



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

A new commandment I
give to you, That you love
one another; as I have
loved you, that you also
love one another.

—John 13:34

Sunday, May 18, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Moravian Music Sunday

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: Welcome to all, whether you are in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad; as we celebrate Moravian Music Sunday, a day set apart for the celebration and promotion of music and hymnody in worship. We give God thanks today for his many and varied gifts. 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

WATCHWORD: Jesus said, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life".

(Revelation 21:6)

Provincial Theme 2025:

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





ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship:

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Congregation: *Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*

Opening Hymn – “O God of Peace and Comfort” – Tune: AURELIA

(Words: Chioma Henry. 2024)

Liturgy for Music Sunday (continued)

Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *“Let them all praise the name of the Lord. For his name is very great; his glory towers over the earth and heaven!.” – Psalm 148:13*

Offertory Hymn: 297 – “Thankful For The Life You Gave Us”

(Words: N.C. Roslyn Hamblin. 2007)

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

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

Greetings, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Song

Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: Acts 11:1 – 18

Second Scripture Reading: John 13:31 – 35

Choir Anthem – “Eternal God”

Sermon – Rev. David Ince

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn of Reflection: 694 – “Jesus, Precious Name I Know”

(Words: Joan Knight. 2000)

Benediction



Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship:

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Congregation: *Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*



Opening Hymn –

O God of peace and comfort,
We humbly come to you;
Be near us, guide us, keep us
In all that we may do:
We dare not trust our own strength,
For in it we are weak;
But in your strength made perfect,
We never see defeat.

O God of peace and comfort,
The trials round us roll;
We wrestle with the fears and
Anxieties of our soul:
We wander and we fail to
Surrender all our cares;
We forfeit peace transcending
Our hearts, outside of prayer.

O God of peace and comfort,
We humbly come to you;
You promised to be with us,
We know your word is true:
When storms and tribulations,
Confront our yielded will;
O God you come and whisper
So gently, “Peace be still!”.

O God of peace and comfort,
We make our boast in you;
In every situation,
You've always seen us through:
We promise then to trust you
And willingly obey;
Our lives are in your hands,
Lord, To lead us all the way.

(Words: Chioma Henry. 2024)



LITURGY FOR MORAVIAN MUSIC SUNDAY

(Continued)

#494

Irregular.

In the morning Lord, we praise your holy name,
In the night time we worship at your throne.
Holy Jesus we want to see your face,
We worship you.

Let us give thanks to the Father, who has enabled us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

In him all things in heaven and on earth were created.

He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, to which indeed we were called in the one body.

Above all, may we clothe ourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

#30

Irregular.

*You are wonderful,
You are marvelous,
You are good O Lord to me!*

*You are faithful,
You're incomparable,
You are good O Lord to me!*

Most gracious God, we give you thanks for every good gift. On this day especially, we thank you for your creative gifts to us, which cause us to enrich our lives and experience through science and art, literature and drama, words, and music.

For you, O Lord, have made us glad by your work; at the works of your hands, we sing for joy.

We thank you especially for your gifts to the Moravian Church: devotion to the Saviour, simplicity, our strong sense of community and fellowship, and our long-standing dedication to spreading your gospel.

We thank you for our musical heritage, through which we draw closer to you and to one another.

Inspire and bless those who write and compose, those who play and sing, those who lead and teach.

As you have helped us through the centuries to sing our faith, so move within each one of us today, that all our gifts may unite in your service.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus,

In whose holy name we pray. Amen.

#494

Irregular.

You have set me free, the victory you gave,
Now I'm pardoned from all my sinful ways;
I'll rejoice now and shout for I am saved,
I love you Lord.



Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *“Let them all praise the name of the Lord. For his name is very great; his glory towers over the earth and heaven!.” – Psalm 148:13*

Offertory Hymn: 297 –

Thankful for the life you gave us,
And our goodly heritage:
Grateful for the love that brought us
Through this wondrous pilgrimage –
Lord, we come before you singing;
Lifting high your name in praise:
You have led us on this journey,
In the light of Jesus' grace.

We have heard your great commission;
We have sought this to fulfill:
Those before have bravely listened,
And responded with deft and skill.
Now we stand before you duly;
Ready to receive in faith:
Help us to perform this duty
In the light of Jesus' grace.

Thankful for your blessings to us
Through these years of serving you;
Mindful of the task you give us
To proclaim your message true:
We commit to follow bravely,
And to boldly stand and face
With the Spirit's aid most gladly
In the light of Jesus' grace.

(Words: N.C. Roslyn Hamblin. 2007)



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

First Scripture Reading: Acts 11:1 – 18

1. And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God.
2. And when Peter was come up to Jerusalem, they that were of the circumcision contended with him,
3. Saying, Thou wentest in to men uncircumcised, and didst eat with them.
4. But Peter rehearsed the matter from the beginning, and expounded it by order unto them, saying,
5. I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me:
6. Upon the which when I had fastened mine eyes, I considered, and saw fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.
7. And I heard a voice saying unto me, Arise, Peter; slay and eat.
8. But I said, Not so, Lord: for nothing common or unclean hath at any time entered into my mouth.

9. But the voice answered me again from heaven, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.
10. And this was done three times: and all were drawn up again into heaven.
11. And, behold, immediately there were three men already come unto the house where I was, sent from Caesarea unto me.
12. And the Spirit bade me go with them, nothing doubting. Moreover these six brethren accompanied me, and we entered into the man's house:
13. And he shewed us how he had seen an angel in his house, which stood and said unto him, Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon, whose surname is Peter;
14. Who shall tell thee words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved.
15. And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.
16. Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.
17. Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?
18. When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.



