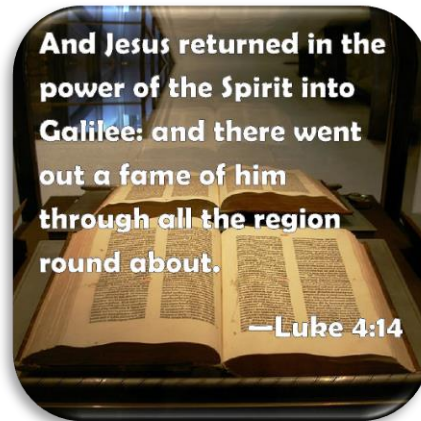


SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves – 1799)
Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136



Sunday, January 26, 2025
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
9:30 a.m.

Welcome: Greetings to you in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. We pray God that as we worship, the unmeasurable love of God will stir our hearts to greater love and devotion. Welcome.

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

Associate Pastor: Rev. David Ince

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

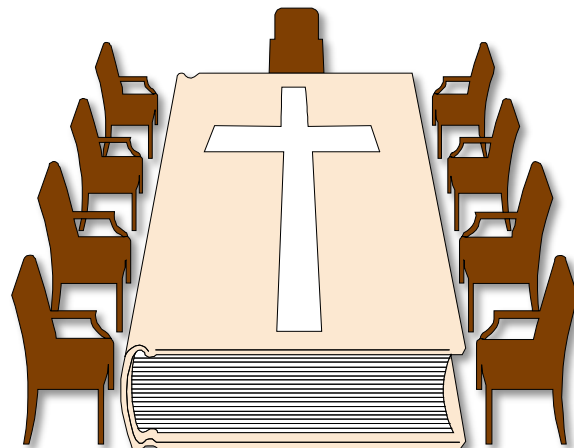
Email: sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164

Provincial Theme 2025:

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

COUNCIL MEETING



**WATCHWORD: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.** *(Psalm 19:14)*



ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship: Psalm 33:1 – 3

L: Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.

C: *Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.*

All: *Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise.*

Hymn 28 – “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving

Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. (1 Corinthians 12:4 – 6)*

Offertory Hymn: 244 – “Redeemed, How I Love to Proclaim It”

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

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

Greetings, Celebrations & Notices:

Adoration in Song

Ministry of the Word:

Scripture Reading: Luke 4:14 – 21

Choir Anthem – “O Love of God”

Sermon – –Rev. Ezra Parris

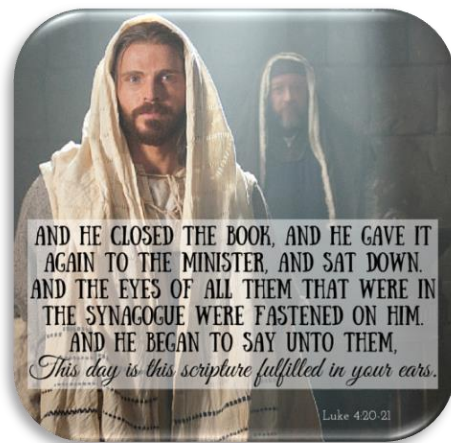
Prayer of Commitment and Intercession

Hymn 440 – “Ye That Know the Lord Is Gracious”

Church Council

The Doxology

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.



Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship: Psalm 33:1 – 3

L: Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.

C: *Praise the LORD with harp: sing unto him with the psaltery and an instrument of ten strings.*

All: *Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise.*



Opening Hymn: 28 –

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To his feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like thee his praise should sing?
Praise him, praise him,
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise him, still the same for ever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless:
Praise him, praise him,
Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes:
Praise him, praise him,
Widely as his mercy flows.

Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
Blows the wind and it is gone;
But, while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on:
Praise him, praise him,
Praise the high eternal One.

Angels, help us to adore him;
Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him;
Dwellers all in time and space,
Praise him, praise him,
Praise with us the God of grace.



Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving



Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. (1 Corinthians 12:4 – 6)*

Offertory Hymn: 244 –

Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed through His infinite mercy,
His child, and forever I am.

*Redeemed, redeemed, Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb;
Redeemed, redeemed, His child, and forever I am.*

Redeemed, and so happy in Jesus,
No language my rapture can tell;
I know that the light of His presence
With me doth continually dwell.

