



# SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

*(Built by Slaves – 1799)*

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136



*The name of the Lord is a strong tower;  
The righteous run to it and are safe.  
Proverbs 18:10 (NKJV)*



**Commit your works to the  
LORD, and your thoughts  
shall be established.**

**—Proverbs 16:3**

**Sunday, September 17, 2023**

**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Welcome:** To the assembly of God's people and the celebration of his righteousness and mercy, a welcome is extended to all today – whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary, online, at home and abroad. A special welcome to all engaged in teaching and learning, on this Back-to-School Sunday. In the fellowship of believers, may we come to know more clearly the patient, enduring love of God.

***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](mailto:sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com)***

***Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164***

**WATCHWORD:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits.  
*(Psalm 103:2)*

**Provincial Theme 2023:**

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

## ORDER OF SERVICE



Organ Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship (Psalm 145:1 – 4):

**Leader:** I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable.

**Congregation:** *One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts.*

Hymn of Praise: 455 – “Enter Into Jerusalem, Let Us Go To God’s House”

Invocation

Litany for Education p. 179 – CMP Liturgy Book

Worship In Tithes & Offerings (Including Walk-up Offering to Assist Students):

Offertory Sentence: *“I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”* (Acts 20:35).

Offertory Hymn: 235 – “Take My Life, And Let It Be Consecrated”

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

Offertory Doxology: “Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart”

Welcome, Greetings, Celebrations and Notices

Hymn 688 – “Jesus, Friend of Little Children”

Affirmation and Blessing of Students

Hymn – “As The Dear Panteth For The Waters”

Ministry of the Word:

Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 16:1 – 3, 16 – 23

New Testament Reading: Colossians 1:9 – 16

Choir Anthem – “God And God Alone”

Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris

Prayer of Commitment and Intercession

Hymn 274 – “My Faith, It Is An Oaken Staff”

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.



For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, Colossians 1:9

## Organ Prelude

## Introit – Choir

### Call to Worship (Psalm 145:1 – 4):

**Leader:** I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable.

**Congregation:** *One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts.*



### Hymn of Praise: 455 –

Enter into Jerusalem, let us go to God's house  
With the wealthy and the sick,  
With the worker and the weak,  
Let us go to God's house.

Enter into Jerusalem, let us go to God's house  
Come and run with the wind,  
With the God who reigns in peace,  
Let us go to God's house.

*We go celebrate, we go celebrate,  
We go celebrate, Oh Israel!  
Praise the name of the Lord on high,  
Praise His name in song.  
Praise the Lord with a heav'nly song,  
With a heav'nly song, with a heav'nly song  
Praise the Lord.*

Enter into Jerusalem, mek we walk a-down there  
With the young and the old  
With the little and the large,  
Mek we walk a-down there.

Enter into Jerusalem, mek we walk a-down there  
Swaying to the breeze  
With the God who reigns in peace,  
Mek we walk a-down there.

Enter into Jerusalem, let us go to God's house  
With your papa and your mama,  
With your uncle and your aunt,  
Let us go to God's house.

Enter into Jerusalem, let us go to God's house  
Run and catch the breeze  
With the God who reigns in peace,  
Let us go to God's house.



## Invocation



## EDUCATION

*All standing.*

*Tune: RICHMOND – #368*

We come this day to give you thanks:  
We bring our loudest praise,  
Our talents, skills, our hearts and hands  
In gratitude we raise.

We come and bow before your throne  
To pledge ourselves anew,  
The ones we teach at school or home  
We consecrate to you.

Help us to teach only what's right  
And keep our conscience clear.  
Give us the strength to daily fight  
Against the devil's snare.

*2003. Joan Smith and Natalee Smith*

Omniscient Creator, with whom is wisdom and might, counsel and understanding, you are perfect in knowledge, and from you come every good gift and every perfect gift. We praise you for the wisdom, power and love displayed in the heavens above, in the earth beneath, and in all humanity, whom you made to have dominion over the works of your hands.

***Glory be to You, O Lord.***

Lord Jesus, the Light of the World, the Teacher come from God, Incarnate Word, Eternal Truth, we praise you that you have come to be a light unto them that sit in darkness, and that you have called us to the life of the children of light.