Second Scripture Reading: John 13: 31 – 35

31. Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in him.
32. If God be glorified in him, God shall also glorify him in himself, and shall straightway glorify him.
33. Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you.
34. A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.
35. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.



Choir Anthem – “Eternal God”



Sermon – – *Rev. David Ince*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn of Reflection: 694 –

Jesus, precious name I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Jesus, Son of God who came
Took away my guilt and shame.

*His name is precious;
His name is precious;
His name is precious;
The sweetest name I know.*

Jesus, sweetest name I love,
Sent to me from heaven above;
Jesus Christ who came to share
Every burden that I bear.

Jesus, Saviour, I adore
May I love You more and more,
Till with angels I can sing
Praises to my heav’nly King.

(Words: Joan Knight. 2000)



The Benediction



Organ Postlude



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Welcome to all, whether you are in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad; as we celebrate Moravian Music Sunday, a day set apart for the celebration and promotion of music and hymnody in worship. We give God thanks today for his many and varied gifts. Welcome.

Sharon:



Advanced: Jarad Lewis & Kianna Rouse (20th), Shirley Cadogan & Dalia Gittens (21st), David King & Joan Taylor (22nd), Elizabeth Ifill (23rd), Dwight Waithe (24th)

Dunscombe:



Today: Deborah Inniss

Advanced: Velcia Hinds (22nd)



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: MORAVIAN MUSIC SUNDAY

✝ Divine Worship 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).

✝ 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 – First & Third Tuesdays: In Sanctuary at 3:30 p.m. All other Tuesdays: Online via Zoom at 6:00 p.m.
- † Wednesday: Bible Study (Forgiveness) – 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 at 9:30 a.m.
 † Adventures in Worship (All ages) – 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre



Activities in the Month of May 2025:

- † Moravian Music Sunday – 18th
- † Outdoor Worship – Family & Fellowship – Sunday, 25th
- † Grace Hill's Annual Barbados Police Band Concert: *A Musical Celebration of Hope and Praise* – Saturday, 31st. Tickets – \$30.



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

- Those who desire to affirm their faith in the Act of Reaffirmation of Baptism are invited to register with the Pastors by May 18, 2025, that you may receive the necessary counselling and preparation. For an understanding of what is involved, the litany can be found on page 224 / 225 of the Caribbean Moravian Praise Liturgy Book.
- At a meeting of the Board of Elders held on April 3, 2025 the Elders were assigned to Districts 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. Joseph, St. John, Christ Church, Brittons Hill.	Bro. Victor Hurdle
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

3. We have closed our year of celebrating 225 years since the laying of the cornerstone here at Sharon. One planned event remains outstanding, that is the Planting of a Time Capsule, which will be completed when all the items have been gathered.

3.1. We are still open to contributions under our “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.



4. From the Provincial Board:

- 4.1.** The 5th Unity Women's Consultation scheduled for June 1 – 8, 2025 in North Carolina, USA has been postponed due to visa and travel issues. Please keep the organizers in prayer as they reorganize and move forward.

5. Synod Advisory:

- 5.1.** Bishop Conrad Spencer has been requested to ordain Pastor Marleen Browne to the diaconate of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province. The service of ordination will take place on Sunday, July 13, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. at the Memorial Moravian Church in Trinidad. Please pray for Sis. Browne as she prepares to take her vows.
- 5.2.** The Opening Service for the 34th Provincial Synod, will take place on Sunday, July 13, 2025 at the Regent Star Hotel in Piarco, Trinidad at 9:00 a.m. The service will be streamed live.
- 5.3.** The Closing Service for the 34th Provincial Synod will take place on Tuesday, July 15, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Regent Star Hotel in Piarco, Trinidad. This service will be streamed live.
- 5.4.** Please continue to pray for the 34th Provincial Synod that the purpose of God is established.
- 6.** 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.
- 7.** We are thankful for your financial support.
- 7.1.** 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.
- 7.2.** You are reminded that labelled envelopes can be dropped into the slot in the front door of the Manse.
- 7.3.** 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.

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

8.1. 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.

8.2. We invite you to tune in for inspiration and information to enable you in your Christian walk and service.

8.3. 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>).

8.4. You can email your comments and requests to: moravianvoice@gmail.com



PRAYER NEEDS:



1. Our Shut-ins: *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Sis. Vernice Alberta Osbourne, Sis. Cynthia Walrond, Sis. Fraulene Headley.*

2. The Sick/Recovering:

a. Of our congregation: *Sis. Shanna King (USA), Sis. Yvonne Martindale, Sis. Brenda Herbert.*

b. From Dunscombe: *Sis. Carmen Harper*

3. The Bereaved: *We express condolences to and pray for the family of the late Sis. Edna Ianthe Taylor on her passing. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held here at Sharon on Tuesday May 27, 2025, commencing at 3:00 p.m.*

4. World Peace



AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

- † **Offering Envelopes for 2025** – 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 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**
- † **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.**



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.



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



A MUSICAL CELEBRATION OF HOPE & PRAISE

ANNUAL BARBADOS POLICE BAND CONCERT

TICKET PRICE

\$30

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WITH
SUPPORTING
ARTISTE

31ST MAY 2025 | 4:00 PM

GRACEHILL MORAVIAN CHURCH
SPOONER'S HILL
ST. MICHAEL

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