

SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves - 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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Sunday, June 20, 2021

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Fathers Day

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: A warm welcome is extended to all, especially men and Fathers, as we celebrate Father's Day – a day when we say thanks to God for our Fathers and for their good influence upon our lives. May God bless our men today. Welcome.

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

Associate Pastor:
Rev. Movelie Kellman

WATCHWORD: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever.

(Psalm 107:1)

**Provincial Theme 2021: "Advance the Kingdom:
S.H.I.F.T."**





ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Introit

Call to Worship: Psalms 107:8 – 9

Leader: Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!

Congregation: *For He satisfies the longing soul, And fills the hungry soul with goodness.*

Hymn 351 – “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Litany for Men and Fathers (Liturgy Book, p. 214 /Projected)

Video Presentation

Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Songs & Choruses

Blessing of Tithes & Offerings

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:11 – 24

Choir Anthem – “You Raise Me Up”

Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris

Hymn 295 – “O Loving Lord”

Prayer of Commitment and Intercession

Hymn 312 – “Stand Up! Stand Up For Jesus”

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.



Call to Worship: Psalms 107:8 – 9

Leader: Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!

Congregation: *For He satisfies the longing soul, And fills the hungry soul with goodness.*



Opening 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!



MEN AND FATHERS

All standing.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His steadfast love endures forever.

O that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men.

Tune: St Magnus - # 123

O thou whose feet have climbed life's hill,
And trod the path of youth,
Our Saviour and our Brother still,
Now lead us into truth.

The call is thine, be thou the Way,
And give us men to guide;

**Let wisdom broaden with the day,
Let human faith abide.**

Louis F. Benson (1855 – 1930)

Blessed is the man that fears the Lord; that walks in His way.

For he shall eat the fruits of his hands: happy shall he be, and it shall be well with him.

His wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of his house: and his children like olive plants round about his table.

Behold, thus shall the man be blessed that fears the Lord.

All seated.

Let us pray:

For men who have demonstrated that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;

For men who would follow your example of love;

For men who would be your disciples;

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For men who have been respectful sons, such that they continue to be respectable parents;

For men who would be true to you, and, as faithful fathers, give good examples to the young;

For men who serve as loving and supportive husbands;

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For men who have experienced the living Lord as Saviour;

For men who have sought to live their lives as transformed by Christ;

For men who would answer your call to service;

For men who seek to lead others to discipleship;

We give you thanks, O Lord.

O Christ our ever-living Lord, the Perfect Man who dwelt among us here on earth, we thank you for your example of righteous living and humble service. Grant your grace that all men may live such redeemed lives, and may, in like manner, be committed to service. Help them to take up their responsibilities with boldness and seriousness. Show them how to fulfill their charge – to lead their families and to serve their communities. Help them to love as you have loved, and to discipline as you discipline. Cause them to cooperate with you in their service to this world. Finally, grant unity and harmony in all our families and in the family of God; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our perfect example. *Amen.*

We praise you for the example of David, who prayed for his sick child.

May all men be imbued with such faith to call on you in our distress.

We praise you for Jairus, who believed that Jesus was able to heal his daughter.

May all men be imbued with such faith and believe that Christ Jesus can do all things.

We praise you for the faith of the Prodigal's father, who could love his wayward son and receive him on his return;

May all men be imbued with such faith that they may love unconditionally.

We praise you for the faith of Abraham, who could trust God's faithfulness to the point where he could obediently offer his son as a sacrifice to God;

May all men be imbued with such faith and take you at your word.

We especially praise you for Joseph, who was willing to serve as father to our Lord, the Christ; and for his commitment to serve as husband to Mary, even in the most challenging of circumstances.

May all men be imbued with such undaunted faith that allows them to accept your will for them.

All standing.

Tune: Carlisle – # 271

**Rise up, O men of God!
Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and soul and mind and strength
To serve the King of kings.**

**Rise up, O men of God!
The Church for you doth wait:
Her strength unequal to her task;
Rise up and make her great.**

William P. Merrill (1867 – 1954)

God is seeking men:
who are larger than their vocations;
who will put character above wealth;
whose word is their bond.

