

SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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But of that day and that hour knows no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

—Mark 13:32

Sunday, December 3, 2023

First Sunday in Advent

Confirmation & Holy Communion

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: A sincere welcome is extended to all on this First Sunday of Advent, whether you are here in the sanctuary or connecting by way of our livestream. We rejoice in the hope of life eternal that is granted to all who accept Jesus Christ as the soon coming King. Welcome.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris

(Manse: 246-546-0344)

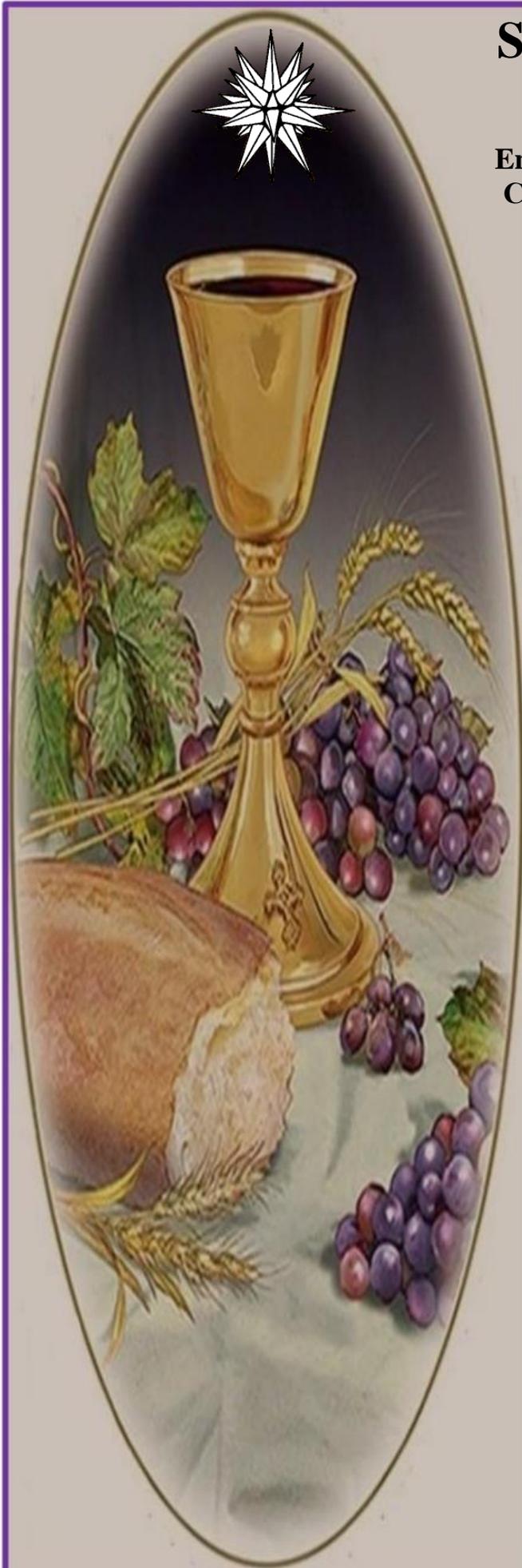
Associate Pastor: Rev. David Ince

WATCHWORD: Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory.

(Mark 13:26)

Provincial Theme 2023:

“SHIFT: Reclaiming Our Identity, Renewing Our Purpose, and Re-Igniting Our Passion”





ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship (Psalm 95:1-2): *¹ Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. ² Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.*

Hymn 407 – “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

Responsive Reading from the Psalms: Psalm 33:1 – 12

Prayer of Adoration, Confession & Thanksgiving

Worship In Tithes & Offerings:

Offertory Sentence: *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. (James 1:17 NKJV)*

Offertory Hymn: 351 – “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

Offertory Doxology: “Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart”

Welcome, Greetings, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration In Songs & Choruses

Ministry of the Word:

