



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

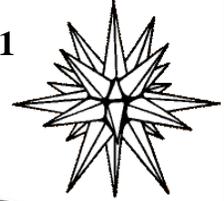
(Built by Slaves - 1799)

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When the time came to completion, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.
Galatians 4:4-5



Sunday, December 27, 2020

The First Sunday after Christmas Day

A Christmas Celebration

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: God, . . . Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son (Heb. 1:1 – 2). May we receive his message of love today and rejoice in God our Saviour. Welcome to all worshipping here today and those who join by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook.

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

*Associate Pastor:
Rev. Movelle Kellman*

WATCHWORD: But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as children.
(Galatians 4:4 – 5)

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



ORDER OF SERVICE



Organ Prelude

Introit

Liturgy for Christmas (p. 100, Liturgy Book / projected)

Welcome & Greetings

Adoration in Songs & Choruses

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

Recitation: “Where is Christmas” – Ciaune

Recitation: “Christmas is a Special Day” – Dayana

Song by Amaiya

Skit – Act 1: Hope

Recitation: “Good News” – Jarad

Skit – Act 2: Peace

Song: “Let there be Peace on Earth” – Congregation

Recitation: “Living Light” – Rhys

Song: “Beautiful Star of Bethlehem” – Choir

Skit – Act 3: Faith

Recitation: “Christmas Bells” – Asha

Recitation: “In the Stall” – Ahmir

Skit – Act 4: Joy

Hymn 47 – “Joy to the World” – Congregation

Skit – Act 5: Love

Recitation: “Christmas Morning” – Kyle

Song: “The Adoration” – Choir

Skit – Conclusion

Musical Rendition: “Mary Did You Know?” – Macario & Co.

Reflection – – Rev. Ezra Parris

Prayer of Commitment

Courtesies & Notices

Hymn 49 – “Go Tell It On the Mountain”

Benediction

Organ Postlude



CHRISTMAS

From the Caribbean Moravian Praise Liturgy Book, p. 101

All standing.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
For he has visited and redeemed his people.

The Dayspring from on high has visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness,
And to guide our feet into the way of peace.

For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given.

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW — # 51

**Today we celebrate the birth
Of Jesus Christ, who came on earth
To make himself as Saviour known,
And claim us sinners as his own.**

**Awake, my heart; my soul, arise;
Look who in yonder manger lies;
Who is that child, so poor and mean?
'Tis he who all things does sustain.**

**Immanuel, incarnate God,
Prepare my heart for thy abode:
O may I, through thy aiding grace,
In all I do, show forth thy praise.**

Martin Luther (1483 - 1546)

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that everyone who believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift.

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift.

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son that we might receive adoption as his children.

Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift.

And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts.

Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift.

Our eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples.

Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift.

O come, let us adore him, Christ our Lord.

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES — # 47

**O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, o come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the king of Angels:**

*O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.*

**Sing choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God
In the highest'.**

O come, let us adore him . . .

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing,**

O come, let us adore him . . .

Latin tr. Frederick Oakeley (1802-1880)

All standing.

Let us confess our faith:

In the beginning was the Word;

And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

All things came into being through him;

And without him not one thing came into being.

In him was life;

And the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness;

And the darkness did not overcome it.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him;

Yet the world did not know him.

He came to his own,

And his own people did not accept him.

But to all who received him, who believed in his name,

He gave power to become children of God.

The word became flesh and lived among us,

And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace,

For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, revealed to us through the Word made flesh,

Have mercy upon us.

Lord Jesus Christ, sharing our human form,

Have Mercy upon us,

Holy Spirit, revealed in all true fellowship,

Have mercy upon us.

For our dullness of vision,

For our weakness of faith,

For our joylessness,

Have mercy upon us.

For our preoccupation with the things of this world,

For our lack of fellowship with one another,

For our failure to enter into fellowship with you,

Have mercy upon us.

Eternal, faithful and just to forgive us our sins,

Have mercy upon us.