May such men be found amongst us.

God is seeking men:
who will not compromise their values;
who will be honest in all things – great and small;
who will not lose their identity in a crowd.

May such men be found amongst us.

God is seeking men:
who would be faithful stewards in parenting, even as He is;
who will love children as they love themselves;
who will depend upon the Holy Spirit for guidance, even as they guide the young;
who will, by God's standards, be good exemplars to all children.

May such men be found amongst us.

God is seeking men who would follow Christ Jesus wherever He may lead, and fulfil His command to 'feed My lambs'.

Men: *O Lord, make me this kind of man.*

Women: *O Lord, help our men to be this kind of man.*

Children: *O Lord, may our fathers be men like these.*

All: *O Lord, may such men be found amongst us, we humbly pray. In the name of Jesus. Amen.*

Remain standing.

Let us pray:

*Lord, we confess that we have not always been the type of persons you desire. We have sometimes failed to live up to our responsibility as men or to support our men in their efforts to please you. As children, we have often inadvertently caused our parents distress. As a community we have often compromised our men. Forgive us, O Lord, and grant us your aid to be victorious in all our endeavours, so that all men may reach their fullest potential in you, This we ask of you, the Perfect Father, in the name of Christ, the Victorious Son. **Amen.***

Tune: Judges Hill (# 229 in CMP. See Tune Supplement)

I'm yours O Lord! Completely yours!

Saturate me with your word.

O let me feel you're always near.

I desire to walk with you,

Don't let me go astray.

Lord I give you all my heart in full surrender.

O use me Lord, to do your will;

I will go Lord where you lead,

To feed the poor and heal the wounds;

To restore a broken world in faith,

I make my pledge.

I will serve with all my heart,

So give me strength and grace

2008. Ulston P. Smith



Video Presentation



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices



Adoration in Songs & Choruses



Blessing of Tithes & Offerings



Ministry of the Word

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:11 – 24

- 11 And he said, A certain man had two sons:
- 12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.
- 13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.
- 14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.
- 15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.
- 16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.
- 17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!
- 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,
- 19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.
- 20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.
- 21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.
- 22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:
- 23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:
- 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.



Choir Anthem – “*You Raise Me Up*”



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Hymn 295 –

O loving Lord, who art for ever seeking
Men of thy mind, intent to do thy will,
Strong in thy strength, thy power and grace bespeaking,
Faithful to thee, through good report and ill.

To thee we come, and humbly make confession,
Faithless so oft, in thought and word and deed,
Asking that we may have, in true possession,
Thy free forgiveness in the hour of need.

In duties small be thou our inspiration,
In large affairs endue us with thy might;
Through faithful service cometh full salvation;
So may we serve, thy will our chief delight.

Not so disobedient to the heavenly vision,
Faithful in all things, seeking not reward,
So, following thee, may we fulfil our mission,
True to ourselves, our brethren, and our Lord.



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn 312 –

Stand up! stand up for Jesus! Ye soldiers of the cross;
Lift high his royal banner, it must not suffer loss.
From victory unto victory his army shall he lead,
Till every foe is vanquished, and Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up! stand up for Jesus! the trumpet call obey;
Forth to the mighty conflict in this His glorious day!
Ye that are men, now serve him against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.

**Stand up! stand up for Jesus! stand in his strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you, ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the Gospel armour, each piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls or danger, be never wanting there!**

**Stand up! stand up for Jesus! the strife will not be long;
This day the noise of battle, the next the victor's song.
To him that overcometh, a crown of life shall be;
He with the King of Glory shall reign eternally.**



The Benediction



Organ Interlude



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

A warm welcome is extended to all, especially men and Fathers, as we celebrate Fathers Day – a day when we say thanks to God for our Fathers and for their good influence upon our lives. May God bless our men today. Welcome.



