

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE AND INVOLVEMENT

- † **This Week:**
- † **Office Hours:** Mondays & Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. & 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. (D.C. Moore Centre.)
- † **Mon.:** Touch of Love Ministry at 7:30 p.m.
- † **Tues.:** Women's Fellowship at 7:30 p.m.
- † **Wed.:** Church Membership Class at 5:30 p.m.
 - † Carol Singing at Sharon at 7:30 p.m.
- † **Fri.:** New Generation Ministries at 6:30 p.m.
 - † Church Choir Rehearsal at 8:00 p.m.
- † **Sat.:** Prayer Meeting at 6:30 a.m.
- † **Next Sun.:** Christian Education Hour: Adults – 8:00 a.m., Youth — 9:30 a.m.
 - † Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m.
 - † Sunday School Christmas Candle-Light Service at 4:30 p.m.

AVAILABLE:

- † **Offering Envelopes for 2016**— 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.
- † 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.

GREETING SONG —

*Let us share true peace with one another
Shake another hand, shake another hand
Let us show our love for each other
Shake another hand, shake another hand
Let us show true unity, equality, solidarity
Shake another hand, shake hands with me.*

Prayer Needs:

-  **Our Shut-ins:** Eunice Applewhaite, Aileen Bowen, Claudia Boyce, Genetha Bryan, Eugene Clarke, Royle Deane, Carl Forde, Clement Harper, Grace Lashley, Erla Reid, Carol St. John.
-  **The Sick / Recovering:** Gretel Smith, Ernesta Marshall-Jemmott, Howard and Beverly Arthur (Canada)
-  **The Bereaved:** We express condolences to and pray for: Sis Ansonia Cox-Burgess on the passing of her cousin.

Thanks to our readers, ushers, contributors to the Basket of Hope, our floral donors/arrangers, our sound technicians and visual aids technicians. Flowers today have been donated by Sis Patricia Brathwaithe-Marshall in honour of her birthday last Sunday.

Today: Tevye-Kaori Parris & DeLisle Phillips

 **Advanced:** Caitlin Best (12th), Shakera Springer & Shauntelle Springer (13th), Glendene Harris & Derece Osbourne (14th), Richard Lewis (15th), Judy Dear & Pauline Stevenson (26th), Amani Miller & Alvin Maynard (17th)

 Congratulations to Bro. Hal & Sis. Marjorie Ifill who will celebrate their 36th Wedding Anniversary on December 13, 2016.

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.

Thought for the Day

**A little while – then Christ will come;
The glorious hour draws nigh
When He will come to take His bride
To dwell with Him on high. — Gilmore —**

CHRIST'S SECOND COMING IS AS CERTAIN AS HIS FIRST.

Visit our Website at <http://sharon.moravians.net> or
<http://sharonmoravian.info>

PROVINCIAL THEME 2016:

Fulfilling the Mandate – “Advance the Kingdom”



Take a cell-phone moment: Take the time now to set your phone to silent or turn it off. Help us to maintain our worship focus.



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves - 1799)

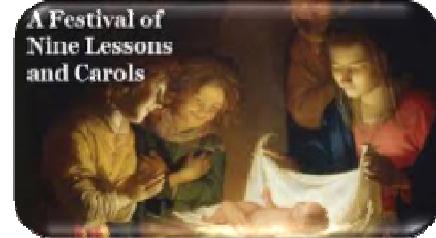
Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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Sunday, December 11, 2016

Third Sunday of Advent

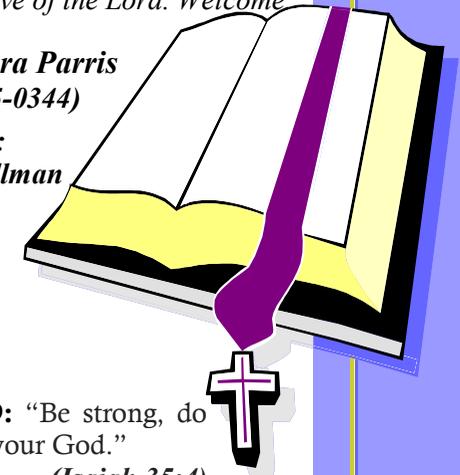
9:30 a.m.

Welcome: Welcome is extended to all as we gather for worship today. We continue to celebrate the coming of the Christ, and we pray that as we worship, hearts will be warmed by the love of the Lord. Welcome

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris
(Manse: 246-425-0344)

Associate Pastor:
Rev. Movelie Kellman

Organist:
Bro. Carl Ifill



WATCHWORD: “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.”

(Isaiah 35:4)

ORDER OF WORSHIP**Organ Prelude**

Introit

Call to Worship

Hymn 61 – “Once in royal David’s city” (59)

Liturgy – The Third Sunday in Advent (on leaflet)

Welcome & Celebrations

* *The Service Proceeds Unannounced* *

Anthem – “Carol of Adoration” (Choir)

Lesson 1 – Genesis 3: 8 – 15, 17 – 19 (God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent’s head.)

