body; and the cup of blessing which we bless the communion of thy blood; that we, and thy whole Church, receiving the same by faith, may be partakers of thy body and blood, to our spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy and living sacrifice, humbly beseeching thee that all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction.

And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not

weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences: and in fellowship with all the faithful in heaven and earth, we pray thee to fulfil in us and in all thy people the purpose of thy redeeming love; and to thee, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. *AMEN.*



Eucharistic Verse: Hymn 566 –

Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.



All stand.

The Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, *‘Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of me.’*

The Bread is distributed while hymns are sung.



Hymn 568 –

My Shepherd is the Lamb,
The living Lord, who died;
With all that’s truly good I am
Most plenteously supplied.

He richly feeds my soul
With manna from above,
And leads me where the rivers roll
Of everlasting love.

My table he doth spread
With choicest fare, and I
Behold the Lamb, the living Bread,
And eat most joyfully.

He makes my cup run o’er,
Anointeth me with oil;
I shall enjoy for evermore

The merits of his toil.

Then I my Shepherd's care
Shall praise, and him adore,
And in his Father's house shall share
True bliss for evermore.



Hymn 576 –

With deep devotion
We in Christ's sufferings trace
The unfathomed ocean
Of his abounding grace;
He gave
Himself, our souls to save.

His body broken
Upon the shameful cross,
As he hath spoken,
Was given to death for us:
We feed
On everlasting bread.

The Lord draws near us,
Let us to meet him haste;
He comes to cheer us,
His flesh is our repast,
His blood
Our drink and highest good.

In sweet communion
With Christ, our Paschal Lamb,
And holy union
With all who love his name
May we
Abide continually.



All having received the Bread, the Congregation stands.

Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ's body was given for you: and feed upon him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All partake together, then sit or kneel, and after silent prayer, sing this verse:

Tune: Media Vita (Part II)

*Most holy Lord and God,
Holy, almighty God,
Holy and most merciful Saviour,
Thou eternal God;
Grant that we may never
Lose the comforts from thy death,
Have mercy, O Lord.*



Eucharistic Verse: Hymn 566 –

Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.



All stand

After the same manner also, the Lord Jesus took the cup when he had supped, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, *'Drink ye all of it, for this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins. This do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.'*

The Wine is distributed while hymns are sung.



Hymn 225 –

I love the Lord, he lent an ear,
When I for help implored;
He rescued me from all my fear,
Therefore I love the Lord.

Return, my soul, unto thy rest,
From God no longer roam;
His hand hath bountifully blest,
His goodness calls thee home.

What shall I render unto thee,
My Saviour in distress,
For all thy benefits to me,
So great and numberless?

This will I do, for thy love's sake,
And thus thy power proclaim,
Salvation's sacred cup I'll take,
And call upon thy name.

Thou God of covenanted grace,
Hear and record my vow,
While in thy courts I seek thy face,
And at thine altar bow.

Henceforth myself to thee I give,
With single, heart and eye,
To walk before thee while I live,
And bless thee when I die.



Hymn 191 –

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.



Hymn 367 –

We have this Hope, though in the midst of turmoil
Here, in our Land and those beyond the seas,
That by our faith, through fervent prayer, and steadfast,
Our God of peace will bring us through, at last;
For He will not forsake us, no, he'll never!
This universe is in His full control,
His word is true, His love is everlasting,
He is our strength-unfailing, He's our guide, our all.

We have this Hope, though troubles seem unending,
And say – fresh fears consuming our minds –
That our dear Lord, our Saviour and Redeemer,
Will give us refuge from the storms of life.
His arms are strong, e'er ready to enfold us,
We need no other for our sure repose,
Safe and secure are we, while in His keeping,
He is our strength-unfailing, He's our guide, our all.

We have a Hope, though clouds obscure our sunshine,
And nights are long, and sorrows linger on –
That our dear Lord, with tender love and mercy,
Will give us comfort till the morning comes.
He will not have us comfortless – oh never!
We are all precious in his Holy sight;
So, let us thank Him, praise Him, now, and ever,
He is our strength-unfailing, He's our guide, our all.



All having received the Wine, the Congregation stands.

Take and drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be ye thankful.