I think of my blessed Redeemer,
I think of Him all the day long;
I sing, for I cannot be silent;
His love is the theme of my song.

I know I shall see in His beauty
The King in whose law I delight;
Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps
And giveth me songs in the night.



Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & 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.*



Greetings, Celebrations & Notices



Adoration in Song



Ministry of the Word

Scripture Reading: Luke 4:14 – 21

14. And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about.
15. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all.
16. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.
17. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,
18. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,
19. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.
20. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him.
21. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.



Choir Anthem – “O Love of God”



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn 440 –

Ye that know the Lord is gracious,
Ye for whom a corner-stone
Stands, of God elect and precious,
Laid that ye may build thereon,
See that on that sure foundation
Ye a living temple raise,
Towers that may tell forth salvation,
Walls that may re-echo praise.

Living stones, by God appointed
Each to his allotted place,
Kings and priests, by God anointed,
Shall ye not declare his grace?
Ye, a royal generation,
Tell the tidings of your birth,
Tidings of a new creation
To an old and weary earth.

Tell the praise of him who called you
Out of darkness into light,
Broke the fetters that enthralled you,
Gave you freedom, peace and sight:
Tell the tale of sins forgiven,
Strength renewed and hope restored,
Till the earth, in tune with heaven,
Praise and magnify the Lord.



Church Council



Doxology



Organ Postlude



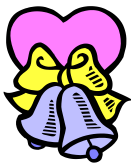
Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Greetings to you in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. We pray God that as we worship, the unmeasurable love of God will stir our hearts to greater love and devotion. Welcome.



Today: Judy Baird-Archer (Canada)

Advanced: Tyson Babb, Candace Barker, Kanessa Greenidge & Nicholas Waithe (27th), Debbie Greaves (30th), Trevor Campbell (31st)



Congratulations to Bro. Victor Hurdle & Sis. Sylvia Arthur-Hurdle who are celebrating their Wedding Anniversary today.



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 & Church Council at 9:30 a.m.**
 - † **Adventures in Worship (All ages) – 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre**

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 Sanctuary at 3:30 p.m. All other Tuesdays: Online via Zoom at 6:00 p.m.**
- † Wednesday: **Bible Study – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom. Meeting ID: 861 4335 8604 / Passcode: 244093.**
- † Friday: **Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.**
- † Saturday: **Provincial Day of Prayer – online at 6:00 a.m.**
- † Next Sunday: **Divine Worship, Installation of Officers & Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.**



Activities in the Month of January 2025:

- † **Annual Church Council – Sunday, 26th**
- † **Harvest at Centenary – Sunday, 26th**
- † **PEC and Superintendents Conference – 27th – 31st in Antigua.**



Activities in the Month of February 2025:

- † **Provincial Day of Prayer – Saturday, 1st online at 6:00 a.m. As we pray for the work of the Province, our focus will be on strategic initiatives such as Project Eirene, the Moravian Institute, and the Provincial Theme.**
- † **Harvest Festival at Fulnec – Sunday, 2nd, 8:00 a.m.**
- † **Friendship Week at Sharon – Sunday, 2nd to Sunday 9th.**
- † **Sharon's 225th Anniversary Dinner & Gala – Saturday, 8th at the Hilton. 6:00 p.m.**
- † **Sharon's 225th Anniversary Celebrations Closing Service – Sunday, 9th, 9:30 a.m. Members are encouraged to wear their Sharon Anniversary shirts. Those who do not have can wear their usual Sharon shirt if they desire.**
- † **Harvest Festival at Calvary – Sunday, 9th**
- † **Women's Prayer & Fasting – Saturday, 15th**
- † **Harvest Festival at Dunscombe – Sunday, 16th at 3:30 p.m.**

- † Conference Fundraising Fish Fry – Saturday, 22nd at the D. C. Moore Centre.
- † Black Heritage Sunday – 23rd. Come in your Afro wear. Celebrate our identity and heritage.
- † Harvest Festival at Clifton Hill – Sunday, 23rd



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. We are celebrating 225 years since the laying of the cornerstone here at Sharon. Upcoming events being planned include:
 - † Anniversary Dinner & Gala – February 8, 2025, at the Hilton. Dinner – \$200. **Tickets are available.**
 - † Closing Service – February 9, 2025
- † We have launched a “225 for 225” drive, in which we ask persons to donate \$225 or multiples of \$225 towards the continuing work of the church. You don’t have to give it all at once, you can fill the envelope over time and bring it in at your convenience. We look forward to your participation in our “225 for 225” drive. **Envelopes are available for collection.** For 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. Pay to: *Biller – The Moravian Church, Account No – 1765-1768-0000, Name – Sharon Moravian Church.* A specimen of the envelope is displayed below.



