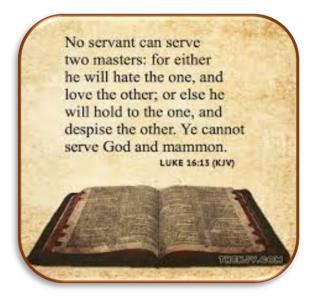


# Sharon Moravian Church

(Built by Slaves – 1799) Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136



Sunday, September 21, 2025 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost Seniors Sunday

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: In His presence there is fullness of joy and at His right hand, pleasures forever more. Welcome to all, whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. A special welcome to the seniors among us, particularly those we honour today. May God bless us richly.

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: From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised. (Psalm 113:3)

Provincial Theme 2025:

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



## **ORDER OF SERVICE**

Prelude

Introit – Choir Call to Worship:

L: O God, you have taught me from my earliest childhood, and I

constantly tell others about the wonderful things you do.

C: Now that I am old and gray, do not abandon me, O God.

ALL: Let me proclaim your power to this new generation, your mighty

miracles to all who come after me. (Psalm 71:17, 18)

Opening Hymn: 441 – "Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!"

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

**Responsive Reading: Psalm 113** 

Worship in Tithes & Offerings, including the Offering for Surviving Spouses

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: 270 – "He pardoned my transgressions"

**Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings** 

Offertory Doxology: "Thanks, Thanks, I Give You Thanks"

**Greetings, Celebrations & Notices** 

**Recognition of Our Seniors** 

**Adoration in Song** 

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Scripture Reading: Amos 8:4 – 7

**Second Scripture Reading:** Luke 16:1 – 13

Church Choir - Love Is The Answer"

Sermon - Rev. David Ince

**Prayer of Commitment & Intercession** 

Hymn of Reflection: 126 - "God sent his Son" (Because He lives)

**Benediction** 



Visit our Website at <a href="http://sharonmoravian.info">http://sharonmoravian.info</a>; 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**

Call to Worship -

L: O God, you have taught me from my earliest childhood, and I constantly tell others about the wonderful things you do.

C: Now that I am old and gray, do not abandon me, O God.

ALL: Let me proclaim your power to this new generation, your mighty miracles to all who come after me. (Psalm 71:17, 18)



Opening Hymn: 441 –

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice; Tender to me the promise of his word; In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!

Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;

His mercy sure, from age to age to same;

His holy name -- the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
The hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord To children's children and for evermore!



Prayer & Lord's Prayer



## **Responsive Reading – Psalm 113**

- 1. Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.
- 2. Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and for evermore.
- **3.** From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD's name is to be praised.
- **4.** The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.
- 5. Who is like unto the LORD our God, who dwelleth on high,
- **6.** Who humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven, and in the earth!
- 7. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill;
- **8.** That he may set him with princes, even with the princes of his people.
- **9.** He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the LORD.



Worship in Tithes & Offerings (Including the offering for Surviving Spouses)

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: 270 -

He pardoned my transgressions, He sanctified my soul, He honours my confessions Since by His blood I'm whole.

It is truly wonderful what the Lord has done!
It is truly wonderful! It is truly wonderful!
It is truly wonderful what the Lord has done!
Glory to His Name.

He keeps me every moment By trusting in His grace; 'Tis through His blest atonement That I may see His face. He brings me through affliction, He leaves me not alone; He's with me in temptation, He keeps me for His own.

He prospers and protects me, His blessings ever flow; He fills me with His glory, He makes me bright as snow.

He keeps me firm and faithful, His love I do enjoy, For this I shall be grateful, And live in His employ.

There's not a single blessing
Which we receive on earth
That does not come from heaven,
The source of our new birth.



**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** 



**Recognition of our Seniors** 



## Ministry of the Word

## First Scripture Reading – Amos 8: 4 – 7

- **4.** Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail,
- 5. Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?
- **6.** That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?
- 7. The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works.