All partake together, then sit or kneel, and after silent prayer, sing this verse:

*Most holy Lord and God,
Holy, almighty God,
Holy and most merciful Saviour,
Thou eternal God;
Bless thy congregation
Through thy sufferings, death and blood,
Have mercy, O Lord.*



Verses of Thanksgiving may be sung or a prayer of thanksgiving such as the following is offered:



Hymn of Thanksgiving –

God Is Real Hope by Rev. Dr. Ulston Patmore Smith

(Tune: Leaning on The Everlasting Arms)

We will walk the road, though at times we fall
We will praise and trust the risen Christ
Though our dreams are tossed, and our joys they fade
We will praise and trust the risen Christ

*God is real hope,
In Him we trust and boldly sing.
God is real hope,
In Him we trust and boldly sing.*

We are not alone, God will walk with us,
We will praise and trust the risen Christ
Though in joy or pain, this our sweet refrain
We will praise and trust the risen Christ

When life's bitter sting stills your voice with chill
We will praise and trust the Risen Christ
We will shout and sing, Grace our cup will fill
We will praise and trust the Risen Christ

Shout the victor's song, praise to Him belong
We will praise and trust the Risen Christ
Hope will be our song, love will make us strong
We will praise and trust the Risen Christ.



O Christ, our ever-living Lord, who in thy great love hast fed us at thy table, we most heartily thank thee for this time of fellowship, and for the spiritual strength and comfort thou dost impart to our souls. Grant us thy help to keep the vows which here we renew. May the uplifting sense of thy presence remain with us to guide and defend our lives.

We praise thee that thou has made us members of thy mystical body, the blessed company of all faithful people: and we commend to thee all those who are joined to us in the one true faith. We bring to thee in love and tenderness all who are dear to us Be pleased to unite thy people everywhere in love and charity; and let thy Church spread abroad in the earth, drawing all people unto thyself, that they may find redemption and peace in thee.

Rejoicing in the communion of saints, we thank thee for all thy servants who have departed in the faith, the great cloud of witnesses by whom we are encompassed, who in every age have loved thee in life, and continued faithful unto death, especially those most dear to our own hearts Give us grace with them to follow thee, and bring us at the last to those things which eye hath not seen nor ear heard, which thou hast prepared for them that love thee.

Now, unto him that loved us, and hath loosed us from our sins by his blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto his God and Father, unto him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. AMEN.

During a covenant hymn, the right hand of fellowship is given, as a pledge of rededication to the service of Christ and a sign of our oneness in him.



Covenant Hymn: 447 –

What brought us together, what joinèd our hearts?
The pardon which Jesus, our High-Priest, imparts;
'Tis this which cements the disciples of Christ,
Who are into one by the Spirit baptized.

Is this our high calling, harmonious to dwell,

And thus in sweet concert Christ's praises to tell,
In peace and blest union our moments to spend,
And live in communion with Jesus our Friend?

O yes, having found in the Lord our delight,
He is our chief object by day and by night;
This knits us together, no longer we roam,
Shake another hand, shake hands with me.



The Blessing:

THE Lord bless thee and keep thee;
The Lord make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

In the name of Jesus. AMEN.

All remain standing whilst the minister removes the elements from the table.



Organ Postlude



Welcome, Greetings & Celebrations

Welcome: *A sincere welcome is extended to all as we celebrate another "Lord's Day" whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home and abroad. Today we celebrate Moravian Music Sunday, a day set apart for the celebration and promotion of music and hymnody in worship. We give God thanks today for his many and varied gifts. Welcome!*



Today: Lawrence Walrond
Advanced: Kelvin Carter (4th), Tremaine Hinds (8th)



Congratulations to Bro. Luther & Sis. Candace Barker who will celebrate their 56th Wedding Anniversary on May 9, 2026.



Flowers today were donated by the children and grandchildren of the late Sis. Violet King, in her memory, as she would have celebrated her 100th birthday on April 30, 2026.



MORAVIAN BIRTHDAY SONG

With Thy presence, Lord, our Head and Saviour,
Bless them all we humbly pray;
Our dear heavenly Father's love and favour
Be their comfort every day.
May the Holy Ghost in each proceeding,
Favour them with his most gracious leading;
Thus shall they be truly blessed,
Both in labour and in rest.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

- † Today: Divine Worship & Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.
- † Adventures in Worship (All ages) – 9:45 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre
- † Meeting of the Board of Elders immediately after worship.
- † Centenary 160th Anniversary Service – 4:00 p.m., Centenary Moravian Church, Shop Hill, St. Thomas.