2. If you plan to claim on contributions to our church when filing your 2024 Income Tax Return, please make a request and submit your TAMIS Number, so that a statement can be forwarded to the Barbados Revenue Authority on your behalf. Please send an email to sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com or call the Church Office during Office Hours.
3. From the Provincial Board:

- ✠ The Provincial Board and Superintendents will meet in Antigua for their annual meeting from January 27 – 31, 2025. The Provincial Board will meet January 27, 30, and 31 while the meeting with Superintendents will be January 28 & 29. Please pray for our deliberations.
- ✠ March 2, 2025, is Unity Sunday. At this time of year, we remember the birth of the Unitas Fratrum, the Moravian Church, on March 1, 1457 (568 years ago). Please continue to pray for the work and witness of our Church. A special Unity offering will be taken in all Moravian Churches worldwide on Sunday March 2, 2025. The Unity Offering for 2025 will be used to fund the Common Moravian Theological Education Curriculum. Details of the project are attached.
- ✠ The Unity Prayer Watch is a special service to the world, offered by the worldwide Moravian Church. The Eastern West Indies Province will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch from April 03 – April 17, 2025. The Schedule is as follows:
 - ✠ Tobago – 12 a.m. April 3 – 11:59 a.m. April 5, 2025
 - ✠ St. Kitts & The Grenada Mission – 12 p.m. April 5 – 11:59 p.m. April 7, 2025
 - ✠ Trinidad – 12 a.m. April 8 – 11:59 a.m. April 9, 2025
 - ✠ Barbados – 12 p.m. April 9 – 11:59 p.m. April 11, 2025
 - ✠ Antigua – 12 a.m. April 12 – 11:59 p.m. April 14, 2025
 - ✠ Virgin Islands – 12 a.m. April 15 – 11:59 p.m. April 17, 2025
- ✠ Conferences are asked to use creative and innovative ways to observe the time allotted for our members to participate in this unbroken prayer chain.
- ✠ This prayer meeting began on August 13, 1727, when the Moravian Church had its Pentecost experience. Prayer is still a vital part of our walk with God and the life of the church. Let us therefore be in readiness for this prayer event as we continue to seek God’s guidance and direction for our Church, the world, and ourselves.
- ✠ The 34th Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province will be held in the Trinidad Conference in July 2025. The Synod will be both virtual and in-person. Synod will convene virtually on May 15, 2025, and June 12, 2025, to conduct housekeeping matters and to receive reports. The in-person sessions will be held from July 10 – 16, 2025 in Trinidad, with the 10th and 16th being travels days.
- ✠ The Congregations of the Province are being asked to cover the fees and costs of their Pastor(s)/Clergy Delegate(s) as usual. The estimated cost per delegate from Barbados is BD\$3,000, covering a Synod Fee of US\$1,000 and travel cost from Barbados to Trinidad of approximately BD \$1,000.

† The election of delegates is scheduled for Sunday, March 9, 2025, in the congregations of the Conference. Pastors have been asked to begin the process of having the Joint Board nominate one person from their congregation.

† As per the Book of Order (Paragraph 4.17), members of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province may submit proposals on any aspect of our church’s life, for resolution at the 34th Provincial Synod. Proposals should be seconded by a member of the Moravian Church and submitted to the Conference Office by February 14th, for consideration by the Island Conference and further submission to the Provincial Office by April 15, 2025.

† Please begin to make preparations and to pray for the Synod.