Old Testament Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3 – 9

Canticle 7 – “The Hosanna Anthem” p. 32 – CMP Hymnal

New Testament Reading: Mark 13:24 – 37

Choir Anthem – “Call to Praise Medley”

Sermon – Rev. Ezra Parris

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn of Response: 235 – “Take My Life And Let It Be”

Confirmation p. 5 – CMP Liturgy Book

- Dawn Moore-Maynard
- Diane Tull-Knight

Hymn 81 – “Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne”

Musical Interlude / Prayer of Preparation (p. 50 – Liturgy Book / p. 9 – Hymnal)

Holy Communion

Invitation

Eucharistic Prayer

Consecration of the Bread

Distribution Hymns: 585 – “I Hunger And I Thirst”

581– “Here, O My Lord, I See Thee

580 – “My Heart Is Resting, O My God”

Consecration of the Wine

Distribution Hymns: 347 – “*Jesus, Lover of My Soul*”
730 – “*I Cannot Tell*”

Hymn of Thanksgiving: 36 – “*Praise To the Holiest In the Height*”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Covenant Hymn: 595 – “*We In One Covenant Are Joined*”

The Blessing

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.



Organ Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship (Psalm 95:1-2): *¹ Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. ² Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.*



Opening Hymn: 407 –

Hail to the Lord’s anointed,
Great David’s greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

He comes with succour speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong,
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light

Whose souls condemned and dying,
Were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains,
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall fall down before him,
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him,
His praise all people sing;
To him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,
He on his throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All-blessing and all-blest:
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever;
That name to us is Love.



Responsive Reading from the Psalms: Psalm 33: 1 – 12

1. Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.
2. Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.
3. Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise.
4. For the word of the LORD is right; and all his works are done in truth.

5. He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.
6. By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.
7. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses.
8. Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.
9. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.
10. The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect.
11. The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.
12. Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.



Prayer of Adoration, Confession & Thanksgiving



WORSHIP IN TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory Sentence: *Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. (James 1:17 NKJV)*

Offertory Hymn: 351 –

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
 There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
 Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not,
 As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

*Great is Thy faithfulness: Great is Thy faithfulness!
 Morning by morning new mercies I see
 All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided,
 “Great is Thy faithfulness”, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness,
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!



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.*



Welcome, Greetings, Celebrations & Notices



Adoration In Songs & Choruses



Ministry of the Word

Old Testament: 1 Corinthians 1: 3 – 9

3. Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;

5. That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge;
6. Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:
7. So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
8. Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
9. God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.



Canticle 7 – “The Hosanna Anthem”

pg 32 – CMP Hymnal

Canticle 7 – Hosanna Anthem (Matthew 21:9)

(The anthem is written for boys and girls to sing in alternate parts. It may, however, easily be sung according to any other responsive arrangement.)

B. Hosanna, blessed is he that | comes!
 G. | Hosanna, blessed is he that | comes!
 B. | Hosanna,
 G. Hosanna, –
 B. Hosanna, –
 G. Hosanna, –
 B. Blessed is he that | comes!
 G. | Blessed is he | that comes!
 B. | he that comes in the Name | of the Lord!
 G. | he that comes in the Name of the Lord!
 B. Hosanna, blessed is he that | comes!
 G. Hosanna, blessed is he that | comes!
 B. Hosan– | na,
 G. | Hosan– | na,
 B. | Hosan– | na,
 G. | Hosan– | na,
 B. | Hosan– | na,
 G. | Hosanna in the high– | - - -
 - - - - - | est.

- B. | in the high-| est.
 B. Hosanna, –
 G. Hosanna, –
 B. Hosan- | na,
 G. | Hosanna in the highest, |
 | Hosanna in the highest.
 B. | Hosanna in the highest.