THIS WEEK

- † Office Hours – Tuesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (D. C. Moore Centre).
- † Tuesday: Women's Fellowship – First & Third Tuesdays: In Sanctuary at 3:30 p.m. All other Tuesdays: Online via Zoom at 6:00 p.m.
- † Wednesday: Bible Study – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom. Meeting ID: 861 4335 8604 / Passcode: 244093.
- † Friday: Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.
- † Next Sunday: **MOTHERS' DAY**
 - † Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m.
 - † Adventures in Worship (All ages) – 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre
 - † Adventures In Worship Bread Pudding Sale – After worship.



Activities in the Month of May 2026:

- † Moravian Music Sunday – 3rd
- † Mother's Day – Sunday, 10th
- † Soup Sunday – Sunday, 17th. The Choir will have soup on sale. Place your orders.

- ✝ Pentecost / Whit Sunday & Testimony Service – 24th
- ✝ Annual Choir Retreat – 25th
- ✝ Trinity Sunday / Green Sunday (near World Environment Day) – 31st. As we seek contributions towards repairs to our church building, we invite attendees to wear green and to present a walk-up offering of green Barbados currency.



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. From the Provincial Director of Music, Rev. Dr. Ulston Patmore Smith:
 - 1.1. Music and music making are wonderful companions on our journeys of faith. The church of God is blessed to have song writers whose work remain timeless as well as those who can speak to the faithful in real time – speaking to daily lived realities.
 - 1.2. Amidst the relentless noises and pressures of today’s world, our hymn writers share a word of hope to the church. As we worship today, may we discover the hope that gives strength, comfort, and joy for our souls and ignites a deeper compassion for our neighbour.
2. The Provincial Board makes the following announcements:
 - 2.1. Rev. Vera Waithe of the Barbados Conference will proceed to official retirement on April 30, 2026 after more than forty-five years of faithful service to the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province. Sis. Waithe served in the Antigua and Barbados Conferences. A retirement service for Sis. Waithe will be held on June 14, 2026, at 4:00 pm at the Clifton Hill Moravian Church, St. Thomas, Barbados.
 - 2.2. Rev. Delroy Burley who has been on leave, resumes active pastoral ministry on May 4, 2026.
 - 2.3. Let us pray for Sis. Vera Waithe and Bro. Delroy Burley and their families as they prepare for these transitions.
 - 2.4. The Provincial Family extends condolences to –
 - 2.4.1. Rev. Dr. Cicely Athill-Horsford as she mourns the sudden death of her brother, Mr. Stanley Warner. Mr. Warner died on April 25, 2026. Please pray for Sis. Athill-Horsford and family in their time of grief and loss.
 - 2.4.2. Rev. Eulencine Christopher and Mrs. Joan Thomas, Provincial Office Coordinator, as they mourn the death of their mother, Mrs. Evelyn Richards. Sis Richards died on April 28, 2026, in Antigua at age 86 years.