4. The assignment of Elders Districts is as follows:

| No. | DISTRICT | ELDERS |
|-----|--|------------------------|
| 1 | Edgehill Rd., Near Sharon, Upper Jackson. | Sis. Ismay Straker |
| 2 | Cane Garden, Cane Garden Park, Cane Garden New Development, Cane Garden Crescent, Cane Garden Heights. | Bro. Anthony Ifill |
| 3 | Lower Jackson, 1 st Avenue Jackson, Browne’s Gap, Arthur Seat (W – West of Quarry Rd. to Warrens). | Bro. Edwin Sandiford |
| 4 | Canewood Rd., Lears Corner, St. George, St. John, Christ Church, Brittons Hill. | Sis. Ismay Straker |
| 5 | Bridgefield, Whitehall – St. T, Hopewell, Bloomsbury. | Sis. Merville Franklyn |
| 6 | Jackson Terrace, Jackson Tenantry, Arsenal Playing Field Rd. | Sis. Carmel Downes |
| 7 | Arthur Seat (East – Quarry Rd to Melrose Cnr.) | Sis. Ingrid Ibrahim |
| 8 | Melrose, Arthur Seat (Central), Welches, Padmore Village. | Sis. Denise Grant |
| 9 | Edgehill Terrace, Edgehill Heights, Shop Hill, Content, Spring Farm, Farm Path, White Hill Terrace, Hillaby. | Sis. Lelia Gibbs |
| 10 | Eden Lodge, Under Lodge Hill, White Hall – St. M, Cave Hill, Grazettes, Codrington Hill, Spooners Hill, Green Hill. | Bro. Steven King |
| 11 | Friendship Terrace, Lodge Hill, Rock Dundo Park, Farm Rd., Clermont, Lodge Terrace, Mahaica Gap. | Sis. Veronica Leacock |
| 12 | Black Rock, Fitts Village, West Terrace, Oxnards, Wanstead Heights & Gardens, Husbands, Hinds Hill, Thorpes, Holders Hill, Hoytes Village, Prior Park. | Sis. Cora Cumberbatch |
| 13 | Warrens, Welches – North, Redman’s Village, Bagatelle, Baywoods, Bakers Woods, Mt. Brevitor. | Sis. Hazel Carter |

5. We have resumed the “Basket of Hope” ministry. Each Sunday you are invited to make contributions of non-perishable food items, which will be

distributed to those in need. Contributions can be made during the offertory hymn. We are appealing for volunteers to provide the needed management and helping-hands for this ministry. Please let the Pastors know of your interest.

6. We are thankful for your financial support.

† 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.

7. 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

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



The Past 225 Years



40. The Sharon Primary School is one of the two primary schools remaining that still bear its original Moravian name. It has only shifted its location on the compound. The other School is Mount Tabor. Ironically, Mount Tabor is celebrating a major anniversary this year – it's 200th. Both schools still remain closely connected to the church.



PRAYER NEEDS:



1. **Our Shut-ins:** *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Sis. Vernice Alberta Osbourne*
2. **The Sick/Recovering:**
 - ✠ *Of our congregation: Sis. Ansonia Cox-Burgess, Sis. Zelia Kellman, Sis. Shanna King (USA)*
3. **The Bereaved:** *We express condolences to and we pray for*
 - ✠ *Sis. Margaret Haynes, Bro. Steven King and the entire family on the passing of her brother, Carl Hoyte. A Service of Thanksgiving for his life will be held here at Sharon on Thursday, January 30, 2025 commencing at 3:00 p.m.*
 - ✠ *Sis. Shirley Blackman and family on the passing of Sis. Tara Blackman. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held here at Sharon on Saturday, February 1, 2025 commencing at 9:00 a.m.*
4. *The Davis family on the passing of Sis. Ursulene Davis.*
5. **World Peace**



AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

- ✠ **Missionary Collection Boxes 2025** – 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
- ✠ **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.**



Provincial Theme 2025

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

The focus for 2025 will be: Re-igniting our passion; for souls, service, and sustainability.

“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



**OUR LAMB HAS CONQUERED
LET US FOLLOW HIM**

\$35

THE MORAVIAN CHURCH BARBADOS CONFERENCE

**ANNUAL
FISH FRY
&
KARAOKE
FUNDRAISER**

**22 FEBRUARY 2025
1:00 – 5:00 PM**

SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH GROUNDS
SHARON, ST. THOMAS

CONTACT: BRO. GLYNE ST. HILL