

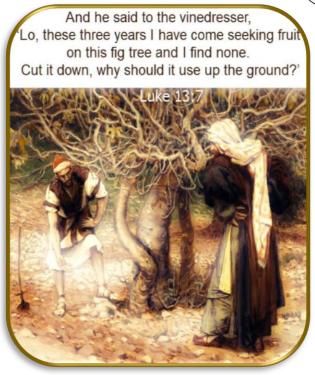


(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164



Sunday, March 20, 2022

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SUNDAY

Third Sunday in Lent 9:30 a.m.

Welcome: We worship today and celebrate the grace of God that has appeared to all in Christ Jesus. Welcome to all who join us, in the sanctuary and online, at home and abroad. A special welcome to Zindzi Dottin, Alvin Branker and all who are here especially for the blessing of their son, Zachary. May we worship God in Spirit and in truth. Welcome!

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

WATCHWORD: Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near. (Isaiah 55:6)

Provincial Theme 2022: "Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T."



ORDER OF SERVICE



ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Introit

Call to Worship (Psalm 145:1 – 4):

Leader: I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable.

Congregation: One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare

Your mighty acts.

Opening Hymn: 482 – "When Morning Gilds the Skies" Litany: Lent B p. 118 – CMP Liturgy Book

Welcome, Celebrations & Notices Adoration in Songs & Choruses

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings, including Theological Education Offering

MINISTRY OF THE WORD:

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 55:1 – 9 Scripture Reading: Luke 13:1 – 9

Choir Anthem – "Behold the Lamb of God"

Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn 208 - "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Blessing of Infant

Hymn 281 - "I Am Thine, O Lord"

The Benediction

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; Repost us.



Call to Worship (Psalm 145:1 – 4):

Leader: I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable.

Congregation: One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts.



Opening Hymn: 482 –

When morning gilds the skies,
My heart awaking cries,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'
Alike at work and prayer
To Jesus I repair:
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'

Whene'er the sweet church bell
Peals over hill and dell,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'
O hark to what it sings,
As joyously it rings,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'

When sleep her balm denies,
My silent spirit sighs,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'
When evil thoughts molest,
With this I shield my breast,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'

To God, the Word, on high
The host of angels cry,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'
Let mortals, too upraise
Their voice in hymns of praise:
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'

Let earth's wide circle round
In joyful notes resound,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'
Let air and sea and sky,
From depth to height, reply,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'

Be this while life is mine,
My canticle divine,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'
Be this the eternal song
Through all the ages long,
'May Jesus Christ be praised!'



Lent B

p. 118 – CMP Liturgy Book

All stand

Come people of God, let us walk with our Lord by following His example.

We will follow our Lord.

Tune: DEM HEILIGEN BLUT – # 88

Go, follow the Saviour,
Consider his travail;
Adore him for ever,
Ye sinners, and marvel;
It is for you
He suffers so.

Behold the Lord Jesus, For you he is wounded, He bleeds to release us; His love is unbounded: For evermore, His name adore.

John Cennick (1718 – 1755)

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus.

Being justified by faith, let us have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and by Him let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, giving thanks to his name.

God demonstrates His own love for us in that while we were sinners, Christ died for us. We give you thanks for granting the penitent sinner justification through your own sacrifice. Your promise is to deliver us from the control of darkness and transfer us into the Kingdom of Light.

Thank you God for the gift of freedom which no one could purchase! Jesus paid the price for us and we are very grateful. Hallelujah!

O Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Grant us sustained peace.

All sit

Let us pray:

Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, you have enabled us to gather in your name. We are awed by your power and majesty, and touched by your love revealed to us in your Son Jesus Christ. Today, we remember with devotion, his last journey to Jerusalem to complete his work as our Messiah; to suffer, die and rise again. Our spirits are humbled by his obedience to your perfect will. O Father, we confess with shame, our slowness to learn from the example of our Lord. Look mercifully upon us, we pray, as we acknowledge and confess our sins:

Father, we confess that we have sinned against you, yet we know that you love us still. In your steadfast love, forgive our feeble worship which we offer to you; pardon our paltry praise; extend your mercy to us in our failure to be genuine in our fellowship one with the other, and absolve our tendency to neglect attending to the needs of those who are the least among us within our communities. Reclaim us as your own for we truly repent of our sins as we resolve to follow in the footsteps of your Son. We embrace God's promise to us: A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. Amen.