2.4.3. Please pray for Sis. Christopher and Sis. Thomas and the wider Richards family in their time of grief and loss.

3. At a meeting of the Board of Elders held on April 30, 2026, the Elders were assigned to Districts as follows:

No.	DISTRICT	ELDERS
1	Edgehill Rd., Near Sharon, Upper Jackson.	Sis. Ismay Straker
2	Cane Garden, Cane Garden Park, Cane Garden New Development, Cane Garden Crescent, Cane Garden Heights.	Bro. Anthony Ifill
3	Lower Jackson, 1 st Avenue Jackson, Browne's Gap, Arthur Seat (West – West of Quarry Road to Warrens).	Bro. Edwin Sandiford
4	Canewood Road, Lears Corner, St. George, St. Joseph, St. John, Brittons Hill, Christ Church.	Bro. Victor Hurdle
5	Bridgefield, Whitehall – St. Thomas, Hopewell, Bloomsbury.	Sis. Merville Franklyn
6	Jackson Terrace, Jackson Tenantry, Arsenal Playing Field Rd.	Sis. Waveney Hinds
7	Arthur Seat (East – Quarry Road to Downes Gap.)	Sis. Ingrid Ibrahim
8	Melrose, Arthur Seat (Central), Welches, Padmore Village.	Sis. Grace Sandiford
9	Edgehill Terrace, Edgehill Heights, Shop Hill, Content, Spring Farm, Farm Path, White Hill Terrace, Hillaby.	Sis. Angelus Hurdle
10	Eden Lodge, Under Lodge Hill, White Hall – St. M, Cave Hill, Grazettes, Codrington Hill, Spooners Hill, Green Hill.	Bro. Steven King
11	Friendship Terrace, Lodge Hill, Rock Dundo Park, Farm Road, Clermont, Lodge Terrace, Mahaica Gap.	Sis. Marva Gibbons-Potts
12	Black Rock, Fitts Village, West Terrace, Oxnards, Wanstead Heights & Gardens, Husbands, Hinds Hill, Thorpes, Holders Hill, Hoytes Village, Prior Park.	Sis. Cora Cumberbatch
13	Warrens, Welches — North, Redman's Village, Bagatelle, Baywoods, Bakers Woods, Mt. Bevitor.	Sis. Hazel Carter

4. From the Moravian Church Barbados Conference 260th Anniversary Committee:



MORAVIAN HISTORY CENTENARY



Centenary Moravian Church Part 1

The Moravian Church celebrated its one hundredth anniversary in Barbados in 1865. A number of activities were planned and these came to be known as the Centenary Celebrations or the Jubilee. Jubilee Meetings were to be held at the end of April and during the month of May. In May 1866, a chapel-school was opened at Shop Hill in St. Thomas to commemorate this milestone. The building was named the Centenary Chapel as a permanent memorial of the Moravian's first century of ministry in Barbados, making this the 6th Moravian church to be established in Barbados. Over time the church became known by the name of the district and was referred to as the Shop Hill Moravian Church.

This is the background against which the establishment of this congregation was set. At a time when Centenary Celebrations were in progress, the Church sought to establish a permanent Memorial' to the 100th year of missions. It was strategically located so as to highlight the time and place of the beginnings of Moravian missions. This 'permanent memorial' was designated the Centenary Chapel', standing a little more than a stone's throw from Bunker's Hill, where Old Sharon was located.

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

5. We have resumed the “Basket of Hope” ministry. Each Sunday you are invited to make contributions of non-perishable food items, which will be distributed to those in need. Contributions can be made during the offertory hymn. We are appealing for volunteers to provide the needed management and helping-hands for this ministry. Please let the Pastors know of your interest.
6. We are thankful for your financial support.
 - 6.1. We do need your ongoing support so that we can maintain our ministry, our facilities and paying property insurance. So we ask for your continued faithfulness in giving as you are able.
 - 6.2. You are reminded that labelled envelopes can be dropped into the slot in the front door of the Manse.
 - 6.3. Generally, those who would give electronically can do so by direct deposit to our account at Scotiabank, Warrens – 40274. You can also give via SurePay at a walk-in kiosk or using your online account. At SurePay you can make payments anonymously to the Moravian

Church (*Account No: 1765-1768-0000, Name: Sharon Moravian Church*), or if you need your donations recorded for tax purposes and you have a box of envelopes; make payments to the Moravian Church (*Account No: 1765-1768-0-[your 3-digit envelope number], Name: Your Name*). Visit www.sharonmoravian.info/giving-monetary for these details.

7. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on Life 97.5 FM.

7.1. Our radio broadcast ministry Moravian Voice has been on the air for some 32 years, since Wednesday, July 18, 1990. We rejoice that we have been able to offer this ministry and we are thankful to all our listenership and all who hosted and provided content over the years. We are thankful to our congregations which faithfully sponsored the programme.

7.2. We invite you to tune in for inspiration and information to enable you in your Christian walk and service.

7.3. Moravian Voice will also be available on Instagram (www.instagram.com/moravianvoice/) and the YouTube Channel of the Moravian Church Barbados Conference (<https://youtube.com/c/TheMoravianChurch-BarbadosConference>).

7.4. You can email your comments and requests to: moravianvoice@gmail.com



Acknowledgements:

Thank you!