New Testament Reading: Mark 13: 24 – 37

24. But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,
25. And the stars of heaven shall fall, and the powers that are in heaven shall be shaken.
26. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory.
27. And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven.
28. Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near:
29. So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors.
30. Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done.
31. Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.
32. But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.
33. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.
34. For the Son of Man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch.
35. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning:

36. Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.

37. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch.



Choir Anthem – “*Call to Praise Medley*”



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn of Response: 235 –

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be,
Ever, only, all for Thee.



Confirmation

pg 5 – CMP Hymnal



**THE BAPTISM OF ADULTS
AND THE CONFIRMATION OF THOSE
WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTISED IN INFANCY**

(p. 5 – CMP Liturgy Book)

The candidates being in place, and the congregation standing, the minister says:

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken unto us by his Son. And this is the word that we have from him:

The Lord our God, the Lord is One; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and great commandment.

Lord have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

And the second is like it, namely this: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write these your laws in our hearts, we beseech you.

Most merciful Lord, who have caused us to hear your wholesome and divine teaching, enlighten our souls to the understanding of your holy Word, so that we may be not only hearers of spiritual truth, but doers of good works, following after

faith, hope, love, and living without offence or blame; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All standing, the minister says:

With heart and mind we believe in God, and with the voice confession is made that will lead to salvation, for Jesus said: ‘Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven.’

Christ has died,

Christ has risen,

Christ will come again.

At a Confirmation:

Confirmation of those who were baptized as infants marks a further step on the journey of faith. It is a public affirmation of that baptism and includes reception into the local congregation with its privileges and responsibilities.

The minister names the candidates:

Dawn Moore-Maynard, Diane Tull-Knight, you are here before God and in the presence of this congregation, to declare your faith in Jesus Christ, and your determination to embrace the joys and responsibilities to which your acceptance of that Christian call pledges you.

The minister asks the candidates individually:

Do you believe and trust in God as your heavenly Father, in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord, and in the Holy Spirit as your guide and helper?

Answer: I do.

Do you promise, dependent on the grace of God, to renounce evil and to follow and serve Christ throughout your life?

Answer: I do.

Do you intend to continue steadfastly in the teaching and fellowship of the Church?

Answer: I do.

You have confessed a good confession before the people of God. I charge you in the sight of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ himself, who, before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession, that you will keep your word, until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The candidates come forward and face the congregation to give their testimony and to say the Apostles Creed.

CONFIRMATION OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTISED IN INFANCY

In turn each candidate kneels, and the minister names him/her, lays hands on his/her head, recites a suitable text of scripture and pronounces this blessing:

The Lord bless you, and keep you,
The Lord make his face to shine upon you
And be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.

In the name of Jesus. Amen.

RECEPTION INTO THE CONGREGATION

The minister and others so appointed give the right hand of fellowship to all the candidates.

TUNE: GÖRLITZ – # 504

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.
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We receive you into this congregation of Christ's Church. 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.

Go out into the world in peace. Be brave; keep hold of what is good; never pay back wrong for wrong; encourage the fainthearted; support the weak and distressed; give due honour to everyone. Be joyful always; pray without ceasing; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is what God in Christ wills for you.



Hymn 81 –

Thou didst leave thy throne
And thy kingly crown
When thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home
Was there found no room
For Thy holy nativity.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus!
There is room in my heart for Thee.

Heaven's arches rang
When the angels sang,
Proclaiming thy royal degree;
But of lowly birth
Cam'st thou Lord, on earth,
And in great humility.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus!
There is room in my heart for Thee.

The foxes found rest,
And the birds had their nest
In the shade of the cedar tree;
But thy couch was the sod,
O thou Son of God,
In the deserts of Galilee.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus!
There is room in my heart for Thee.

Thou camest, O Lord,
With the living word,
That should set thy children free;
But with mocking scorn,
And with crown of thorn,
They bore Thee to Calvary.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus!
Thy cross is my only plea.