Lord God, you choose to live in the hearts of the lowly: we give thanks that you revealed yourself in the holy child Jesus, and that parenthood and infancy have been sanctified through his nativity. We thank you for the peace, goodwill and joy of this holy season; for the softening of hearts, and the promptings to forgive and forget past wrongs; for the grace and truth in our Lord's life, which revealed your true nature and what your children may

grow to be. Make us so simple in faith and love, that we may know the joy of the Gospel that is hidden from the wise and prudent, but revealed to little children. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ who, sharing our life, grew in wisdom and in divine and human favour.

Glory to God in the highest.

Father of all, at this time when the solitary are set in families, and wanderers and exiles think longingly of home, we think of you, the home of us all, where all are welcome. May kind thoughts find lodging in the hardest heart; may longing for purity be born in minds that are unclean; and may the lonely and the labouring hear the song of the angels.

Glory to God in the highest.

God of love, hear us as we remember those for whom the joys of this Christmas season will be shadowed: the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the bereaved, the lonely, the unloved, those who are ill and those who have no help May all who know your love show compassion and kindness, that having freely received they may also freely give, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Glory to God in the highest.

Heavenly Father, your will is that all people should live in peace and unity. Give to all the loving wisdom of Christ, that they may overcome all thoughts of malice, envy, greed, prejudice and selfishness. Increase among us people of goodwill so that there may truly be your peace on earth.

Glory to God in the highest.

Here all join to say the Lord's Prayer:

Let us pray as our Saviour has taught us:

***Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
The power and the glory,
For ever and ever.
Amen.***



Welcome & Greetings

God, . . . Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son (Heb. 1:1 – 2). May we receive his message of love today and rejoice in God our Saviour. Welcome to all worshipping here today and those who join by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook.



Blessing of Tithes & Offerings



Adoration In Songs & Choruses



- Recitation:** “*Where is Christmas*” – **Ciaune**
Recitation: “*Christmas is a Special Day*” – **Dayana**
Song by Amaiya
Skit – Act 1: Hope
Recitation: “*Good News*” – **Jarad**
Skit – Act 2: Peace
Song: “*Let there be Peace on Earth*” – **Congregation**

**Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be**

**With God as our father
Brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony**

**Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow**

**To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me**

- Recitation:** “*Living Light*” – **Rhys**

Song: “Beautiful Star of Bethlehem” – **Choir**
Skit – Act 3: Faith
Recitation: “Christmas Bells” – **Asha**
Recitation: “In the Stall” – **Ahmir**
Skit – Act 4: Joy
Hymn 47 – “Joy to the World” – **Congregation**

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.**

Skit – Act 5: Love
Recitation: “Christmas Morning” – **Kyle**
Song: “The Adoration” – **Choir**
Skit – Conclusion
Musical Rendition: “Mary Did You Know?” – **Macario & Co.**



Reflection – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Courtesies & Notices



Today: *Shamia Corbin & Merville Franklyn*

Advanced: *Curtis Drakes, Joan Lewis & Chanel Rock-Waithe (28th), Steven King & Edwin Sandiford (29th), Xolani Archer, Wendy Cadogan-Hoyte & Kerry Headley (31st)*



Congratulations to Bro. Terry & Sis. Norma Meek who are celebrating their 31st Wedding Anniversary today.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

Today: Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m.
Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (D. C. Moore Centre)
Thursday: Watch-Night Service at 10:30 p.m.
Friday: Public Holiday – New Year's Day
Next Sunday: Divine Worship & Holy Communion – 9:30 a.m.
Week of Prayer begins at 6:30 p.m.