Jesus, you were tempted in every way as we are yet you did not sin. You triumphed over temptation by the power of your word.

As we are bombarded daily by temptations of the body, mind and spirit, may we see ourselves as overcomers because of the power of your Holy Word which we have hidden in our hearts so that we may not sin against you.

Empowering Holy Spirit of God, the source of all that is good and true in this life:

Give us the courage to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Jesus Christ our Lord.

Tune: NEAR THE CROSS

Jesus, keep me near the Cross; There a precious fountain, Free to all – a healing stream – Flows from Calvary's mountain.

In the Cross, in the Cross,

Be my glory ever,

Till my raptured soul shall find

Rest beyond the river.

Near the Cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes before me; Help me walk from day to day, With its shadow o'er me.

Fanny Crosby (1820 – 1915)

All stand

By your agony and passion;

By all your sacred wounds;

By your cross and precious blood;

By your innocent suffering and dying;

By your stripes which heal;

By your rest in the grave;

By your triumphant victory over death;

By your resurrection and ascension.

Bless us and save us, O Christ, our Redeemer.

Tune: *POWER IN THE BLOOD*

Would you be free from the burden of sin?
There's power in the blood, power in the blood;
Would you o'er evil a victory win?
There's wonderful power in the blood.

There is power, power, wonder-working power
In the blood of the Lamb;
There is power, power, wonder-working power
In the precious blood of the Lamb.

Lewis E. Jones (1865 – 1936)

Our Saviour in his living never failed to teach, heal, encourage and befriend all people. May we, even as we follow his perfect example and bear our own crosses, likewise demonstrate Christ's compassion to all we meet.

May we become aware that we are channels of God's grace, not magnifying our troubles or forgetting our blessings. May God give us a ready mind to minister to others on their journey, to share our gifts with those in need, and to be always willing to proclaim to all, the good news of salvation.

We give you thanks for the obedience of Christ, who by his death on the cross purchased our redemption; to the same one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be all glory, honour and power for ever.

Amen

Amen

Tune: ROCKINGHAM – #87

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748)



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices



Adoration In Songs & Choruses



Prayer of Dedication of Offerings, including Theological Education Offering



Ministry of the Word

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 55:1 – 9

- 1. Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
- 2. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.
- 3. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.
- **4.** Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people.
- 5. Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee.
- **6.** Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near:
- 7. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- **8.** For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord.
- **9.** For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.



Scripture Reading: Luke 13:1 – 9

- 1. There were present at that season some that told him of the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.
- **2.** And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galilaeans were sinners above all the Galilaeans, because they suffered such things?
- 3. I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

- **4.** Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower in Siloam fell, and slew them, think ye that they were sinners above all men that dwelt in Jerusalem?
- 5. I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.
- **6.** He spake also this parable; A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none.
- 7. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?
- **8.** And he answering said unto him, Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it:
- **9.** And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down.



Choir Anthem – "Behold the Lamb of God"



Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn 208 -

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me; I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord hath promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil
A life of joy and peace.



Blessing of Infant



Hymn 281 -

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,
And it told Thy love to me;
But I long to rise in the arms of faith,
And be closer drawn to Thee.

Draw me nearer, nearer blessèd Lord, To the cross where Thou hast died; Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessèd Lord, To Thy precious, bleeding side.

Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord,
By the power of grace divine;
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,
And my will be lost in Thine

Oh, the pure delight of a single hour
That before Thy throne I spend,
When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend.

There are depths of love that I cannot know
Till I cross the narrow sea;
There are heights of joy that I may not reach
Till I rest in peace with Thee.



The Benediction



Organ Postlude



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

We worship today and celebrate the grace of God that has appeared to all in Christ Jesus. Welcome to all who join us, in the sanctuary and online, at home and abroad. A special welcome to Zindzi Dottin, Alvin Branker and all who are here especially for the blessing of their son, Zachary. May we worship God in Spirit and in truth. Welcome!