When heaven's arches shall ring,
And her choirs shall sing,
At thy coming to victory,
Let thy voice call me home,
Saying "Yet there is room,
There is room at my side for thee."
And my heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus!
When thou comest and callest for me.



MUSICAL INTERLUDE / Prayer of Preparation



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.*



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 585 –

I hunger and I thirst,
Jesus, my manna be;
Ye living waters, burst
Out of the rock for me.

Thou bruised and broken bread,
My life-long wants supply;
As living souls are fed,
O feed me, or I die.

Thou true life-giving Vine,
Let me Thy sweetness prove;
Renew my life with Thine,
Refresh my soul with love.

Rough paths my feet have trod,
Since first their course began;
Feed me, Thou Bread of God;
Help me, Thou Son of Man.

For still the desert lies
My fainting soul before;
O living waters, rise
Within me evermore.



Hymn 581 –

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of Heaven;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

I have no help but Thine; nor do I need
Another arm save Thine to lean upon;
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness:
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace;
Thy Blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God!

This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heavenly table spread for me;
Here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong
The brief, bright hour of fellowship with thee.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by;
Yet, passing, points to the glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love.



Hymn 580 –

My heart is resting, O my God,
I will give thanks and sing;
My heart is at the secret source
Of every precious thing.

Now the frail vessel Thou hast made
No hand but Thine shall fill;
For the waters of the Earth have failed,
And I am thirsty still.

I thirst for springs of heavenly life,
And here all day they rise;
I seek the treasure of Thy love,
And close at hand it lies.

I have a heritage of joy
That yet I must not see;
The hand that bled to make it mine
Is keeping it for me.

And a new song is in my mouth
To long loved music set:
Glory to Thee for all the grace
I have not tasted yet.

My heart is resting on thy truth.
Who hast made all things mine;
O draw my captive will to thee,
And make it one with thine.



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.*



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 347 –

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on Thee;
Leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed, all my help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want, more than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name, I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am; Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart; rise to all eternity.



Hymn 730 –

I cannot tell why He whom angels worship,
Should set his love upon the sons of men,
Or why, as shepherd, he should seek the wanderers,

To bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary
When Bethlehem's manger was his only home,
And that he lived at Nazareth and laboured,
And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered,
As with his peace he graced this place of tears,
Or how his heart upon the cross was broken,
The crown of pain to three and thirty years.
But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted,
And stays our sin, and calms our lurking fear,
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden,
For yet the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is here.

I cannot tell how he will win the nations,
How he will claim his earthly heritage,
How satisfy the needs and aspirations
Of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory,
And he shall reap the harvest he has sown,
And some glad day his sun shall shine in splendour
When he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship,
When, at his bidding, every storm is stilled,
Or who can say how great the jubilation
When all the hearts of men with love are filled.
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture,
And myriad, myriad human voices sing,
And earth to Heaven, and Heaven to earth, will answer:
At last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!



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 – 36

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise;
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
Which did in Adam fail,
Should strive afresh against the foe,
Should strive, and should prevail:

And that the higher gift than grace
Should flesh and blood refine:
God's presence and his very self,
And essence all-divine.

O generous love! that he who smote
In man for man, the foe,
The double agony in man
For man, should undergo.

And in the garden secretly,
And on the cross on high,
Should teach his brethren, and inspire
To suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise;
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways!



Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 – 595

We in one covenant are joined,
And one in Jesus are;
With voices and with hearts combined,
His praise we will declare:
In doctrine and in practice one,
We'll love and serve the Lord alone;

With one accord sound forth his praise,
Till we shall see his face.



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, Celebrations & Notices

A sincere welcome is extended to all on this First Sunday of Advent, whether you are here in the sanctuary or connecting by way of our livestream. We rejoice in the hope of life eternal that is granted to all who accept Jesus Christ as the soon coming King. Welcome.



Advanced: Patricia Brathwaite-Marshall, Daniel Jackman & Kaylah Watts (4th), Mia Best & Carlos Depeiza (5th), Terry Applewhaite, Shirley Blackman, Seward Francis & Lorraine Holder (6th), Cerrie Rouse (7th), Annette Price (9th)



Flowers today were donated by Sis. Shirley Blackman and Sis. Tara Blackman in celebration of their birthdays.

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, Confirmation & Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.**
 - ✝ **Adventures in Worship (All Ages) – 10:00 a.m.**
 - ✝ **Christingle 2023 at Sharon at 5:00 p.m. Donation is \$25**
- ✝ **This Week:**
- ✝ **Office Hours for the Pastorate – 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 the Sanctuary at 4:00 p.m. All other Tuesdays Online at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom**
- ✝ **Wednesday:** **Bible Study – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom. Meeting ID: 861 4335 8604 / Passcode: 244093.**
- ✝ **Thursday:** **Joint Board (Elders & Stewards) Planning Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary**
- ✝ **Saturday:** **Meeting of Island Conference at 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre.**
- ✝ **NEXT SUNDAY: Divine Worship with Nine Lessons & Carols – 9:30 a.m.**
 - ✝ **Adventures in Worship (All Ages) – 10:00 a.m.**



Activities in the Month of December 2023:

- ✝ **Meeting of Island Conference – Saturday, 9th at 10:00 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre.**
- ✝ **Sunday School Christmas Celebration – Sunday, 17th at 9:30 a.m.**
- ✝ **Worship on Christmas Day – Monday, 25th at 5:00 a.m.**
- ✝ **Watch-Night Service – Sunday, 31st, 10:30 p.m.**



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. **Thanks to all who supported our Missionary Festival. We have collected so far, \$10,578.60 on our way to our target of \$13,000 for 2023. If you have not made your contribution as yet or returned your collection box, you can still do so. Direct contributions can also be made and contributions in memory of loved-ones. Funds raised will go towards local missions, and to missionary endeavours across the region and the world through the various mission organisations of the Moravian Church.**
2. **The Moramus Singers of Barbados on behalf of the Moravian Church Barbados Conference will present Christingle 2023 – *Light of the World*, at the**

Sharon Moravian Church, Sharon, St. Thomas on Sunday, December 3, 2023, commencing at 5:00 p.m. Donation – \$25.00. The word ‘Christingle’ means ‘Christ-Light’ and the Moravian Christingle service may be held in Advent, Christmas or Epiphany to emphasize and celebrate Jesus as the light and the hope of the world.

3. February 10, 2024 will be Sharon’s 225th Anniversary of the first laying of a cornerstone here at Sharon. Once the Kingdom does not come, the historic point should not pass without a celebration.
4. We are thankful for your financial support.
 - ✠ 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.
 - ✠ You 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.
5. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on Life 97.5 FM.
 - ✠ 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.
 - ✠ We invite you to tune in for inspiration and information to enable you in your Christian walk and service.
 - ✠ 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>).
 - ✠ You can email your comments and requests to: moravianvoice@gmail.com



CONGRATULATIONS: We extend congratulations to Sis. Evelina King-Harper J.P. on being awarded the Barbados Service Medal on Independence Day 2023; For her dedicated community service and activism for the rights of those with learning disabilities and her commitment to volunteerism in support of the Association for the Correction of Learning Disabilities (The Learning Centre) and several church organisations.