## Second Scripture Reading – Luke 16: 1 – 13

- 1. And he said also unto his disciples, There was a certain rich man, which had a steward; and the same was accused unto him that he had wasted his goods.
- 2. And he called him, and said unto him, How is it that I hear this of thee? give an account of thy stewardship; for thou mayest be no longer steward.
- **3.** Then the steward said within himself, What shall I do? for my lord taketh away from me the stewardship: I cannot dig; to beg I am ashamed.
- **4.** I am resolved what to do, that, when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses.
- **5.** So he called every one of his lord's debtors unto him, and said unto the first, How much owest thou unto my lord?
- **6.** And he said, An hundred measures of oil. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and sit down quickly, and write fifty.
- 7. Then said he to another, And how much owest thou? And he said, An hundred measures of wheat. And he said unto him, Take thy bill, and write fourscore.
- **8.** And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light.

- **9.** And I say unto you, Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations.
- 10. He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.
- 11. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?
- **12.** And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?
- 13. No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.



Choir Anthem - "Love Is The Answer"



Sermon - Rev. David Ince



**Prayer of Commitment & Intercession** 



Hymn of Reflection: 126 -

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus,
He came to love, heal and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth the living just because He lives.

How sweet to hold a new-born baby, And feel the pride and joy he gives; But greater still the calm assurance, This child can face uncertain days because He lives.

And then one day I'll cross the river,
I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory, and I'll know He lives.



The Benediction



**Organ Postlude** 



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

In His presence there is fullness of joy and at His right hand, pleasures forever more. Welcome to all, whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. A special welcome to the seniors among us, particularly those we honour today. May God bless us richly.



### **Today:** Shernelle Knight

Advanced: Keesha Franklin, Leslie Moaze, Brenda Myles & Adara Nicholls (22<sup>nd</sup>), Shaquille Bryan, Dwayne Ellis, Sonia King & Aaliyah Payne (23<sup>rd</sup>), Cherise Clarke & Arianna Layne (24<sup>th</sup>), Ryan Ellis, Hetta Gill, Gabriel Leacock & Myrna Walkes (25<sup>th</sup>), Makayla Codrington (26<sup>th</sup>), Jason Worrell (27<sup>th</sup>)



Congratulations to Bro. Naphtali & Sis. Yvonne Burrell who will celebrate their 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on September 26, 2025.



Flowers today were donated by Bro. Naphtali & Sis. Yvonne Burrell in celebration of their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



## **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:** SENIORS' 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: Senior's Picnic to Silver Sands − 9:30 a.m.
  - → Women's Fellowship First & Third Tuesdays: In Sanctuary at 3:00 p.m. All other Tuesdays: Online via Zoom 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 at 9:30 a.m. The Lions Club of Bridgetown will be in attendance
  - **♦** Adventures in Worship (All ages) 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre
  - **♦** Moravian Church Barbados Conference 260<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service at Sharon at 5:00 p.m.



### **Activities in the Month of September 2025:**

- **♦ Sharon Senior's Sunday 21**ST
- **♥** Faith Missionary 21<sup>ST</sup> at 8:00 a.m.
- **♦** Sharon & Dunscombe Seniors' Picnic Tuesday, 23<sup>RD</sup>
- **†** Clifton Hill Fish Fry − Saturday, 27<sup>TH</sup>
- **♦** Service to Commemorate the 260<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Moravian Church in Barbados 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Sharon.
- **♦** Bethlehem Missionary 28<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.



### **NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS**

- 1. We say thanks to all who assisted in any way with our Clean Up Day, yesterday, September 20<sup>TH</sup>.
- 2. Sharon Men Cooking which was postponed to Saturday, October 4, 2025, has been further postponed to next year.
- 3. Our Missionary Festival is scheduled for Sunday, October 26, 2025 in the morning service. We hope to raise \$13,000 this year and we remind you of your Missionary Collection Boxes and 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.
- 4. From the Moravian Church Barbados Conference 260th Anniversary Committee:

#### 4.1. ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

- 4.1.1. We are delighted to announce the commencement of the 260th Anniversary Celebrations of the Moravian Church in Barbados. This milestone is a testament to our enduring legacy of faith, education, and service, and we invite every congregation to join us in a year-long celebration under the theme: "Celebrating a legacy rooted in faith, education and service with thanksgiving."
- 4.1.2. The launch of the celebrations will be introduced with an official Anniversary Church Service, which will be held on Sunday, September 28th, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at the Sharon Moravian Church, the first Moravian Church constructed in Barbados. All congregations are encouraged to attend and participate in this momentous worship experience.
- 4.1.3. The 260th Anniversary will be marked by a series of events and initiatives throughout the year, which will be circulated once venues are finalised, and we urge every congregation, member, and friend of the Moravian Church to lend their full support to all activities. Let us come together in unity and thanksgiving as we honour our past, celebrate our present, and look forward with hope.
- 4.1.4. Let this anniversary be a time of renewal, reflection, and rejoicing!
- 5. From the Provincial Board:
  - 5.1. The annual Widows' Offering will be received on September 21 & 28, 2025. Please continue to give generously as we show appreciation to the women and men who served with their spouses. Please also remember these faithful women and men in prayer: Sis. Lynda Prout,

- Sis. Deborah Challenger, Sis. Gwendolyn Jacobs, Sis. Myrtle Miller, Sis. Cleatus Jones, Sis Jasmine Crooks, Bro. Moise Jean and Bro. Ezra Parris. In 2024 we received approximately EC\$18,000 on their behalf.
- 5.2. The service of Consecration for Bishop Elect, Rev. Ezra Parris, will be held on Sunday, November 16, 2025, at the Sharon Moravian Church in Barbados at 4:00 p.m. Bishop Dr. Conrad Spencer, and Bishop Dr. Kingsley Lewis of the Eastern West Indies Province, and Bishop Stanley Clarke of the Jamaica and Cayman Islands Province, will officiate. Please pray for Bro. Parris and family and the officiating Bishops as they prepare for this solemn and sacred moment.
- 5.3. Rev. Devon Mannix who currently serves as Pastor of the Grenada Mission, has accepted a call to serve as Pastor of the Gracebay and Urlings congregations in the Antigua Conference. This call takes effect on September 21, 2025. The Grenada Mission will be supervised by the St. Kitts and Tobago Conferences, effective September 21, 2025. Please pray for Bro. Mannix and family, the Grenada Mission family, and the Gracebay and Urlings family as they make this transition.

6. Our Board of Elders has been 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, 1st 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** 

- 7. 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.
  - 7.1. 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.



- 8. 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 helpinghands for this ministry. Please let the Pastors know of your interest.
- 9. We are thankful for your financial support.
  - 9.1. 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.
  - 9.2. You are reminded that labelled envelopes can be dropped into the slot in the front door of the Manse.
  - 9.3. 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.

- 10.Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: "Moravian Voice" on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on Life 97.5 FM.
  - 10.1. 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.
  - 10.2. We invite you to tune in for inspiration and information to enable you in your Christian walk and service.
  - 10.3. 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).
  - 10.4. 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.
- 2. The Sick/Recovering: Sis. Shanna King (USA), Sis. Brenda Herbert, Bro. Stephen Greaves (QEH)
- 3. The Bereaved: We extend condolences and pray for:
  - ♥ Sis. Carol Martindale and family, on the passing of her mother, Sis. Yvonne Martindale. A service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held here at Sharon on Thursday, September 25, 2025 commencing at 2:00 p.m.
  - ♥ Sis. Shirley Blackman and family, on the passing of her brother, Bro. David King.
- 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.
- \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Sharon Burgundy Shirts: Polos \$30 / T-Shirts \$15
- **♣** Copies of Sunday sermons on CD \$2.00.
- **Property** Books:
- **Rev.** Neilson Waithe: <u>Understanding the Caribbean Worker</u> \$25; Provocation \$20.
- Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts: <u>Created in Their Image</u>: <u>Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914</u> \$50.
- **Rev. Dr. Joseph Nicholas:** <u>Baptism Is a Gift of God: As Such It Is More Than</u> 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