<u>Today:</u> Anita Lowe <u>Advanced:</u> Amayah Chase-Belgrave (21st), Oneta Durant (25th), Peter Layne (26th)

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: THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION SUNDAY
 - **†** Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m.
 - **♥** Sunday School (Seniors) 9:30 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre
 - **♥** Online Sunday School (Juniors: 15yrs and under) 11:00 a.m. The facility is Google Meet and those who desire to join should email the Sunday School Superintendent at valeacock@gmail.com.

† 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 − Online 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: Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m.

† Election of Synod Delegates

♥ Sunday School (Seniors) – 9:30 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre

♣ Online Sunday School – Juniors (15yrs and under) at 11:00 a.m. and Seniors (16yrs and over) at 2:30 p.m. The facility is Google Meet and those who desire to join should email the Sunday School Superintendent at valeacock@gmail.com.

In the Month of March 2022:

- **♦** Harvest Festival at Mount Tabor Sunday 20th
- **♥** Harvest Festival at Penuel Sunday 27th
- **♥** Election of Synod Delegates Sunday 27th



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

- 1. As we prepare for the upcoming 33rd Provincial Synod to be held in July, the Barbados Conference will be electing its Lay Delegates on Sunday, March 27, during the morning service. All communicant members are eligible to vote.
- 2. On Easter Monday we will hold a fund-raiser here at Sharon. We are calling it, EASTER FOOD SALE and we want it to be a whole-church effort. We look forward to the same sort of support you have given over the years for our Fish Fry, so as to make this a success. Mark the date on your calendar.
- 3. The Women's Fellowship will hold a Farmer's Market immediately after Church on Sundays. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the financial proceeds will go to the Church to be used as needed. Items will cost either \$3.00 or \$5.00.
- 4. The Eastern West Indies Province will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch from Midnight, April 03 Midnight, April 17, 2022.
 - **♦** Sharon and Dunscombe have been given responsibility for Tuesday April 12, 10.00 a.m. − 12:00 Midnight [14hrs]. A form has been prepared, dividing the time into half-hour slots and you are asked to take responsibility for a half of

- an hour, singularly or joining with another, to keep the watch going. Please call one of the pastors to sign-up.
- This prayer meeting began on August 13, 1727 when the Moravian Church had its Pentecost experience. The Spirit of God ignited a passion for prayer that gave birth to a prayer meeting that lasted for 100 unbroken years. Let us keep that passion alive as we seek the face of God for direction for the Church, the world, and our lives.
- 5. The Provincial Board makes the following announcements:
- **♥** For the season of Lent, there will be three Lenten reflections held around the theme of Repentance, Reconciliation, and Renewal. These sessions will be led by Bishop Dr. Conrad Spencer to be held on March 7 and 21, and April 4 at 7:00 p.m. nightly. Let us use these sessions to help us look in, look around, and look to Jesus so that we can become the healed and healing community of disciples Jesus calls us to be. The zoom link will be provided in time for all to participate.
- **♥** Sunday March 20, 2022 is Theological Education Sunday.
 - Our focus on this Sunday is the call of God for people to dedicate themselves to gospel ministry. Jesus continues to call his disciples to follow him to serve the kingdom. Are you among the called?
 - **♥** Special prayers are also requested for our Warden/Tutor at the United Theological College of the West Indies (UTCWI), Rev. Neilson Waithe.
 - **₽** If you sense God calling you to deeper service, continue praying about it and talk with your pastor or a mature Christian as to how you might respond to the prompting of God. The call to ministry has many facets. It may be within your congregation or in the Conference. It may be as a Missionary, in some Specialized Ministry, or at the Pastoral level. Be open for where the Holy Spirit is leading.
 - **♣** Last year you gave EC\$9,158 towards theological education. The Province spent about EC\$29,000. On March 20, 2022, a special offering will be received for theological education. Please give as the Lord provides.
- 6. We are in need of people to serve on our Media Team. Here is opportunity to be trained and then to engage in an important ministry to our congregation. Interesting persons should contact Sis Kristina Carter.
- 7. Our Steelpan Ministry has resumed. Those who are interested should contact Sis Kristina Carter.
- 8. We are thankful for the financial support we have been receiving thus far, particularly in the light of the economic impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are mindful that some of you may be facing reduced or lost income due to this crisis.