***Glory be to You, O Lord.***

Divine Holy Spirit, our Helper and our Strength, we praise you for revealing unto humanity the deep things of God, dividing your gifts to each one even as you will, witnessing with our spirit that we are children of God, and leading us in the path of the wisdom from above.

***Glory be to You, O Lord.***

*Tune: OMBERSLEY – #486*

Lord of all being, throned afar,  
Thy glory flames from sun and star,  
Centre and soul of every sphere,  
Yet to each loving heart how near!

Lord of all life, below, above,  
Whose light is truth, whose warmth is love,  
Before thy ever-blazing throne  
We ask no lustre of our own.

Grant us thy truth to make us free,  
And kindling hearts that burn for thee,  
Till all thy living altars claim  
One holy light, one heavenly flame!

*Oliver W. Holmes (1809 – 1894)*

***All seated.***

***Let us pray.***

O Gracious God, who would have all people come to a knowledge of yourself as revealed in Christ Jesus, our Lord:

We remember before you, on this day, every educational enterprise established for the instruction and care of children and youth, in this and other lands: public and private schools, colleges, universities, and theological seminaries. Enlighten and inspire by your Holy Spirit all who serve in them, to receive instruction in wise dealing, righteousness, justice, and equity.

***O God, hear us, and help us.***

Command your blessing upon the schools and colleges of our Church. May all who teach therein themselves be taught of you. Give our trustees and administrators the wisdom and courage which so great a work demands.

Should your servants, in weakness of flesh and spirit, be tempted to doubt and discouragement, do comfort and strengthen them.

*O God, hear us, and help us.*

We entrust to you the whole educational work of the Church in our congregations at home and abroad. Assist parents to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord by prayer, instruction and example. Touch by thy Spirit the minds and lives of pastors and teachers so that they may lead our children unto that knowledge which is able to make them wise unto salvation.

*O God, hear us, and help us.*

We entrust to you the children and youth of our homes and schools. Arouse them to diligence in the morning of life. Fill them with the spirit of honour and reverence. Preserve them in honesty and integrity. Keep them in purity and health.

Guide them:

In the search of the Scriptures,  
In the study of your wondrous works,  
In the pursuit of truth,  
In all their thoughts, words and deeds.

And may the example of their Saviour:

In his innocent childhood and youth,  
In his willing obedience,  
In his unselfish service to humanity,  
In his perfect pattern in life and death,

Be their constant inspiration.

*O God, hear us, and help us.*

*All standing.*

*Tune: ST. LEONARD – #446*

Father Supreme by whom we live,  
Thou who art God alone,  
Our songs of grateful praise receive,  
And make our hearts thy throne.

May every science, every truth,  
Our eager minds explore;  
Lead us alike in age and youth  
Thy wisdom to adore.

May those who teach, and those who learn,  
Walk in the narrow road;  
In every sphere of thought discern  
An ever-present God.

*Edward H. Dewart (1828 – 1903)*



**Worship In Tithes & Offerings (Including Walk-up Offering to Assist Students):**

**Offertory Sentence:** *“I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” (Acts 20:35).*

**Offertory Hymn: 235 –**

Take my life, and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move  
At the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet, and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing  
Always, only, for my King;  
Take my lips, and let them be  
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect, and use  
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine;  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own;  
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be,  
Ever, only, all for Thee.



## **Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings**

### **Offertory Doxology**

*Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy  
Give thanks for he has given Jesus Christ is Son (repeat)  
And now let the weak say I am strong  
Let the poor say I am rich for what the Lord has done  
Give thanks. (repeat)*



## **Welcome, Greetings, Celebrations & Notices**



## **Hymn 688 –**

Jesus, Friend of little children,  
Be a friend to me;  
Take my hand, and ever keep me  
Close to thee.

Teach me how to grow in goodness,  
Daily as I grow;  
Thou hast been a child, and surely  
Thou dost know.

Fill me with thy gentle meekness,  
Make my heart like thine;  
Like an altar lamp, then let me  
Burn and shine



Step by step O lead me onward,  
Upward into youth;  
Wiser, stronger, still becoming  
In thy truth.

Never leave me, nor forsake me,  
Ever be my friend:  
For I need thee, from life's dawning  
To its end.