Anthem – “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus” (Choir)

Lesson 2 – Genesis 22: 15 – 18 (God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations on earth be blessed.)

Hymn 143 – “O come, O come, Immanuel” (129) (Congregation)

Lesson 3 – Isaiah 9: 2, 6, 7 (The Prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.)

Hymn – “Unto Us Is Born A Son,” (Congregation)

Lesson 4 – Isaiah 11: 1 – 3a, 4a, 6 – 9 (The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.)

Anthem – “In the Bleak Midwinter” (Choir)

Lesson 5 – Luke 1: 26 – 35, 38 (The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.)

Anthem – “Gabriel’s Message” (Choir)

Lesson 6 – Luke 2: 1, 3 – 7 (St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.)

Hymn – “Away In A Manger” (Junior Choir)

Lesson 7 – Luke 2: 8 – 16 (The Shepherds go to the manger.)

Hymn 48 – “While Shepherds watched ...” (Congregation)

Lesson 8 – Matthew 2: 1 – 12 (The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus.)

Hymn 69 – “As with gladness men of old” (61) (Congregation)

Lesson 9 – John 1: 1 – 14 (St. John unfolds the mystery of the incarnation.)

Hymn 46 – “O come all ye faithful” (47) (Congregation)

Offertory: “Lo, he comes ...” (Choir: congregation joins – last verse)

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

Choral Response – “We will lift up the name of the Lord”

Notices

Closing Hymn: 53 – “Hark! the herald angels sing,” (52)

The Benediction & Organ Postlude**NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS**

1. Groups and Organizations are requested to prepare their reports for 2016 and submit such to the Pastoral team by Saturday, December 31, 2016.
2. Thanks to all who have supported our **Missionary** fundraising effort for 2016. Thus far we have raised **\$20,014.80**. If you have not yet made your contribution you can still do so. Funds raised will go towards local missions, and to missionary endeavours across the region and the world through the various mission organizations of the Moravian Church.
3. **From the PEC**—Please remember in your prayers as they prepare to take their Ordination vows:
 - † **Sister Elva Richards**, currently serving as Associate Pastor of the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua, will be ordained a Deacon on Sunday, January 15, 2017. The service will be held at the Memorial Moravian Church in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands at 4.00 p.m. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Conrad Spencer will be the Presiding Bishop.
 - † **Brother Delroy Burley**, currently serving as Pastor of the Bethlehem Moravian Church in Barbados, will be ordained a Deacon on Sunday, January 22, 2017. The service will be held at the Sharon Moravian Church in Barbados at 6.00 p.m. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley Lewis will be the presiding Bishop.
4. The **32nd Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province** is scheduled to be held in Barbados from July 6-14, 2018. The Barbados Conference has begun to make preparations for this event, including fundraising. Members and friends of the Moravian Church are asked to make a weekly contribution of at least \$1.00 towards those costs for which the Conference will be responsible. This contribution will be collected on the First Sunday of each month. Envelopes are available.
5. **Flowers are needed for our church!** You will find on the wall 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. Sunday Morning **Bus Route to Sharon**: Quarry Road (8:30 a.m.), Redman’s Village (8:35), Padmore Village (8:45), Melrose, Edge Hill Terrace (8:50), Canewood, Jackson Tenantry (9:00 a.m.), Sharon (9:05).
7. **Bus Fund**— Contributions for the up-keep of the Bus can be made making use of brown envelopes which are available from the vestry.
8. Remember the “**Basket of Hope**” ministry wherein you have opportunity to make contributions of non-perishable food items, which are distributed to those in need. Contributions can be made every Sunday, during the offertory hymn.
9. **Moravian Radio Programme**: “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.

NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

- 10. Provincial Theme 2016: Fulfilling the Mandate—Advance the Kingdom!** The theme emphasizes the mandate of Developing God’s Church – Teaching, Reprimanding and Empowering God’s people. The foundation texts are Acts 1:8, Matthew 28: 16-20; Romans 15:20; 2 Timothy 4:2.

Unto us is born a son

Unto us is born a son, King of choirs supernal:
See on earth his life begun, o lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heav'n descending low, comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their Owner know now cradled in a manger.

This did Herod sore affray, and did him bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay, and slew the little childer.

Of his love and mercy mild hear the Christmas story:
O that Mary's gentle Child might lead us up to glory!

O and A and A and O, *Cantemus in choro,*
Voice and organ, sing we so, *Benedicamus Domino.*

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending

Lo! he comes, with clouds descending, once for our salvation slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshippers;
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee, high on thine eternal throne;
Saviour, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for thine own:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone.