



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

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



(With A Caribbean Flavour)

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: Welcome on this Third Sunday of Advent – whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. Today we worship in a service of nine lessons and carols. May we receive the message of salvation and hope as we listen to the scriptures and sing. Welcome.

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

(Isaiah 35:4)

Provincial Theme 2025:

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





ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude

ORGAN PRELUDE

HYMN 61 *Once in royal David's city*

LITURGY: The Third Sunday of Advent (p. 91 – CMP Liturgy Book)

WELCOME AND CELEBRATIONS

OFFERTORY SENTENCE: *“Forget not to be kind and liberal; for with that sort of sacrifice God is well pleased”* (Hebrews 13:16).

OFFERTORY HYMN: 50 – *“Hark, the glad sound”*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHORAL RESPONSE: *“Thanks, thanks ...”*

SERVICE PROCEEDS UNANNOUNCED

ANTHEM *“Advent Prayer”* – Choir

LESSON 1 **Genesis 3: 8 – 15, 17 – 19** – *Sis. Elan Greenidge*

HYMN 43 – *“O how shall I receive thee?”* CONGREGATION

LESSON 2 **Genesis 22: 15 – 18** – *Bro. Patrick Cadogan*

HYMN 143 – *“O come, O come Immanuel”* CONGREGATION

LESSON 3 **Isaiah 9: 2, 6, 7** – *Sis. Evelyn Greenidge*

HYMN 71 – *“Jesus come today”* CONGREGATION

LESSON 4 **Isaiah 11: 1 – 3a, 4a, 6 – 9** – *Sis. Wendy Davis*

SELECTION *How far is it to Bethlehem?* *Evelina King-Harper & David Greenidge*

LESSON 5 **Luke 1: 26 – 35, 38** – *Sis. Roseanne Baptiste*

ANTHEM *“Calypso Carol”* – Choir

LESSON 6 **Luke 2: 1, 3 – 7** – *Bro. Christon Skeete*

HYMN 68 – *“Away in a manger”*

SELECTION *“Mary did you know?”* – *Sis. Evelina King-Harper*

LESSON 7 **Luke 2: 8 – 16** – *Sis. Nancy Hinds*

ANTHEM *“Never a baby like Jesus!”* – Choir

LESSON 8 **Matthew 2: 1 – 12** – *Sis. Michelle Reece-Herbert*

ANTHEM *“The Adoration”* – Choir

LESSON 9 **John 1: 1 – 14** – *Rt. Rev. Ezra Parris*

SELECTION *“O Holy Night”* – *Bro. David Greenidge*

HYMN 46 – *“O come all ye faithful”*

NOTICES

CLOSING HYMN: 53 – *“Hark the herald angels sing!”*

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE



Prelude

ORGAN PRELUDE

HYMN 61 –



Opening Hymn: 61 –

Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby,
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall.
With the poor, the scorned, the lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood,
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly mother,
In whose gentle arms he lay.
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern:
Day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak and helpless;
Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high,
When like stars his children, crowned,
All in white shall wait around.



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

From the Liturgy Book of the Moravian Church in the Caribbean, p. 92.

All standing.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.

He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to praise him for his grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

Indeed, God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

Those who believe in Him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already. He came to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance.

His Divine Power has given us everything needed for life and godliness.

As a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth.

Tune: Londonderry – # 693

I cannot tell why He, whom angels worship,
Should set His love upon the sons of men,
Or why, as Shepherd, He should seek the wanderers,
To bring them back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that He was born of Mary,
When Bethlehem's manger was His only home,
And that He lived at Nazareth and laboured,
And so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how He will win the nations
How He will claim His earthly heritage

How satisfy the needs and aspirations
Of east and west, of sinner and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see His glory,
And He shall reap the harvest He has sown
And some glad day His sun shall shine in splendour
When He the Saviour, Saviour of the world is known.

William Y. Fullerton (1857 – 1932)

All seated.

The Lord became flesh and lived among us.

We have seen his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

Jesus said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

Today the scripture has been fulfilled. He has given us a garland for ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

Wherever he went, into villages, cities or farms, people at once recognised him, and brought the sick on mats and laid them in the market place.

They begged that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak and all who touched it were healed.

Tune: Ellacombe – # 261

And lo! your touch brought life and health,
Gave hearing, strength, and sight;
And youth renewed and frenzy calmed
Owned you, the Lord of light:
And now, O Lord, be near to bless,
Almighty as of yore,
In crowded street, by restless couch,
As by Gennesaret's shore.