Advanced: Jerome Gittens & George Best (22nd), John Chandler (24th), Tahlia Miller (25th), Mavis Sandiford (26th)



Congratulations to Bro. Edwin & Sis. Grace Sandiford who will celebrate their 24th Wedding Anniversary on June 21, 2021.

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.**



Flowers today were donated by Bro. George Best in celebration of his birthday

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

- † **TODAY:** Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m.
- † **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).
- † **Wednesday:** Bible Study –6:00 p.m. online via Zoom
- † **Friday:** Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 p.m.
- † **Next Sunday:** Divine Worship & Infant Baptism – 9:30 a.m.



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. On the First Sunday in July the Moravian Church in Barbados will hold its Annual Convention as we commemorate the martyrdom of John Hus and reflect on the convictions that gave rise to the Moravian Church. We will gather online for prayer on the day before, Saturday, July 3 at 6:00 am. Then on Sunday, July 4, at 9:30 am we gather in-sanctuary at the Calvary Moravian Church on Roebuck Street for worship, including Holy Communion. COVID-19 protocols will be observed. Two online sessions will be held in the afternoon at 4:00 pm for leaders and the general membership. Please spread the word and plan to join us on Sunday, July 4, 2021 for our Annual Convention.
2. The Church Choir will host a fundraiser in aid of Organ repairs on Saturday July 17, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. The programme's theme is "Pulling Out The Stops" and will see no fewer than ten (10) organists showcasing their skills. Admission is \$20.00. Please note that all COVID protocols will be observed during this programme.
3. The Provincial Board makes the following announcements:
 - † The Rev. Elva Richards-Goodwin who currently serves as the pastor of the Greenbay and Five Islands Congregations in the Antigua Conference, has accepted a call to serve as the Pastor of the Bethany and Emmaus Congregations on St. John in the Virgin Islands Conference. This call takes effect from August 1, 2021.
 - † The Rev. Dr. Joseph Nicholas who has been on secondment to the Moravian Church in North America, Southern Province since 2001, has accepted a call to serve as the Pastor of the Greenbay and Five Islands Congregations in the Antigua Conference. This call takes effect from September 1, 2021.
 - † Please pray for Sis. Richards-Goodwin and Bro. Nicholas and their families as they prepare to assume these calls. These calls are subject to adjustments due to COVID-19 pandemic realities.
4. The Moravian Church Provincial family expresses condolences to the following:
 - † Bishop Kingsley Lewis and Sis. Maureen Lewis on the death of Sis. Lewis' brother, Dr. Hugo Francis Murchison Reid, who died on June 1, 2021 in Trinidad. He was cremated on June 8, 2021.
 - † Rev. Wellesley Ferguson on the death of wife, Sis. Valarie Ferguson, on June 17, 2021 in New York. Bro. Ferguson expresses thanks to the Province in general and the Conferences and Congregations he served in particular, for the prayers and support offered to the

family during Sis. Valarie's illness and now in her death. Information on the service of thanksgiving for the life of Sis. Valarie Ferguson will be shared later.

- ✠ Please keep these families in your prayers in their time of grief and loss. Our God is well able to bring comfort and peace.
- 5. 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.
- 6. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: "Moravian Voice" on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: We acknowledge the donation of \$1,000 to our Building/Restoration Fund by the children and grandchildren of the late Sis Gwendolyn "Mudsy" Holder. June 20, 2021 marks 45 years since Sis. Holder was laid to rest. We say "thank you" to Daphne, Coral and Harold; Celia and Donna for this generous gift and pray that the memory of Sis. Holder would be a continual blessing and inspiration to your hearts.



PRAYER NEEDS:



1. **Our Shut-ins:** *Daphne Bispham, Aileen Bowen, Royle Deane, Sydney Gibson, Grace Lashley, Michael Lewis, Muriel Moore, Carol St. John.*
2. The people of the region as we have entered the Hurricane Season. Pray that we be spared from disaster.



AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

- ✚ 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
- ✚ 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.



Protocol for Worship Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic – 2021

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. 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.