PRAYER NEEDS:



1. **Our Shut-ins:** *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Sis. Thora Moore, Sis. Patterson Williams*
2. **The Sick/Recovering:**
† *Of our congregation: Sis. Ansonia Cox-Burgess, Sis. Shanna King (USA), Sis. Lelia Gibbs*
3. **The Bereaved:** *We express condolences to and pray for Bro. Andrew Lowe and family on the passing of his grandfather, Bro. Darnley Price.*
4. **God's covering during the Hurricane Season**
5. **World Peace**



AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

- † **Moravian Daily Text 2023:** American Paperback Edition – \$25
- † **Offering Envelopes for 2023** – 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.**





United Theological College of the West Indies

is offering

3 FREE Courses

OPTION 1 - Free

Enroll in the class

Participate in class activities

No assignments

No exams

No certificate

OPTION 2 - Paid

Enroll in the class

Participate in class activities

Complete all assignments

Pass exams

Awarded a certificate

Courses

- ▼ **Grief Counselling**
- ▼ **Spiritual Formation**
- ▼ **Church Management**

January - May 2024
Online / Face-to-face

Persons have the option of registering for other courses at a cost.

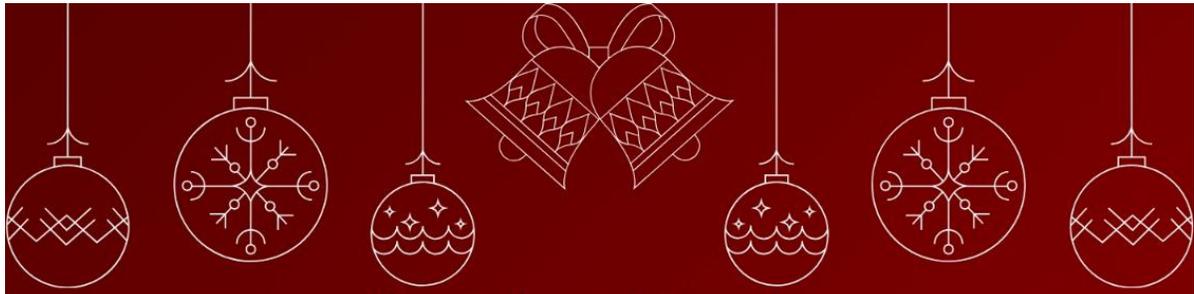
**Contact us for
more info.**

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 jthompson@utcwi.edu.jm

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 876-585-5488



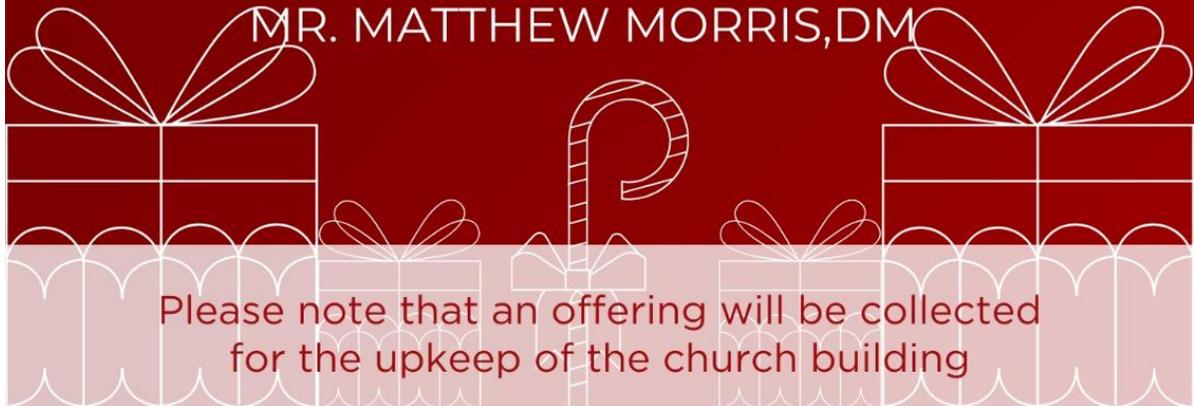
The Fulnec Moravian
Choir

Christmas Music Recital

17 | 4:30
DEC | PM

**Fulnec Moravian
Church, Watts Village
St. George**

WITH SUPPORTING
ARTISTE UNDER THE
DIRECTION OF
MR. MATTHEW MORRIS, DM



Please note that an offering will be collected
for the upkeep of the church building

The Moramus Singers of Barbados



presents

2023 **Christingle**



The Light of the World



at

Sharon Moravian Church

Sharon, St. Thomas.

