



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves - 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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Matthew 21:28-32 KJV

But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard.

He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went. And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not.

Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.

For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.



Sunday, September 27, 2020

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: Welcome, as we gather again to worship and celebrate the salvation that has been afforded us in Jesus Christ. We welcome as well those who join in worship by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook. May God's Spirit be known to us today. Welcome to all.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris

(Manse: 246-546-0344)

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Movelle Kellman

WATCHWORD: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.
(Philippians 2: 5)

Provincial Theme 2020: "Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T."



ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Call to Worship (Psalm 150:1, 6):

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty firmament!

Congregation: *Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD!*

Hymn 28 – *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven*

The First Order of Public Worship p. 1 – Liturgy Book

Welcome & Celebrations

Blessing of Tithes & Offerings

Adoration In Songs & Choruses

Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:1 – 13

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 21:23 – 32

Hymn of Preparation: 11 – *Sing Them Over Again To Me*

Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession (Including Surviving Spouses)

Hymn of Reflection: 284 – *O Thou Who Camest From Above*

Notices & Concerns

The Doxology

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.



Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
 To his feet thy tribute bring;
 Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
 Who like thee his praise should sing?
 Praise him, praise him,
 Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favour
 To our fathers in distress;
 Praise him, still the same for ever,
 Slow to chide and swift to bless:
 Praise him, praise him,
 Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us;
 Well our feeble frame he knows;
 In his hands he gently bears us,
 Rescues us from all our foes:
 Praise him, praise him,
 Widely as his mercy flows.

Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
 Blows the wind and it is gone;
 But, while mortals rise and perish,
 God endures unchanging on:
 Praise him, praise him,
 Praise the high eternal One.

Angels, help us to adore him;
 Ye behold him face to face;
 Sun and moon, bow down before him;
 Dwellers all in time and space,
 Praise him, praise him,
 Praise with us the God of grace.



THE FIRST ORDER

All standing – these sentences are said responsively:

Come, let us bow down and worship; let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

He is our God; we are the people he cares for, those for whom he provides.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, come into his courts with praise.

For the Lord is good; his love is eternal and his faithfulness lasts for ever.

Hymn or Psalm

A call to repentance is issued such as:

The sacrifice acceptable to God is a humble spirit. A humble and repentant heart, O God, you will not reject. Since we have complete freedom to go into the most Holy Place by means of the death of Jesus, let us come near to God with a sincere heart and pray together saying:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against one another in thought, word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

Lord have mercy upon us,

Christ have mercy upon us.

Lord have mercy upon us,

Christ hear us.

God, the Father, maker of heaven and earth,

Have mercy upon us.

God, the Son, Saviour of the world,

Heal us and make us whole.

God, the Holy Spirit, guide and comforter,

Remain with us for ever.

Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity,

Have mercy upon us.

Let us give thanks to the Father who rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us safely into the Kingdom of his dear Son, by whom we are set free and our sins forgiven.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Here all join to say the Lord's Prayer:

Let us pray as our Saviour has taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Let us pray that we may hold fast to the truth of Christ amid all the dangers and temptations of life.

From indifference to the love shown in your suffering and death,

From error and misunderstanding,

From pride, vanity and hardness of heart,
From selfish ambition,
From acceptance of the false standards of this world,
From greed and materialism,
From envy, hatred, malice and every prejudice,
From unnecessary perplexity and anxiety,
From all sin,

Save us O Lord.

Let us find strength and comfort in Christ.

By your humble birth and holy life,
By your baptism, fasting and temptations,
By your obedience and faithfulness,
By your enjoyment of the Father's good gifts,
By your ministry in word and deed,
By your giving of yourself to others,
By your prayers and tears.

Bless and comfort us, O Lord.

The readings with hymns or psalms or canticles

The intercessions – a selection from the following, with any special prayers for the day.

Prayer for the Church:

Lord, you are the Head of the Church. Direct and watch over it, so that it may be a faithful instrument of your purposes. Strengthen and support those who suffer for the sake of the Gospel. Unite the people of God as one family. Increase our understanding of the mystery of God. Use us to show ever more clearly the glory of your life, death and resurrection.

Hear us, O Lord

For the Mission of the Church:

Watch over all who work for the spread of the Kingdom of God. Let your Spirit and power inspire their witness by word and deed. Give to bishops and ministers a true understanding of your word and a Christ-like concern for your people. Guide those who bear office and strengthen all your people for mission, to witness and serve in love.

Hear us, O Lord.

For the Nations of the World:

Guide, in the ways of justice and peace, all who have responsibility for ruling the nations of the world. Give wisdom to those in authority. Deliver us from the sin which gives rise to war and violence. Teach us so to order our life together that the kingdoms of the world may reflect the Kingdom of God.

Hear us O Lord

For Everyday Life:

Lord, bless the people of this land. Cleanse us from all evil. Teach us to serve one another in love. Help us to be faithful in our daily lives, and give us the strength to withstand the adverse pressures and influences of modern society. Grant peace and safety with justice for all. Strengthen family life and grant wisdom and understanding to those with responsibility for the care and nurture of children and young people.

Hear us, O Lord.

For Those in Need:

Lord, send help to all in distress or danger. Defend the defenseless, comfort the lonely and sad. Support the sick, the anxious, and the bereaved, and in their weakness and suffering let them know your love. Comfort the dying with your presence and peace and with the hope of eternal life.

Hear us, O Lord.

Closing prayers:

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Receive our prayer.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Accept us as your people.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,

Give us your peace.

Doxology:

Now to him who is able to keep us from falling and to bring us faultless and joyful before his glorious presence, to the only God our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, might and authority, from all ages past, now and for ever and ever. Amen.



