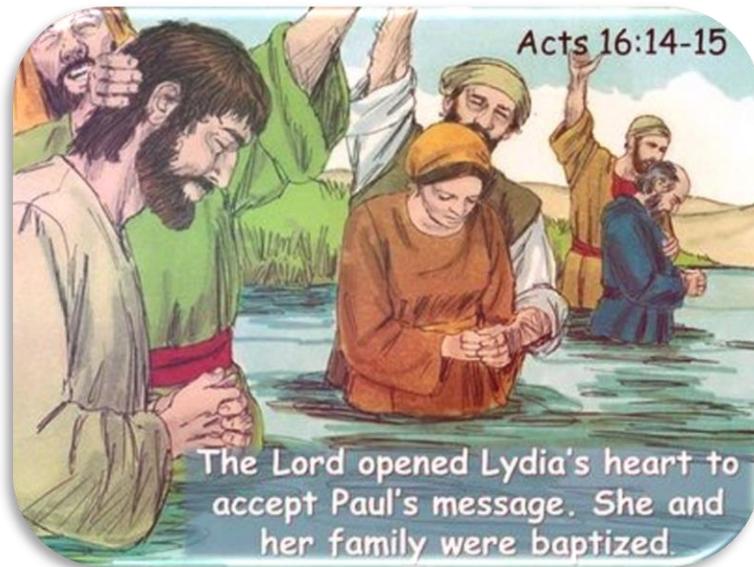




SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136



Sunday, May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: We assemble today with the assurance that there is a welcome for all in God's house. So, welcome to all, whether you are in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. May we experience today, God's wholeness and peace.

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, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you".*
(John 14:27)

Provincial Theme 2025:

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



ORDER OF SERVICE

*Praise
the Lord*

Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship: Psalm 149:1

Leader: Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

Congregation: *And His praise in the assembly of saints.*

Opening Hymn: 485 – “Praise Him! Praise Him”

Responsive Reading: Psalm 67

Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving

Hymn 221– “Oh What A Saviour That He Died for Me”

Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matt. 5:3, NIV).*

Offertory Hymn: 202 – “O Love That Would Not Let Me Go”

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 16:9 – 15

Second Scripture Reading: John 14:23 – 29

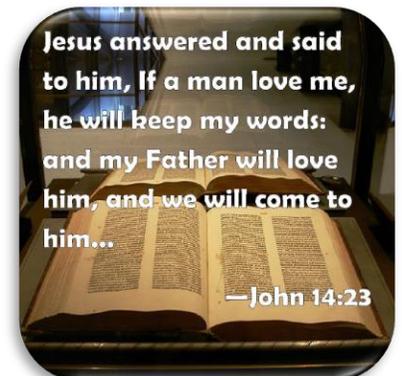
Choir Anthem – “God And God Alone”

Sermon – Rev. Ezra Parris

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn 474 – “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Benediction



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 149:1

Leader: Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

Congregation: *And His praise in the assembly of saints.*



Opening Hymn: 485 –

Praise Him, praise Him – Jesus our blessèd Redeemer,
Sing, O earth, His wonderful love proclaim.
Hail Him, hail Him, highest archangel in glory;
Strength and honour give to His Holy name.
Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard His children,
In His arms He carries them all day long:

*Praise Him! Praise Him! Tell of His Excellent greatness:
Praise Him! Praise Him! Ever in joyful song!*

Praise Him, praise Him – Jesus our blessèd Redeemer,
For our sins He suffered and bled and died;
He, our rock, our hope of eternal salvation,
Hail Him, hail Him, Jesus the Crucified.
Sound His praises, Jesus who bore our sorrows,
Love unbounded, wonderful deep and strong.

Praise Him, praise Him – Jesus our blessèd Redeemer,
Heavenly portals loud with hosannas ring,
Jesus, Saviour, reigneth for ever and ever.
Crown Him, crown Him – Prophet, and Priest and King!
Christ is coming, over the world victorious;
Pow'r and glory unto the Lord belong.



Responsive Reading – Psalm 67

1. God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; *Selah.*
2. That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.
3. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.
4. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. *Selah.*
5. Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.
6. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us.
7. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.



Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving



Hymn 221 –

Oh, what a Saviour – that He died for me!
From condemnation He hath made me free;
‘He that believeth on the Son,’ saith He,
‘Hath everlasting life!’

*‘Verily, verily, I say unto you;’
‘Verily, verily,’ message ever new!
‘He that believeth on the Son’ – ‘tis true! –
‘Hath everlasting life!’*

All my iniquities on Him were laid,
All my indebtedness by Him was paid;
All who believe on Him, the Lord hath said,
‘Hath everlasting life.’