Sunday 3rd December

5:00pm

Donation: \$25.00



MORAVIAN CHURCH

EASTERN WEST INDIES PROVINCE (EWIP)

PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS
P.O. BOX 504, ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA
OFFICE: +1 (268) 560-0185 | FAX: +1 (268) 462-0643

WWW.MORAVIANS.NET MORAVIANCHURCHEWIP CHURCHEWIP

THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS CONFERENCE

Rev. Algernon Lewis, *Chairman*
Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith, *Vice Chairman*
Rev. Dr. Jeremy B. Francis, *Secretary*
Sis. Evannie E. Jeremiah, *Lay Member*
Sis. Deborah Moore-Miggins, *Lay Member*
Sis. Elisa G. Hodge, *Treasurer*

MINISTERS ON LEAVE

Rev. Catherine Governor-Browne
Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher
Rev. Eulencine Christopher
Rev. Dr. Anique Elmes-Matthew
Rev. Moise Jean
Rev. Winston Jones
Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts
Rev. Dr. Mikie Roberts
Rev. Ulric Smith II

BISHOPS

Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley Lewis
Rt. Rev. Dr. Conrad Spencer

THEOLOGICAL TUTOR

Rev. Neilson A. Waithe

RETIRED MINISTERS

Rev. Dr. Frank Alvin Barker
Bro. Edgar Barriero
Rev. George Bedford
Rev. Winston Chase
Rev. Elroy Christopher
Rev. Matthew Crooks
Rev. Movelle Kellman
Rev. Selvin McMillan
Rev. Ralph Prince
Bro. David Rossington
Rev. Alban St. Hill
Sis. Hyacinth Taylor
Rev. Reuben Vessup
Sis. Joyce Walters



ANTIGUA CONFERENCE

Rev. Bonnie E.B.W. Smith (Sup't) *Provincial Director of Christian Edu.*
Minister of Christian Education
Lebanon (1838) Enon (1817)
Spring Gardens (1756)
Gracefield (1839) Bethany (1870)
Rev. Nevin Lewis
Cedar Hall (1822) Cashew Hill (1993)
Rev. Hilton Joseph
Gracehill (1773) Cana (1863)
Rev. Judy Winspeare-Philip (Assoc)
Gracebay (1797) Urlings (1987)
Rev. Denise Smith-Lewis
Potters Zion (1881) Judges Hill (1993)
Rev. Georgette John-Cotton
Greenbay (1845) Five Islands (1838)
Rev. Yvonne Jean
Rev. Kevin St. Hill
Rev. Dr. Joseph Nicholas
Sis. Kendrea Samuel-Francis
Treasurer



BARBADOS CONFERENCE

Rev. Ezra Parris (Sup't)
Rev. Dr. Cicely Athill-Horsford
Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith
Rev. Delroy Burley (Assoc)
Rev. Vera Waithe
Rev. Roslyn Hamblin
Rev. David Ince (Assoc)
Rev. Julie Joefield-Parris
Sis. Flo Jean-Marie
Sharon (1768) Dunscombe (1860)
Mount Tabor (1825) Penuel (1914)
Calvary (1834) Gracehill (1882) Fulnec (1894)
Clifton Hill (1841) Centenary (1866)
Bethlehem (1964) Faith (2018)
Minister of Christian Edu.
Treasurer



ST. KITTS CONFERENCE

Rev. Erwin Warner (Sup't) Bethesda (1819) New Dawn (2012)
Rev. Adelyn Mgonela Etridge (1839)
Rev. Onita Samuel-Warner Zion (1777) Bethel (1832)
Bro. Iyyn Williams Lay Pastor
Sis. Isilin Lewis Lay Pastor
Sis. Kerstin Petty Treasurer



