



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves - 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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Sunday, March 7, 2021

Third Sunday in Lent

UNITY SUNDAY

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: Welcome to all as we observe Unity Sunday in celebration of the 564th Anniversary of the founding of the Moravian Church (March 1, 1457). This is an hour of thanksgiving and as we worship today, may we truly lift our hearts in gratitude to God for his goodness all our lives. Welcome.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris

(Manse: 246-546-0344)

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Movelle Kellman

WATCHWORD: For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. *(1 Corinthians 1:18)*

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



ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Invitation to Worship

Litany for Unity Sunday (Moravian Festivals) (p. 194 – Liturgy Book)

Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Songs & Choruses

Ministry of the Word

Scripture Reading: John 2:13 – 22

Hymn of Preparation: 390 – *Jesus, Our Best Beloved Friend*

Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn 614 – *Saviour, Thy Love Hath Guided*

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.



The
Season
of
Lent



Litany for the Observance of Moravian Festivals

(Appropriate for usage on March 1, July 6 & August 13)

All standing

O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God;

And a great King above all gods.

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord;

And to sing praises unto your name, O most high.

To show forth your lovingkindness in the morning;

And your faithfulness every night.

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever:

With my mouth will I make known your faithfulness to all generations.

Tune: OLD 124th

**Our Lamb has conquered: let us follow him,
With eagerness of heart and strength of limb,
Brave in endeavor, with young vision clear,
And high thanksgiving for God's purpose here -
Our Lamb has conquered: let us follow him.**

**In loving service may our lives be spent,
Finding in others' gladness sweet content,
Striving to show the brotherhood of man,
Of God's ordaining since the world began -
In loving service may our lives be spent.**

1934. Dorothy A. Connor

Let us pray

(All seated)

Loving Lord, we worship and adore you, the source of our strength and our salvation. We praise and thank you for every blessing in this life. We recognize your goodness to us and give you thanks for your mercies which come to us afresh day by day. We acknowledge that, as the sheep of your pasture, we lack nothing. We thank you for walking with us all along life's way. We ask your forgiveness for the times we have taken your goodness for granted and have behaved as though we are masters of our own lives. Create new hearts within us, Lord, so that we may live according to your will for us. In your name, Jesus, we pray. ***Amen.***

You have given us life and provided all things necessary;

You have led us day by day and protected us from harm and danger;
You have given us strength to overcome temptation and victory over the power of the enemy.

Let us praise God for his goodness, and for his marvellous works to all his creatures.

You have given us the example of your disciples, who faithfully built your Church;
You have given us faithful leaders who followed your path even when it led to death;
You have given us ancestors who remained faithful to you in spite of the persecution they suffered.

Let us praise God for his goodness, and for his marvellous works to all his creatures.

You touched the disciples on the Day of Pentecost and anointed them to preach the Good News to every nation;

You touched our ancestors on that day of renewal, causing them to truly love, and to forgive each other;

Come, Holy Spirit, and touch us now.

You give us men and women in this day who serve you diligently;
You raise up young and old whom you have blessed to bless others;
You give to all people varied talents and skills which we may use for your honour and glory.

You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power; for you have created all things, and for your pleasure they are created!

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end: they are new every morning.

Great is your faithfulness, O Lord.

Tune: BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

**When to our golden heritage
We take another look;
We see our fathers living there
As one in unity,
Let us therefore seek to emulate
This great example set;
It's strength through unity.**

*Rise up now all ye Moravians
Rise up now all ye Moravians,
Rise up now all ye Moravians
And fight for unity.*

**Come let us make this pledge to God
And to our brothers all;
To give to God the glory
And our brother, sisters, love;
So the world shall be the richer and**

**His peace will flood our lives,
From strength through unity.**

1980. Neilson Waithe

O God our loving Father, we thank you:

For the service of your servants, rendered in our church through the years.

For their commitment to service and their loyalty to you;

For their strength of character and their patience in tribulation;

We give you thanks; O Lord.

For John Hus who bravely stood for honesty in service and integrity in witness;

For his boldness to stand in favour of the standards of God whilst standing against the institutions of his day,

For his courage to face death by fire because of his Christian conviction;

We give you thanks; O Lord.

For John Amos Comenius who assisted persecuted Christians in finding refuge;

For his prayer for the church that God might preserve a 'hidden seed to glorify his name';

For that 'hidden seed' which sprung to life nearly a century later;

We give you thanks; O Lord.