### **Affirmation and Blessing of Students**



### **Hymn –**

As the deer panteth for the water  
So my soul longeth after Thee  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship Thee.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,  
To you alone doth my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire  
And I long to worship you.*

I want you more than gold or silver,  
Only you can satisfy.  
You alone are the real joy giver  
And the apple of my eye.

You're my friend and you are my brother  
Even though you are my King  
I love you more than any other,  
So much more than any thing.



## Ministry of the Word

### Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 16:1 – 3, 16 – 23

1. The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.
2. All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits.
3. Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established.
16. How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!
17. The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul.
18. Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.
19. Better it is to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud.
20. He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.
21. The wise in heart shall be called prudent: and the sweetness of the lips increaseth learning.
22. Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools is folly.
23. The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.



### New Testament Reading: Colossians 1: 9 – 16

9. For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;
10. That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

11. Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;
12. Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:
13. Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:
14. In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:
15. Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature:
16. For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:



**Choir Anthem – “*God And God Alone*”**



**Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris***



**Prayer of Commitment and Intercession**



**Closing Hymn: 274 –**

My faith, it is an oaken staff,  
 The traveler’s well loved aid;  
 My faith, it is a weapon stout,  
 The soldier’s trusty blade,  
 I’ll travel on, and still be stirred,  
 By silent thought or social word;  
 By all my perils undeterred,  
 A soldier pilgrim staid.

I have a captain, and the heart  
 Of every private man  
 Has drunk in valour from his eyes,  
 Since first the war began.

He is most merciful in fight,  
And of his scars a single sight  
The embers of our failing might  
Into a flame can fan.

I have a guide, and in his steps  
When travellers have trod,  
Whether beneath was flinty rock  
Or yielding grassy sod,  
They cared not, but with force unspent,  
Unmoved by pain, they onward went,  
Unstayed by pleasures, still they bent  
Their zealous course to God.

My faith, it is an oaken staff,  
O let me on it lean;  
My faith, it is a trusty sword,  
May falsehood find it keen.  
Thy Spirit, Lord, to me impart,  
O make me what thou ever art,  
Of patient and courageous heart,  
As all true saints have been.



## The Benediction



## Organ Postlude



## Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

To the assembly of God's people and the celebration of his righteousness and mercy, a welcome is extended to all today – whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary, online, at home and abroad. A special welcome to all engaged in teaching and learning, on this Back-to-School Sunday. In the fellowship of believers, may we come to know more clearly the patient, enduring love of God.



Today: *Ursaline Davis & Louis Linton*

Advanced: *Gloria Bellamy, Janaiyah Payne & Tyrone Waithe (18<sup>th</sup>), Carmel Downes, Cora Cumberbatch & Richardene Cox (19<sup>th</sup>), Danyeel Cordle, Flo Jean-Marie, Grace Lewis, Natalie Maynard, Melanie*

*Stevenson (20<sup>th</sup>), Shernelle Knight (21<sup>st</sup>), Keesha Franklin, Leslie Moaze, Brenda Myles & Adara Nicholls (22<sup>nd</sup>), Shaquille Bryan, Dwayne Ellis, Sonia King & Aaliyah Payne (23<sup>rd</sup>)*



*Congratulations to Bro. Louis Linton & Sis. Tracy Barker-Linton who will celebrate their 8<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on September 18, 2023.*

### 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: **BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUNDAY**

† Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m.

† Adventures in Worship (All Ages) – 10:00 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre

† 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).

† Tuesday: Women's Fellowship online 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.

† Next Sunday: Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m. – SENIORS SUNDAY

† Adventures in Worship (All Ages) – 10:00 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre



## **In the Month of September 2023:**

- † Sharon Back-To-School Sunday – 17<sup>TH</sup>. Invite the youth of your household and neighbourhood – We will pray for and bless them as they commence the new school year. Adults can dress to represent the school they attended.
- † Faith Missionary – Sunday, 17<sup>TH</sup> @ 8:00 a.m.
- † Dunscombe Women’s Fellowship 65th Anniversary – Sunday, 17<sup>TH</sup> @ 4:00 p.m.
- † Sharon Senior’s Sunday – Sunday, 24<sup>TH</sup>
- † Bethlehem Missionary – Sunday, 24<sup>TH</sup> @ 10:00 a.m.
- † Faith Missionary Rally – Sunday, 24<sup>TH</sup> @ 4:00 p.m.
- † Clifton Hill Fish Fry – 30<sup>TH</sup>, 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.