Edward H. Plumptre (1821 – 1891)

Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, Creator of heaven and earth: to you belong all praise and glory. We thank you for your unspeakable gift of grace and for the lifelong example of our Saviour's obedience. He showed obedience by the things he suffered, and through his death he made eternal life available to all believers. Merciful Father, as we celebrate his Advent, and as we live in expectation of his second coming, grant that he may be born anew in our hearts, to the praise and the glory of your grace;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Holy Child of Bethlehem, you are Lord. We worship and adore your name. You came as a babe in a manger but you are King of all ages. May your pure and blameless existence be the test and aim of our lives. You, O Lord, were born of a woman, and yours was a full, devoted and consecrated life, surrendered in love to the Father. As you sought only the peace of the Father; as you grew in favour with God and humanity, grant us the will to surrender our own lives in love and through faith to be as devoted. Grant us the power through your Holy Spirit for your Name's sake. ***Amen***

All standing.

In confessing our sins in true repentance,

We learn that we are saved by grace through faith.

In dying to self and worldly passions,

We learn that life in all fullness is hidden in God in Christ.

In our willingness to forgive the wrongs of others,

We learn to cherish the reality of sins forgiven and are assured of God's forgiveness.

In being led by the Spirit of God,

We learn to discern the will of God and experience a foretaste of the life to come.

In being faithful to our earthly calling and the sovereign rule of God,

We learn patience through suffering and rejoice in hope of the surpassing glory of heaven.

In being born of God,

***We learn to overcome the world through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.***

Tune: Blaenwern – # 175

Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all your grace receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Nevermore your temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve you as your hosts above,
Pray and praise you without ceasing,
Glory in your perfect love.

Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788)

May the God of peace sanctify you entirely and may your spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. *Amen*



Welcome & Celebrations



Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: *“Forget not to be kind and liberal; for with that sort of sacrifice God is well pleased” (Hebrews 13:16).*

Offertory Hymn: 50 –

Hark, the glad sound, the Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long;
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoners to release
In Satan’s bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

He comes, from thickest films of vice
To clear the mental ray,
And on the eye, long closed in night
To pour celestial day.

He comes, the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure;
And, with the riches of his grace,
To bless the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim;
And heaven’s eternal arches ring
With thy beloved name.



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.



✱ ***The Service Proceeds Unannounced*** ✱



Anthem – “Advent Prayer” (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.)*

– ***Sis. Elan Greenidge***

8. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.
9. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?
10. And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.
11. And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?
12. And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.
13. And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.
14. And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:
15. And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.
17. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou

shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

18. Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

19. In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Hymn 43 – “O how shall I receive thee” – (Congregation)

O how shall I receive Thee,
How greet Thee, Lord, aright?
All nations long to see thee,
My hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord, most holy,
Thy lamp within my breast,
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please Thee best.

Thy Zion palms is strewing,
And branches fresh and fair;
My heart, its powers renewing,
An anthem shall prepare.
My soul puts off her sadness
Thy glories to proclaim;
With all her strength and gladness
She fain would serve Thy Name.

Love caused Thy incarnation,
Love brought Thee down to me;
Thy thirst for my salvation
Hath gained my liberty;
O love beyond all telling,
That led Thee to embrace,
In love all love excelling,
Our lost and fallen race!

Rejoice then, ye sad-hearted,
Who sit in deepest gloom,
Who mourn o'er joys departed,
And tremble at your doom;
He who alone can cheer you

Is standing at the door;
He brings His pity near you,
And bids you weep no more.



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

– *Bro. Patrick Cadogan*

15. And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,
16. And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:
17. That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;
18. And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

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

O come, O come, Immanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan’s tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o’er the grave.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death’s dark shadows put to flight.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*



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

– *Sis. Evelyn Greenidge*

2. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.
6. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.
7. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

Hymn 71 – “Jesus come today ...” (Congregation)

Jesus come today, for a poor, poor man like me,
Salvation come my way, my soul set free.
Jesus come for all, and we must hear His call;
Open up your heart today, and let it be.

*Nuh matter if you t'ief, or if you dread,
Or if yuh have a crown pun yuh head.
Nuh matter if you have no heart at all,
Jesus bring love for one and all.
Sing it children.
I for Jesus, you for Jesus,*

*All for Jesus, fall for Jesus,
Come to Jesus.
Jesus come for one, he come for all.*

Jesus come for I, see manger where He lie.
See cross where He must die, for a wretch like me.
For God so loved the world,
Man, woman, boy and girl;
He gave His Son for you, His Son for me.