Though poor and needy, I can trust my Lord;
Though weak and sinful, I believe His Word;

Oh, glad message! every child of God
'Hath everlasting life.'

Though all unworthy, yet I will not doubt;
For him that cometh, He will not cast out:
'He that believeth,' oh the good news shout!
'Hath everlasting life.'



Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matt. 5:3, NIV).*

Offertory Hymn: 202 –

O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.



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 16:9 – 15

9. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.
10. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.
11. Therefore loosing from Troas, we came with a straight course to Samothracia, and the next day to Neapolis;
12. And from thence to Philippi, which is the chief city of that part of Macedonia, and a colony: and we were in that city abiding certain days.
13. And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither.
14. And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

15. And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us.



Second Scripture Reading: John 14: 23 – 29

23. Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.
24. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.
25. These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.
26. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.
27. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.
28. Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.



Choir Anthem – “God And God Alone”



Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn 474 –

COME, thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some celestial measure,
Sung by ransomed hosts above;
O the vast, the boundless treasure
Of my Lord's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by thine help I'm come,
And I hope, by thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace, now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander – Lord, I feel it –
Prone to leave the God I love;
Take my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it from thy courts above!



The Benediction



Organ Postlude



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

We assemble today with the assurance that there is a welcome for all in God's house. So, welcome to all, whether you are in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. May we experience today, God's wholeness and peace.

Sharon:



Belated: Keenan Bovell (22nd)

Today: Amaiya Greenidge, Anson Skeete, Carlo Smith-Tull & Mechelle Lewis-Downer

Advanced: Tricia Babb, Heather Barker & Deighton Davis (27th), Shania Goddard (29th), Shonda Forde & Macario Maynard (30th)

Dunscombe:



Today: Halsey Gilkes

Advanced: Marissa Boyce (31st)



Congratulations to Bro. Steven & Sis. Sonia King who are celebrating their 23rd Wedding Anniversary today; Bro. Halsey & Sis. Orrin Gilkes who are celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary today. Congratulations to Rev. David & Sis. Cherryann Ince who will celebrate their Wedding Anniversary on May 26, 2025.



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.

✝ 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:

- ‡ Dunscombe Youth Fellowship Week of Activities –
 - Monday 26th – Annual General Meeting
 - Tuesday 27th – Games Night – Sharon Hall
 - Wednesday 28th – Quiz – Sharon Hall
 - Thursday 29th – Sip And Paint – Sharon Hall \$30 – Limited spaces available
- ‡ Grace Hill’s Annual Barbados Police Band Concert: *A Musical Celebration of Hope and Praise* – **Postponed**. Tickets – \$30.



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. From the Provincial Board:

- 1.1. The Provincial Board extends heartiest congratulations to Sis. Chioma Henry on her graduation from the United Theological College of the West Indies on May 14, 2025. Among the numerous academic and non-academic awards received, Sis Henry also emerged as the top academic student for 2025. Let us continue to pray for Sis. Henry and family as she prepares to begin her first call.
- 1.2. The Provincial Board invites all members of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province to pray for the election of a Bishop during the in-person sessions of the 34th Provincial Synod – July 10-16, 2025. Let us pray that the will and purposes of God are accomplished in this election process and in all matters at Synod. The Book of Order chapter 10.3.b states, “The office of a Bishop in the Moravian Church is spiritual. He/she is Pastor Pastorum. A Bishop must be one of experience, who enjoys the confidence of the ministerial staff. A Bishop has no power by virtue of his/her office, but may obtain such power from the Provincial Synod or the P.E.C.” May the Spirit of God grant us the discernment

needed in this moment.

- 1.3. The next Provincial Day of Prayer will be observed on Sunday, June 1, 2025. Pastors are asked to set aside time during worship for intentional prayer. In addition to the general prayer points, please pray intentionally for:
- 1.4. The 34th Provincial Synod in general and the business of Synod in particular to include the election of a bishop.
- 1.5. For safety and protection during the upcoming hurricane season.
- 1.6. For students and teachers during the exam season.
2. 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.
3. Synod Advisory:
 - 3.1. 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.
 - 3.2. 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.
 - 3.3. 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.
 - 3.4. Please continue to pray for the 34th Provincial Synod that the purpose of God is established.
4. 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

5. 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.

5.1. 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.



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:

a. Sharon: *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Sis. Vernice Alberta Osbourne, Sis. Cynthia Walrond, Sis. Fraulene Headley.*

b. Dunscombe: *Sis. Carmen Harper*

2. The Sick/Recovering: *Sis. Shanna King (USA), Sis. Yvonne Martindale, Sis. Brenda Herbert, Bro. Stephen Greaves, Bro. David King (QEH – B5)*



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.



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

