



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136



*The name of the Lord is a strong tower;
The righteous run to it and are safe.
Proverbs 18:10 (NKJV)*

Acts 10:42-43

42 And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. 43 To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Sunday, January 8, 2023

The First Sunday after Epiphany

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: Welcome is extended all – whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad – as we worship the one who alone is worthy of unmeasured praise. As we worship, may God make us more keenly aware of the love of God towards us and all people.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris

(Manse: 246-546-0344)

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

Email: sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164

WATCHWORD: A bruised reed he shall not break, and a dimly burning wick he shall not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.
(Isaiah 42:3)

Provincial Theme 2023:

***"SHIFT: Reclaiming Our Identity, Renewing Our Purpose,
and Re-Igniting Our Passion"***

ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Introit

Invitation to Worship (Psalm 29:1 – 2):

L: ¹ Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones, Give unto the LORD glory and strength.

C: ² *Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.*

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

Prayer of Invocation

Litany for Epiphany p. 106 – CMP Liturgy Book /Projected

Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *“Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.”*

(1 Chronicles 16:29)

Offertory Hymn: 82 – *“Who Is He, In Yonder Stall?”*

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Doxology: *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Greetings, Celebrations & Notices

Hymn 410 – *“God of Mercy, God of Grace”*

Ministry of the Word:

First Scripture Reading: Acts 10:34 – 43

Choir Anthem – *“Songs For The Journey”*

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:13 – 17

Hymn of Preparation: 186 – *“Jesus Calls Us; O’er the Tumult”*

The Sermon – *Rev. Ezra Parris*

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn – *“Shine Jesus, Shine”*

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; Re-post us.



Organ Prelude

Introit

Welcome

Invitation to Worship (Psalm 29:1 – 2):

Leader: ¹ Give unto the LORD, O you mighty ones, Give unto the LORD
glory and strength.

Congregation: ² *Give unto the LORD the glory due to His name; Worship the
LORD in the beauty of holiness.*



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.



Prayer of Invocation



EPIPHANY

All standing.

Tune: St. George

**From the vast and veiled throng,
Round the Father's heavenly throne,
Swells the everlasting song:
Glory be to God alone!
Round Immanuel's cross of pain
Mortal men, in tribes unknown,
Sing to him who once was slain:
Glory be to God alone!**

**Blend ye raptured songs, in one,
Men redeemed, your Father own;
Angels, worship ye the Son:
Glory be to God alone;**

**Spirit, 'tis within thy light,
Streaming far from cross and throne,
Earth and heaven their songs unite:
Glory be to God alone!**

Hervey Ganse (1822 – 1891)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, hear us.

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.*

Lord God, Son, thou Saviour of the world,

Be gracious unto us.

Lord God, Holy Ghost,

Abide with us for ever.

This is a trustworthy saying and everyone should accept it: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;"

Of whom I am chief.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Blessing, and honour, and glory and power belong to the one sitting on the throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever.

Tune: Crüger

**Arabia's desert ranger
To him shall bow the knee;
The Ethiopian stranger
His glory come to see:
With offerings of devotion
Ships from the isles shall meet,
To pour the wealth of ocean
In tribute at his feet.**

**Kings shall fall down before him,
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him,
His praise all people sing;
For he shall have dominion
O'er river, sea, and shore,
Far as the eagle's pinion,
Or dove's light wing, can soar.**

James Montgomery (1771 – 1854)

How beautiful on the mountain are the feet of the messenger who brings good news – good news of peace and salvation.

Their message has gone throughout the earth, and the Word to all the world.

The Lord gives the Word:

And a great army brings the Good News.

Wake up and look around, the fields are already ripe for harvest.

The harvest is great, but the workers are few.

So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into the field.

The Lord says, O Jerusalem I have posted watchmen on your walls; they will pray night and day continually; take no rest, all you who pray to the Lord.

Look and see for everyone is coming home!

Your sons are coming from distant lands; your little daughters will be carried home.

Arise, let your light shine for all to see;

For the glory of the Lord rises to shine on you.

The same star that led the Wise Men to the Christ Child, similarly lingers before us to guide God's people to the Saviour of the world.