Welcome& Celebrations:

Welcome, as we gather again to worship and celebrate the salvation that has been afforded us in Jesus Christ. We welcome as well those who join in worship by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook. May God's Spirit be known to us today. Welcome to all.



Today:Ruth Bishop & Jason Worrell

Advanced:Christopher Barker (30th), Carmen Gill & Ismay Nowell (Oct. 1st), Leslie Roberts (2nd), Theresa Alleyne, Lena Cordice & Velma Sealy (3rd)



Congratulations to Bro. Alfred Beckles & Sis. Patsy Turton-Beckles who are celebrating their 8th Wedding Anniversary today; Bro. Keith & Sis. Lydia Roberts who will celebrate their 39th Wedding Anniversary on October 3, 2020.



Some of the flowers this week have been donated by Sis. Ruth Bishop in celebration of her birthday; the King family has also donated as a memorial of the 10th Anniversary of the passing of Sis. Violet King.



Blessing of Tithes & Offerings



Adoration In Songs & Choruses



Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:1 – 13

- 1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,**
- 2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.**
- 3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.**
- 4 Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.**
- 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:**
- 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:**
- 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:**
- 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**
- 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:**
- 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;**
- 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

- 12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
- 13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.



Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 21:23 – 32

- 23 And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? and who gave thee this authority?
- 24 And Jesus answered and said unto them, I also will ask you one thing, which if ye tell me, I in like wise will tell you by what authority I do these things.
- 25 The baptism of John, whence was it? from heaven, or of men? And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say unto us, Why did ye not then believe him?
- 26 But if we shall say, Of men; we fear the people; for all hold John as a prophet.
- 27 And they answered Jesus, and said, We cannot tell. And he said unto them, Neither tell I you by what authority I do these things.
- 28 But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard.
- 29 He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went.
- 30 And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered and said, I go, sir: and went not.
- 31 Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him, The first. Jesus saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That the publicans and the harlots go into the kingdom of God before you.
- 32 For John came unto you in the way of righteousness, and ye believed him not: but the publicans and the harlots believed him: and ye, when ye had seen it, repented not afterward, that ye might believe him.



Hymn of Preparation: 11 –

**Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life,
Let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life;
Words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty.**

*Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.*

**Christ, the blessed One, gives to all wonderful words of life;
Sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life;
All so freely given, wooing us to heaven.**

**Sweetly echo the Gospel call, wonderful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify us forever.**



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession (*Including Surviving Spouses*)



Hymn of Reflection: 284 –

**O Thou, who camest from above
The pure celestial fire to impart,
Kindle a flame of sacred love
On the mean altar of my heart.**

**There let it for thy glory burn
With inextinguishable blaze,
And trembling to its source return,
In humble prayer and fervent praise.**

**Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work and speak and think for thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up the gift in me;**

**Ready for all thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death thy endless mercies seal,
And make the sacrifice complete.**



NOTICES & CONCERNS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (D. C. Moore Centre)

Tuesday: Women's Fellowship–5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Online Bible Study – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday: Meeting of the Board of Elders – 7:30 p.m.

Next Sunday: Divine Worship & Holy Communion – 9:30 a.m.

IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

† **Bethlehem Missionary Festival – Sunday, 27th, 10:00a.m.**

IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER – Women’s Fellowship Month

† **Women’s Fellowship Month. Activities for the month:**

† **Annual General Meeting – Saturday, 3rd, Calvary Moravian Church at 2:00 p.m.**

† **Women’s Fellowship Sunday (Conference-wide)–18th**

† **Candlelight Service– Sunday, 25th, Calvary Moravian Church at 5:00 p.m.**

† **Missionary Festival at Penuel – Sunday 4th, 7:30 p.m.**

† **Missionary Festival at Dunscombe– Sunday, 11th, 8:00 a.m.**

† **Missionary Festival at Sharon – Sunday, 25th, 9:30 a.m.**

† **Missionary Love Feast at Calvary – Sunday, 25th, 9:30 p.m.**

† **The Conference at Prayer – Saturday, 24th 6:00 a.m.**

† **Please bear in mind that we will soon be celebrating our Harvest Festival in November.**



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. From the Provincial Board:

- † **Sunday September 27, 2019 will be observed as the annual Day of Prayer for the Surviving Spouses of Moravian Ministers in the Eastern West Indies Province. On this day we will remember the following persons in prayer: Margaret John – Tobago (Antigua), Dorothy Graham – Barbados, Ida Browne – Antigua, Deborah Challenger – Antigua, Myrtle Miller – USA, Gwendolyn Jacobs – USVI, Lynda Prout – Trinidad. As we remember them in prayer, a special offering will also be taken as a token of appreciation to our sisters for the tremendous role they played in the ministry of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province.**
- 2. The Women’s Fellowship elected a new Executive (2020 – 2022) on Tuesday, September 22nd as follows: President – Sis Cora Cumberbatch, Vice-President – Sis Lelia Gibbs; Secretary – Sis Eula Gibbs; Treasurer – Sis Lucine Baker; Assistant Secretary / Treasurer – Sis Samantha Lewis; Members – Sis Candace Barker, Sis Sheila Small, Sis Merville Franklyn, Sis Norma Nicholls.**
- 3. Our Missionary Festival will be held on Sunday, October 25, 2020 at the weekly worship hour of 9:30 a.m. Funds raised will go towards the local missions, and to missionary endeavours across the region and the world through the various mission organisations of the Moravian Church.**
- 4. 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.
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).



PRAYER NEEDS:



Our Shut-ins: Daphne Bispham, Aileen Bowen, Royle Deane, Grace Lashley, Muriel Moore, Erla Reid, Carol St. John.



The Doxology



AVAILABLE:

- Offering Envelopes for 2020 – 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– 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

- 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. Communion, 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.