ACTIVITIES IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2020:

✠ Watch-Night Service – Thursday, 31st, 10:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2021:

- ✠ Sunday School Teachers' Workshop – Saturday, 2nd
- ✠ Sharon / Dunscombe Week of Prayer Services – Sunday, 3rd to 9th, online.
- ✠ Conference Youth Workshop – Saturday, 9th
- ✠ Moravian Disciples Concert – Saturday 16th
- ✠ Moravian Church Barbados Conference at Prayer – Saturday, 23rd
- ✠ Annual Church Council – Sunday, 24th
- ✠ Harvest Festival at Centenary – Sunday, 24th



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. We say “Thank you” to those who supported our Missionary Festival held on Sunday, October 25, 2020. Rev Dr Mikie Roberts, Programme Executive for Spiritual Life and for Faith and Order at the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland delivered the Sermon with the theme, *Tell Just One*. To date, we have raised \$13,261.45 towards our target of \$18,000. We commend the groups and individuals who contributed to the effort in any way.
2. Flower Festival 2021: As 2020 draws to a close, we look with faith to a brighter 2021 in every area of our lives. We seek a renewal physically, spiritually and morally, and we pray for a Rebirth!
 - ✚ Hence the theme for the FLOWER FESTIVAL 2021 – REBIRTH! The Festival is scheduled for the weekend of June 12 – 13, 2021.
 - ✚ The Flower Festival Committee has met and plans are in progress. This is an invitation to ALL members and friends to once again sponsor and donate to this event. Sponsorship fees remain unchanged at \$300.00. We look forward to your support as before. All persons desirous of sponsoring – again or for the first time – should indicate by the end of December, so that a location can be reserved for you.
3. 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.
4. Flowers are needed for our church! You will find on the Notice Board next to the main door to the church, a roster in the shape of flower. You may sign up to indicate that you would (1) cover the cost to obtain flowers for the arrangements or (2) provide the complete arrangements, for a particular Sunday(s). Feel free to join with others to provide the flowers to celebrate your birthday(s) etc.
5. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

6. Remember our Basket of Hope Ministry. There are still those in our community that are in need of our assistance. You are invited each Sunday to make donations of non-perishable food items, which can be deposited in the basket placed at the rostrum (Altar).
7. Invite someone to get on board! Our Bus is back on Route on Sundays. The Route to and from Sharon remains: Quarry Road (8:30 a.m.), Redman's Village (8:35), Padmore Village (8:45), Melrose, Edge Hill Terrace (8:50), Canewood, Jackson Tenantry (9:00 a.m.), Sharon (9:05). Contributions to the Bus Fund are welcome. Envelopes are available from the vestry.



PRAYER NEEDS:



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

The Sick / Recovering: *Bro Sydney Gibson*



The Bereaved: *We express condolences to and pray for: Sis Shirley Hall and family on the passing of her mother, Sis Ottaline Hall. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held here at Sharon on Wednesday, December 30, 2020 commencing at 3:00 p.m.*



Closing Hymn: 49 –

*Go, Tell It On The Mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, Tell It On The Mountain
That Jesus Christ is born.*

**While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold, throughout the heavens,
There shone a holy light:**

**The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Saviour's birth.**

**Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation,
That blessèd Christmas morn.**



Benediction



Organ Postlude



AVAILABLE:

- **Moravian Daily Text 2021:**
 - American Regular Print Paperback Edition – \$24
 - American Large Print Paperback Edition – \$29
- **Offering Envelopes for 2021** – 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
- **On order from the Church Office, copies of Sunday sermons on CD** – \$2.00.
- **Greeting Cards (\$2.00) and Prints (\$20.00)** of a painting of Sharon Church from the Church Office.
- **Books by Rev. Neilson Waithe:** Understanding the Caribbean Worker– \$25.00; Provocation– \$20.
- **The Book, ‘Created in Their Image: *Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914*’** written by Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts. The cost is \$50.00.



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

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

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

✝ The Lectern Bible shall also be removed and lesson readers shall be asked to use their own Bible.

10. Infant Baptism, Confirmation, Dedication, laying on of hands or anointing have been suspended for the time being.
11. Windows and doors shall be kept open to allow for ventilation.
12. Attendees shall be asked to maintain the recommended social distance when leaving the building.
13. There shall be no congregating of worshippers inside or outside of the church, before or after service.



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.