For Christian David who continued the labour of finding refuge for our persecuted ancestors;

For his encounter with Count Zinzendorf and the Count's willingness to 'give these Christians land whilst Christ gave them rest';

We give you thanks; O Lord.

For Count Zinzendorf's encounter with the slave Anthony and his zeal in leading the Moravians into mission;

For the commitment of David Nitschmann and Leonard Dober, our first missionaries;

We give you thanks; O Lord.

For the first missionaries to our islands and the many who followed to share the Good News;

For the early planters who gave of their land and support to this work;

We give you thanks; O Lord.

For these 564 years of worship, witness and work of the Moravian Church worldwide;

For the 289 years of missionary activity;

For the 289 years of service in our Province of the Moravian Church;

For the 256 years of existence of the Moravian Church in this country;

We thank you, O Lord, for your faithfulness to us through the years, and for the many who have labored faithfully throughout time and those who continue faithfully to do so today.

And now, O Christ, who came not to be ministered unto, but to minister: bless all those who follow in your steps. Give us each the courage to follow in their steps. Grant us zeal and

patience to serve as following one Master and looking for one reward. Endue us with wisdom to pray, not for tasks equal to our strength, but rather for strength equal to our tasks. Lead us to the joy of service for the Master and loving commitment to his will. So may his duty be our delight. *Amen.*

All standing

Tune: AURELIA

**When time rolls on with purpose,
Yes, purpose and with goals,
Concealed, but not forgotten
Until this day unfolds,
And now we celebrate you,
Though struggles come with woes,
Abiding by your promise,
That where we go, He goes.**

**Sing praises to the Father;
Sing praises to the Son,
For past-time generations
And future souls to come;
O Lord of time and wonder,
We feel your presence here:
Release your power upon us
And give us hearts to care.**

**Sing Alleluia! Praise Him!
We raise our voices now:
We thank You, Holy Father
For missionaries' vows:
A loud Hosanna sing we
For what we are today;
For blessings past and present,
We now our homage pay.**

Elva Kitson, d. 2011



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Welcome to all as we observe Unity Sunday in celebration of the 564th Anniversary of the founding of the Moravian Church (March 1, 1457). This is an hour of thanksgiving and as we worship today, may we truly lift our hearts in gratitude to God for his goodness all our lives. Welcome.





Advanced: Melik Carmichael, Cowyn Franklyn, Jenyre Maynard & Jean Straker (8th), David Greenidge, Ida Jemmott, Earlyne Walrond & Shirnelle Yorke (9th), Kailani Armstrong & Steve Garnes (10th)



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

- ✝ Today **UNITY SUNDAY**
 - ✝ Worship – 9:30 a.m.
 - ✝ Unity Sunday Celebration – 5:00 p.m. on our YouTube channels and Facebook.

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.
- ✝ NEXT SUNDAY Worship – 9:30 a.m.



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. From the PEC:

- ✝ Warm Christian greetings in the name of Jesus, our Chief Elder! As we look toward Lent and Easter, the Province is called to an intentional time of prayer and fasting for the duration of Lent. We are encouraged to adhere to the basic principles Daniel followed in Daniel 10: 3 – Prayer, no sweets, no meat, and no alcohol. The Provincial Newsletter for February has more details on the Daniel Fast. During this period, Mondays – Fridays, scripture verses to guide personal morning reflections and prayer will be distributed. In the evenings, there will be short, impactful devotions beginning at 8:00 pm on Zoom. Each Conference will lead evening devotions for one week during Lent as follows:

| Conference | Devotion Dates | Sub-Theme |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| Trinidad | February 18-19 | Seek |
| Tobago | February 22-26 | Submit |
| Barbados | March 1 – 5 | Hear and Heed |
| St. Kitts | March 8 – 12 | Imagination and Insight |
| Antigua | March 15 – 19 | Focus and Function |
| Virgin Islands | March 22 – 26 | Total Transformation |

- ✝ We need God to do mighty things in us, through us, in the church, in our communities, and the world. Let us ready our hearts and minds for the journey
- ✝ March 07, 2021 is Unity Sunday. At this time of year, we remember the birth of the Unitas Fratrum, the Moravian Church, on March 1, 1457. We ask for your continued prayers for the work and witness of our Church. A special Unity offering will be taken in all

Moravian Churches worldwide on Sunday, March 7, 2021. This offering will go towards constructing a multipurpose hall in Malawi in Africa. Details on the project are attached.