We acknowledge a thank you card and a gift of US\$260/BD\$520 from Sis. Gloria Barker, wife of the late Rev. Dr. Frank A. Barker. Sis Barker expresses thanks for the support given to her, following his passing.



PRAYER NEEDS:



1. Our Shut-ins:

1.1. Sharon: *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Sis. Vernice Alberta Osbourne, Sis. Cynthia Walrond, Sis. Fraulene Headley.*

2. The Sick/Recovering: *Sis. Shanna King (USA), Sis. Brenda Herbert, Bro. Stephen Greaves, Sis. Andrea Maynard, Sis. Sheila Foster-Clarke, Sis. Cianna Downes, Sis. Violet Ellis.*

3. The Bereaved: *We express condolences and pray for Bro. Edwin Sandiford on the passing of his sister, Esther Smith; Bro. Carl Ifill & family on the passing of his grandmother Sarah Ann Lewis Benjamin (age 105). A Thanksgiving service for her life will be held on Thursday May 7, 2026 at the Breath of Life SDA Church, at 2:00 p.m.*

4. World Peace



AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

† MORAVIAN FEST 260 Cards (My Special Anniversary Gift) – You are invited to set aside and / or invite others to join you raising \$260 to support the work of the Moravian Church Barbados Conference, as we celebrate the 260th Anniversary of the commencement of Moravian work on the island.

† Missionary Collection Boxes 2026 – If you had a box last year, please collect it at the main entrance of the church. If you desire a box for the first time, please inquire at the vestry after worship or at the Church Office.

† Offering Envelopes for 2026 – 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.

† Sharon Burgundy Shirts: Polos – \$30 / T-Shirts – \$15

† Copies of Sunday sermons on CD – \$2.00.

† Books:

▣ Rev. Neilson Waithe: Understanding the Caribbean Worker – \$25; Provocation – \$20.

▣ Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts: Created in Their Image: Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914 – \$50.

▣ Rev. Dr. Joseph Nicholas: Baptism Is a Gift of God: As Such It Is More Than Water – \$35.

† Greeting Cards (\$2.00) and Prints (\$20.00) of a painting of Sharon Church.



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.

PROVINCIAL  D FOR 2026

September 9, 2026: *Yet our God turned the curse into a blessing.* Nehemiah 13:2

Provincial Theme 2026:

“Grounded in Faith, Growing in Grace, Going in Power – Moving as One!”

From Shift To A New Season Of Growth, Mission, And Strategic Alignment

Over the last triennium, the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province journeyed under the transformative theme: *SHIFT – Reclaiming Our Identity, Renewing Our Purpose, Reigniting Our Passion.*

This theme called us to acknowledge where we were spiritually, organizationally, and missionally. It helped us confront the realities of declining membership, financial crisis, a pandemic, post-pandemic fatigue, storms, hurricanes, crime and violence and shifting societal landscapes, while challenging us to rediscover our Moravian heritage, rekindle our passion for ministry, and realign ourselves with God's purpose.

SHIFT was a turning point, a moment of reorientation that allowed the Province to evaluate, refocus, and reset. However, SHIFT was never intended to be the final destination. It was the preparation for a new movement of God among us.

As we look toward the next triennium, we sense the Spirit calling us not just to shift – but to advance, grow, and move forward together. Where SHIFT helped us face the right direction, our next theme calls us to walk boldly in that direction, united in mission and strengthened by grace.

The proposed theme for the 2026 – 2028 triennium captures this progression: ***Grounded In Faith, Growing In Grace, Going In Power – Moving As One!***

This theme builds intentionally on the foundation laid by SHIFT and aligns directly with the Four Strategic Pillars of the Eastern West Indies Province:

1. Three-Dimensional Growth (Spiritual, Numerical, Financial)

Grounded in Faith calls the Province to deeper spiritual roots.

Growing in Grace speaks to maturing disciples, strengthening congregations, and encouraging numerical and financial health.

2. Community Engagement

Going in Power emphasizes Spirit-empowered mission, evangelism, digital outreach, and meaningful presence within our Caribbean communities.

3. Sustainability

Growing in grace and grounding ourselves in faith ensures long-term ministry vitality, leadership development, and congregational resilience.