TRINIDAD CONFERENCE

Rev. Dr. Patmore Smith (Sup't) *Provincial Director of Music*
Minister of Music
L'Anse Noire (1905)
Rosehill (1890)
Chaguanas (1894)
Sis. Marleen Browne
Memorial (1983)
Minister of Christian Education
Sis. Beverly Job
Treasurer



TOBAGO CONFERENCE

Rev. Nigel Daniel (Sup't) Spring Gardens (1851) Bethesda (1874)
Rev. Belinda Manswell-Daniel Buccoo (1996)
Rev. Esther Moore-Roberts Montgomery (1790) Minister of Christian Edu.
Rev. Daniel Mark Bon Accord (1861) Black Rock (1869)
Rev. Andrew Roberts Evangel (1989)
Rev. Liselle Roberts Moriah (1840) Minister of Christian Edu.
Sis. Marilyn Alexander-William Treasurer



VIRGIN ISLANDS CONFERENCE

Rev. Dr. Errol L. Connor (Ag. Sup't) Nisky (1771)
Rev. Vanlys Isaac (Assoc) Memorial (1843)
Rev. Dr. Cortroy Jarvis Faith (1999)
Rt. Rev. Dr. Conrad Spencer Friedensberg (1771)
Rev. Dr. Jeremy B. Francis Friedensthal (1755)
Rev. Alicia Ross-Floyd Friedensfeld (1801)
Rev. Walton Frederick New Herrnhut (1737)
Rev. Kirk Barker Emmaus (1783) Bethany (1754)
Rev. Elva Richards-Goodwin Lay Minister of Christian Education
Sis. Monique Richards Treasurer
Sis. Rena Warner-Francis



GRENADA MISSION

Rev. Devon Mannix



TRINITY MORAVIAN

Rev. Erfin Browne

2023 CALENDAR

"SHIFT: Reclaiming our Identity, Renewing our Purpose, and Re-igniting our Passion"

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
			01 - New Year's Day	06 - Epiphany		

FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				
			07 - Grenada's Independence	22 - Ash Wednesday		

MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
			05 - Unity Sunday	26 - Theological Education Sunday	31 - USVI Transfer Day	

ARRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
			07 - Good Friday	09 - Easter Sunday		

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
			18 - Ascension Day	28 - Pentecost		

JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
			04 - Trinity Sunday			

JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
			01 - Territorial Day of BVI Day			

AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		
			31 - Trinidad & Tobago Independence			

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			19 - St. Kitts & Nevis Independence	24 - Day of Prayer for Surviving Spouses		

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
			31 - Reformation Day			

NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
			01 - Antigua & Barbuda Independence	13 - Chief Elder Festival	30 - Barbados Independence	

DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
			25 - Christmas Day			

MORAVIAN MEMORIAL DAYS

Mar 1: The founding of the Unites Fratrum at Lititz, Bohemia, 1457.

Mar 26: The election of the first Minister of the Unites Fratrum, 1467. The Sun- day nearest March 26 is observed as a day of Prayer for Theological Education.

May 12: The signing of the Brotherly Agreement which marked the Renewal of the Unites Fratrum at Herrnhut, Saxony, 1727.

Jun 17: The founding of Herrnhut 1722.
Jul 6: The Martyrdom of John Hus, 1415.

Aug 13: The Manifestation of the Holy Spirit at Herrnhut, 1727.

Aug 17: The revival among the children of Herrnhut, 1707.
Aug 21: The departure of the first Moravian Missionaries from Herrnhut, 1732

Sep 16: the experience of Headship of Christ in the Moravian Church, 1741. This date is observed as Ministers' Covenant Day to renew their covenant with God and with one another.

Nov 13: The Proclamation of the Headship of Christ in the Moravian Church, 1741. (Christ as Chief Elder of the Moravian Church.)

Dec 13: The beginning of the Moravian Missions, St. Thomas, V. I., 1732