May God's people, like the Wise Men, rejoice greatly when they see the star and find the Saviour.

For God has elevated him to the place of highest honour and given him the name above all other names.

At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth.

Yes, let every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Tune: Wie Schön Leuchtet Der Morgenstern

How bright appears the Morning Star

With mercy beaming from afar;

The host of heaven rejoices;

O righteous branch, O Jesse's rod,

Thou Son of man, and Son of God.

We too will lift our voices.

Jesus, Jesus,

Holy, holy, yet most lowly,

Draw thou near us;

Great Immanuel stoop and hear us.

John C. Jacobi a. (1670 – 1750)

All seated.

Let us pray:

Bless, O Lord, ours and all other Christian congregations; keep them as the apple of your eye.

Let them be a light unto those who sit in darkness, and in the region and shadow of death.

Have mercy on your ancient covenant people; deliver them from their blindness, and bring all nations to your saving knowledge.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Let the wanderers come – from the West, and from the East.

And from the North, and from the South.

Thou Light and Desire of all nations, watch over thy messengers both by land and sea. Accompany the word of their testimony concerning thy atonement with

demonstration of the Spirit and of power. Thou knowest where they dwell, and wherein they labour; and that they are keeping the word of thy patience. In the hour of temptation do thou keep them and let thy holy name be named upon them. Preserve them in times of danger and distress. Let them find comfort in the fellowship and intercession of the churches, which have sent them forth in obedience to thy call. May the fire of thy love awaken and preserve amongst us the spirit of the great cloud of witnesses, who loved not their life unto the death. Bless us all, both them and us, and make of us a blessing. Amen.

All standing.

Tune: Bishopgarth

**Almighty Lord, whose sovereign right
Extends o'er every nation,
We bless thee for the gospel light
That brought to us salvation.
And unto thee we raise our prayer
For all in darkness dwelling;
That they with us thy light may share,
With us thy praise be telling.**

**And hear us as we call on thee
For all the truth possessing,
That they may ever ready be
To share the heavenly blessing;
To send to earth's remotest shore
The gladdening gospel story,
That all the nations may adore
Jesus, the King of glory.**

Evelyn R. Hasse (1855 – 1918)



WORSHIP IN TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory Sentence: *“Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.”*

(1 Chronicles 16:29)

Offertory Hymn: 82 –

Who is he, in yonder stall,
At whose feet the shepherds fall?

*'Tis the Lord! O wondrous story!
'Tis the Lord! the King of glory!
At his feet we humbly fall;
Crown him, crown him, Lord of all.*

Who is he in yonder cot,
Bending to his toilsome lot?

Who is He in deep distress,
Fasting in the wilderness?

Who is he that stands and weeps
At the grave where Lazarus sleeps?

Lo! at midnight, who is he
Prays in dark Gethsemane?

Who is he in Calvary's throes
Asks for blessings on his foes?

Who is He that from the grave
Comes to heal and help and save?

Who is he that from his throne
Rules through all the worlds alone?



Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.



Greetings, Celebrations & Notices



Hymn 410 –

God of mercy, God of grace,
Show the brightness of thy face;
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
Fill thy Church with light divine;
And thy saving health extend
Unto earth's remotest end.

Let the people praise thee, Lord;
Be by all that live adored;
Let the nations shout and sing
Glory to their Saviour King;
At thy feet their tribute pay,
And thy holy will obey.

Let the people praise thee, Lord;
Earth shall then her fruits afford;
God to man his blessing give,
Man to God devoted live;
All below and all above,
One in joy, and light, and love.



MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Scripture Reading: Acts 10:34 – 43

34. Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:
35. But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.
36. The word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)
37. That word, I say, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;
38. How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

39. And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:
40. Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;
41. Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.
42. And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead.
43. To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.



Choir Anthem – “Songs For The Journey”



Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 3:13 – 17

13. Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him.
14. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?
15. And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him.
16. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:
17. And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.