✝ Sunday March 22, 2021 is Theological Education Sunday. Our focus on this Sunday is the call of God for people to dedicate themselves to gospel ministry. Jesus continues to call his disciples to follow him to serve the kingdom. Are you among the called?

✝ Special prayers are also requested for our Warden/Tutor at the United Theological College of the West Indies (UTCWI), Rev. Neilson Waithe, and our Minister in training, Sis. Marleen Browne.

✝ If you sense God calling you deeper in service, continue praying about it and talk with your pastor or a mature Christian as to how you might respond to the prompting of God. The call to ministry has many branches.

✝ On March 22, 2021, a special offering will be received for theological education. Last year you gave EC\$9,158 toward theological education. The Province spent about EC\$29,000. Please give as the Lord allows.

✝ The Provincial Board of the European Continental Province (ECP) has drawn the Watchword for each Province and Unity Undertaking for 2021. The watchword drawn for the Eastern West Indies Province (EWIP) is *“He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth”* (Psalm 105:7). The watchword is assigned for April 3, 2021.

2. From the Superintendent: In compliance with the national directive to pause from broad social interaction to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Moravian Church in Barbados will extend the suspension of gatherings or assemblies for a further month, through to February 28, 2021. We are encouraged to remain engaged by making use of our online resources such as our social media pages and our livestreamed worship services on YouTube and Facebook.

✝ Worship times are as follows:

✝ Calvary / Grace Hill / Fulnec Pastorate – Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

✝ Sharon / Dunscombe Pastorate – Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

✝ Bethlehem / Faith Pastorate – Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

✝ Continue to follow the directives and recommendations of our public health officials and agencies, that we may do our part in maintaining the health of our community and fighting the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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. Flower Festival 2021: As 2020 is now behind us, 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.
5. 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.
6. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
7. 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).
8. 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, Sydney Gibson, Grace Lashley, Muriel Moore, Carol St. John.*



The Bereaved: *The Moravian family in the Eastern West Indies Province expresses condolences to the Rev. Kevin St. Hill on the death of his uncle, Mr. Darcy Bryan, in Barbados. The Funeral service for Mr. Bryan was held on February 25, 2021 at St. Matthews Anglican Church, Barbados. Please pray for Bro. St. Hill and family in their time of grief and loss.*



Adoration In Songs & Choruses



Ministry of the Word

Scripture Reading: John 2:13 – 22

- 13 And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
- 14 And found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting:
- 15 And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables;
- 16 And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise.
- 17 And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.
- 18 Then answered the Jews and said unto him, What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?
- 19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.
- 20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days?
- 21 But he spake of the temple of his body.
- 22 When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.



Hymn of Preparation: 390 –

Jesus, our best belovèd friend,
Draw out our souls in pure desire;
Jesus, in love to us descend;
Baptize us with thy Spirit's fire.

On thy redeeming name we call,
Poor and unworthy though we be;
Pardon and sanctify us all;

Let each thy full salvation see.

**Our souls and bodies we resign,
To fear and follow thy commands;
O take our hearts; our hearts are thine,
Accept the service of our hands.**

**Firm, faithful, watching unto prayer,
May we thy blessed will obey;
Toil in thy vineyard here, and bear
The heat and burden of the day.**

**Yet, Lord, for us a resting-place
In heaven, at thy right hand prepare;
And till we see thee face to face,
Be all our conversation there.**



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Closing Hymn: 614 –

**Saviour, thy love hath guided
Our fathers on their way,
Thy watchful care provided
Their manna day by day;
From youth to manhood growing,
Thou led'st them up to age,
Till death, full life bestowing,
Ended their pilgrimage.**

**With faith and lowly meekness,
With patient love and zeal,
In ignorance and weakness,
They wrought thy Church's weal;
Enriched with wealth unmeasured,
Beyond all wisdom wise,
In humble heart they treasured
The Saviour's sacrifice.**

For honest lips confessing
High faith and simple creed,
For lives this sad world blessing
With kindly human deed;
For valiant hearts that bore them
Full bravely in the fray,
Thy cross, thy crown, before them,
We give thee thanks to-day.

Grant, Lord, the Church that gathers
Within thy house this day,
To thank thee for her fathers,
May serve thee even as they,
With hearts by love made willing,
In works by faith made free,
Till we our lot fulfilling,
Shall rest with them and thee.



Benediction



Organ Postlude



AVAILABLE:

- † Moravian Daily Text 2021: American Regular Print Paperback Edition – \$24
- † 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.**