- **♥** We are challenged however, in maintaining our ministry, our facilities and paying property insurance. So we ask for your continued faithfulness in giving as you are able.
- Those who attend worship in the sanctuary are reminded that offerings are deposited in the baskets on entry.
- Those who are not back out to church as yet are reminded that labelled envelopes can be dropped into the slot in the front door of the Manse.
- ⊕ 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.
- 9. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: "Moravian Voice" on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.



PRAYER NEEDS:





- † Of our congregation: Sis. Ruth Bishop, Sis. Andilla Haynes, Sis. Margaret Haynes, Bro. Ryan Hinds.
- 3. The Bereaved: We express condolences to and pray for:
 - The family of Bro. Sydney Gibson on his passing. A Service of Thanksgiving for his life will be held here at Sharon on Thursday, March 24, 2022 commencing at 3:00 p.m.
 - ♥ Sis. Joan Taylor on the passing of her husband, George Taylor. A service of Thanksgiving for his life will be held here in Barbados on March 29, 2022.
 - **&** Bro. Shirley Stewart and family on the passing of his father, Athelstan Browne.
- 4. Our nation, for strength and deliverance as we continue to battle the COVID-19 Pandemic.





AVAILABLE:

- **♦ Moravian Daily Text 2022:**
 - **♣** American Paperback Edition \$25
 - **♦** American Large Print Paperback Edition \$30
- Offering Envelopes for 2022 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 2022 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
- **†** Copies of Sunday sermons on CD − \$2.00.
- **†** Books:
 - Rev. Neilson Waithe: <u>Understanding the Caribbean Worker</u>— \$25; <u>Provocation</u>— \$20.
 - Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts: <u>Created in Their Image</u>: <u>Evangelical Protestantism</u> in <u>Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914</u> \$50.
 - Rev. Dr. Joseph Nicholas: <u>Baptism Is a Gift of God: As Such It Is More Than Water</u>—\$35.
- **†** Greeting Cards (\$2.00) and Prints (\$20.00) of a painting of Sharon Church.





Circular from the Chairman of PEC

To: All Members of Staff/Congregations
From: Rev. Algernon Lewis, Chairman of PEC

Subject: 33rd Provincial Synod

Date: January 7, 2022

FOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

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

The Provincial Board has set the date for the 33rd Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province for July 18-22, 2022. Living within this period of uncertainty necessitates that Synod be held using a hybrid/virtual model.

Mindful of the local pandemic protocols, each Conference in the Province is asked to prepare for the event by doing the following:

- 1. Elect Synod delegate(s) accordance to the provisions of the Book of Order paragraph 5.4.4.7
- 2. Submit the names of all delegates by March 31, 2022.
- 3. Prepare all reports for submission to the Provincial Office by April 29, 2022.
- 4. Prepare and submit to the Provincial Office all proposals to be considered at the 33rd Provincial Synod by April 15, 2022.

Information will be circulated later with pre-synod processes and procedures.

The Provincial Board has appointed Rev. Adelyn Mgonela to serve as the Synod Chaplain. The Rev. Dr. Jeremy Francis has been appointed Chairman of Synod. The Rev. Onita Samuel-Warner has been appointed Secretary of Synod.

One of the businesses of 33rd Provincial Synod is to approve the updated Book of Order 2020. This document has been circulated to Pastors for onward circulation to members for reflection, discussion, and amendments where needed. Please take time to review this document that governs our operations and share your feedback.

Making the SHIFT for the 33rd Provincial Synod means that we must reimagine Synod. The presentation of reports, Committee meetings, worship, elections, and participation of delegates and observers will be adjusted to suit the virtual platform. We have the benefit of learning from others who have gone this way before us.

Please add the 33rd Provincial Synod to your prayer list that God's will be done among us.









Protocol for Worship Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic – 2022

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 (6) 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 (3) 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 (3) 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.Infant Baptism, Confirmation, and rites involving the 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.