Hymn of Preparation: 186 –

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

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

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

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

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



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Closing Hymn –

Lord the light of your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus light of the world shine upon us
Set us free by the truth you now bring us
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine Jesus shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze spirit blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow river flow,
Flood the nations with peace and mercy,
Send forth your word,
Lord and let there be light.*

Lord I come to your awesome presence
From the shadow into your radiance
By your blood I now enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me.



The Benediction



Organ Postlude

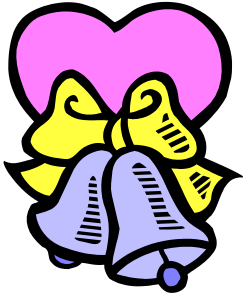


Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Welcome is extended all – whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad – as we worship the one who alone is worthy of unmeasured praise. As we worship, may God make us more keenly aware of the love of God towards us and all people.



Advanced: Sheridan Greaves & Cynthia Waithe (10th), Lorna Bryan (11th), Florina Scantlebury, Sheila Small & Mauricia Springer (12th), Tiandra Gill (13th), Joy Best & Rhys Hoyte (14th)



Congratulations to:

- 🔔 Bro. Victor & Sis. Maria Carrington who will celebrate their 7th Wedding Anniversary on January 9, 2023;*
- 🔔 Bro. Calvison & Sis. Dawn Maynard who will celebrate their 4th Wedding Anniversary on January 12, 2023;*
- 🔔 Bro. Lawrence & Sis. Cynthia Moore who will celebrate their 62nd Wedding Anniversary on January 14, 2023.*

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 at 9:30 a.m.
 - ✝ Sunday School (All Ages) – 9:30 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre
- ✝ 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.
 - ✝ Meeting of the Board of Stewards 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.
 - ✝ Sunday School (all ages) – 9:30 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre



In the Month of January 2023:

- ✠ Annual Church Council – Sunday, 22nd
- ✠ Harvest at Centenary – Sunday, 22nd
- ✠ Moravian Church Barbados Conference at Prayer – Saturday, 28th
- ✠ Moravian Disciples Concert – Saturday 28th



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. We will be holding a fund-raising Concert featuring the Barbados Police Service Band on Saturday, February 11, 2023. Tickets are available at \$25.00 each. Please mark the date on your calendar. We look forward to your support.
2. From the provincial board of administration (P.E.C):
 - ✠ The Provincial Family extends condolences to the family of the late Mrs. Andrea Charles-Browne who died on December 25, 2022. Sis. Charles-Browne served on the Provincial Board from 1996-2001 and was a member of the Ebenezer (Estridge) Moravian Church in St. Kitts and the Battle Hill Community Moravian Church in Union, New Jersey, USA. The funeral service for Sis. Andrea Charles-Browne will take place on Friday, January 13, 2023 at Ebenezer Estridge Moravian Church in St. Kitts. Please remember in prayer, Sis. Andrea's husband, Dave and their children Daveda, Andrae, Phoenetia, Ezer, and Angelina.
 - ✠ The Provincial Board announces the appointment of Rev. Nigel Daniel as the Superintendent of the Moravian Church, Tobago Conference, effecting January 1, 2023. Congratulations to Bro. Daniel on his appointment. Let us pray for Bro. Daniel and family as he continues to serve in this office. May the Spirit of God instruct him and teach him as he leads the people of God and witnesses to the enabling power of God.
3. 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.

4. 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



Provincial Theme 2023:

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

“Broadly speaking, renewing identity speaks of who we are as Christ-followers; renewing our purpose speaks to why the church exists; re-igniting our passion speaks to our willingness to share our faith with others. – Chairman of PEC



PRAYER NEEDS:



1. Our Shut-ins: *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Bro. Royle Deane, Sis. Thora Moore*
2. The Sick/Recovering:
† Of our congregation: *Sis. Ruth Bishop, Sis. Andilla Haynes, Sis. Marva Craigwell, Bro. Athelston Lawrence, Sis. Cynthia Eversley, Sis. Norma Nicholls*
3. The Bereaved: *We express condolences to and pray for: Sis. Maureen Chase and family on the passing of her son.*
4. World Peace



AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

- † 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.
- † Missionary Collection Boxes 2023 – 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: 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.