## **NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS**

1. As the 2023 – 2024 academic year opens for the majority of institutions this week, we pray for all students, teachers and staff of our educational institutions. We congratulate and encourage all who will move from one level to the next, especially those who are beginning their Secondary education. Maintain focus and remember that God’s enabling help is available to you.
2. Our Missionary Festival is scheduled for Sunday, October 22, 2023 in the morning service. We hope to raise \$13,000 this year and we remind you of your Missionary Collection Boxes and your Missionary Envelopes. Direct contribution can also be made and contributions in memory of loved-ones. Funds raised will go towards local missions, and to missionary endeavours across the region and the world through the various mission organisations of the Moravian Church.
3. Our Harvest celebration this year will be coupled with our Flower Festival 2023; these are scheduled for the weekend of November 11th & 12th 2023.
  - † Members and friends are invited to present harvest gifts as usual and to do so by the evening of Friday, November 10th. Harvest items will be made available for sale, the morning of November 12th in the D. C. Moore Hall.
  - † The theme for the Flower Festival is “*Rebirth*”. It’s now the month of September, and all those who offered to sponsor a location for the Flower Festival are invited to submit their contributions no later than October 1, 2023. Remember, locations are \$350, \$450 and upwards. For those still interested, there are a few locations left, but you need to indicate quickly. Your timely response allows us to order the flowers and pay for

them so that we can have another wonderful Flower Festival. Thanks to all who have sponsored locations so far. Windows, columns and other locations are available for sponsorship. You may sponsor as an individual, a group, in memory of, etc. Feel free to contact Sis. Heather Hunte or Sis. Joy Best to indicate your desire.

4. February 10, 2024 will be the 225th Anniversary of the first laying of a cornerstone here at Sharon. Once the Kingdom does not come, the historic point should not pass without a celebration. An Anniversary Committee is in place to make plans for and to lead the celebration. We invite suggestions and volunteers to be engaged in the planning.
5. The Provincial Board makes the following announcements:
  - ✠ The Chairman will be out of office for Unity Synod and Vacation leave from August 28 – September 12 and September 13 – September 30, respectively. Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith, Vice Chair of the Province, will act as Chairman in his absence.
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](http://www.sharonmoravian.info/giving-monetary) for these details.
7. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on Life 97.5 FM.
  - ✠ 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/](http://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](mailto:moravianvoice@gmail.com)

8. Our Bus is back on route on Sundays. Invite someone to get on board! The Route to Sharon: Quarry Road (8:40 a.m.), Padmore Village (8:45), Melrose, Edge Hill Terrace (8:50), First Ave. Jackson (8:55), Lodge Hill (9:00), Sharon (9:15). Contributions to the Bus Fund are welcome. Envelopes are available from the vestry.



### Provincial Theme 2023:

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

*“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*



### PRAYER NEEDS:



1. Our Shut-ins: *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Sis. Thora Moore*
2. The Sick/Recovering:
  - † Of our congregation: *Sis. Patterson Williams, Sis. Ansonia Cox-Burgess*
3. God's covering during the Hurricane Season.
4. World Peace



### AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

- † Moravian Daily Text 2023: American Paperback Edition – \$25
- † Offering Envelopes for 2023 – 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 2023 – 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.**



**CLIFTON HILL  
MORAVIAN CHURCH**  
Clifton Hill St. Thomas

# FISH FRY

**Sat. Sept.  
30, 2023**

1:00pm  
to 6:00pm

Clifton Hill  
Church Grounds

**\$35.**

Barbados Cancer Society  
Special Breast Screening  
From 1:00-5:00pm  
Only \$20

# Sharon Moravian Church

under the patronage of  
The Most Honourable Ralph 'Bizzy' Williams  
and Mrs. Shelly Williams



presents

# Rebirth

A Flower and Harvest Festival

November 11-12, 2023

Sharon Moravian Church  
Sharon, St. Thomas

## Saturday

12 - 7 p.m.

\$25

Flower Festival

...

Variety Sale

## Sunday

3 - 7 p.m.

\$25

Concert from 4-5 p.m.

...

Flower Festival