4. Asset Utilization

Moving as One reflects unified stewardship of our resources – land, buildings, finances, partnerships, and people – for Kingdom mission rather than isolated effort.

Thus, this theme is not only spiritual – it is strategic. It calls us to deepen our faith, expand our capacity, strengthen our witness, and operate as a unified Province committed to transformation and mission.

Where SHIFT reclaimed our identity, this new theme invites us to live that identity, together, purposefully, and powerfully.

It represents a maturing of our provincial vision, a continuation of our renewal journey, and a commitment to walk forward as one Church, rooted in Christ and aligned in mission for the next chapter of ministry in the Eastern West Indies Province.

Grounded In Faith, Growing In Grace, Going In Power – Moving As One!

This theme acknowledges that after a shift, the Church must:

- **Be rooted (Grounded in Faith),**
- **Be nurtured (Growing in Grace),**
- **Be mobilized (Going in Power),**
- **Be united (Moving as One).**





The Moravian Church
Eastern West Indies Province

The Moravian Institute

"Equipping Disciples, Empowering Leaders, Transforming Lives"

APPLY TODAY FOR
SEMESTER 2
2026

WHERE
FAITH
COME TO
LEADERS

INTRODUCTION TO PREACHING

**A 12 - WEEK CERTIFIED COURSE
STARTS APRIL 13, 2026**

**FEEL CALLED TO SHARE GOD'S
WORD BUT NOT SURE WHERE TO
START?**

Join our Introduction to Preaching course and grow in confidence, clarity, and purpose. Over 12 weeks, you'll learn the essentials of preparing and delivering impactful messages that truly connect.

REGISTRATION
\$150.00 USD OR 1050.00TTD
(PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE)

REGISTER ONLINE AT
The Moravian Institute

CONTACT US !      

**CENTENARY MORAVIAN
CHURCH**

"Moving as One since 1866"



160th

ANNIVERSARY

Service

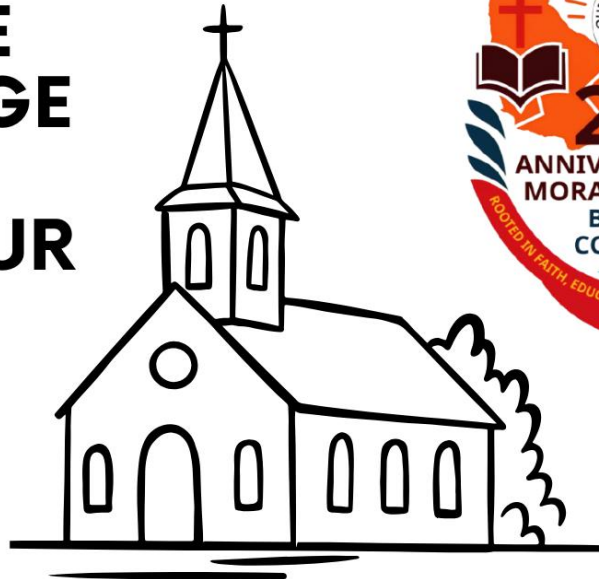
SUNDAY

MAY 3RD, 2026

4:00 PM.

*Grounded in Faith
Reaching for Growth*

CELEBRATE OUR HERITAGE & HONOUR OUR HISTORY



OCTOBER 2025 - SEPTEMBER 2026



MONTH OF OCTOBER



- WEEK 1 - THE MISSIONARIES
- WEEK 2 - BUNKERS HILL
- WEEK 3 - CUSTOMS & PRACTICES
- WEEK 4 - EDUCATION

MONTH OF FOCUS FOR EACH CONGREGATION

• NOVEMBER - FAITH (2018)	• MAY - DUNSCOMBE (1860)
• DECEMBER - BETHLEHEM (1964)	• JUNE - CLIFTON HILL (1841)
• JANUARY - PENUEL (1914)	• JULY - CALVARY (1834)
• FEBRUARY - FULNEC (1894)	• AUGUST - MOUNT TABOR (1825)
• MARCH - GRACE HILL (1882)	• SEPTEMBER - SHARON (1768)
• APRIL - CENTENARY (1865)	

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

MORAVIANBDS@HOTMAIL.COM