Jesus Christ today, the same as yesterday;
The one, the only way, the King for me.
Let it come to pass, mankind find love at last;
Just as it was time past, so let it be.



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

– *Sis. Wendy Davis*

1. And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:
2. And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;
3. And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:
4. But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth: with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.
6. The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them.
7. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together: and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
8. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice' den.

9. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Selection – “How Far Is It To Bethlehem?” – Sis. Evelina King-Harper & Bro. David Greenidge



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

26. And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
27. To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.
28. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.
29. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.
30. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
31. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
32. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
33. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
34. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?
35. And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
38. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.



Anthem – “Calypso Carol” (Choir)

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

– *Bro. Christon Skeete*

1. And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.
3. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.
4. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)
5. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
6. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
7. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Hymn 68 – “Away In A Manger” (Congregation)

Women only Away in a manger, No crib for His bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

Men only The cattle are lowing the baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my bedside till morning is nigh.

Congregation Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.



Solo – Sis. Evelina King-Harper – “Mary Did You Know?”



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

– *Sis. Nancy Hinds*

8. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
9. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
10. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
12. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
15. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.
16. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

ANTHEM – *“Never a baby like Jesus”* – **Choir**



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

– *Sis. Michelle Reece-Herbert*

1. Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,
2. Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.
3. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.
4. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,
6. And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.
7. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.
8. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.
9. When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.
10. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.
11. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.
12. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

ANTHEM – *“The Adoration”* – **Choir**



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

– Rt. Rev. Ezra Parris

1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
2. The same was in the beginning with God.
3. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
4. In him was life; and the life was the light of men.
5. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.
6. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

7. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe.
8. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.
9. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.
10. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.
11. He came unto his own, and his own received him not.
12. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
13. Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
14. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

Solo – “O Holy Night – Bro. David Greenidge”



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

O come, all ye faithful,
 Joyful and triumphant,
 O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem;
 Come and behold him,
 Born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,
 Sing in exultation,
 Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
 ‘Glory to God
 In the highest’
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given,
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.



Notices



Closing Hymn: 53 –

Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail, the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
*Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”*



The Benediction



Organ Postlude



Greetings & Celebrations

Welcome on this Third Sunday of Advent – whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. Today we worship in a service of nine lessons and carols. May we receive the message of salvation and hope as we listen to the scriptures and sing. Welcome.



Today: Glendene Harris

Advanced: Richard Lewis (15th), Judy Dear (17th), Alvin Maynard & Amani Millar (17th), Brian Maynard & Resa Williams (18th), Sidaine Pilgrim & Brandon Taylor (20th)



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 – Service of Nine Lessons & Carols at 9:30 a.m.

✠ Adventures in Worship (All ages) – 9:45 a.m. in 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 – First & Third Tuesdays: In Sanctuary at 3:30 p.m. All other Tuesdays: Online via Zoom at 6:00 p.m.
- † Wednesday: **NO BIBLE STUDY**
- † 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 December 2025:

- † Worship on Christmas Day – Thursday, 25th at 5:00 a.m.
- † Watch-Night Service – Wednesday, 31st, 10:30 p.m.



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. We express thanks to all who supported Missionary Festival 2025. So far, we have raised \$16,119.40 which exceeds our target of \$15,000. However, we do not stop our ingathering until the end of our financial year and we will receive contributions until then. You can make contributions in envelopes marked “Missions” or by direct deposit to our bank account. 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.
2. From the Superintendent re the Provincial Pension Plan:
 - 2.1. The Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province has launched an appeal to heal the pension plan for Ministers of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province.
 - 2.2. At the 34th Provincial Synod recently held in Trinidad in July 2025, delegates received an update on the serious condition of the Pension Plan. The PEC informed that “some pastors, having given over forty years of service, now face uncertainty about receiving a pension. Additionally, three of our pastors currently receive less than 50% of the pension due to them. Another six pastors have reached retirement age and are awaiting a response from the insurance company. This predicament leaves them not knowing if they will have any income for retirement. As a Church, we agree that all our

ministers should retire with dignity and have the means to live in today's economy.”

- 2.3. By way of this appeal, we hope to bring relief to those currently receiving less than their due pension and to reduce the deficit of the Provincial Pension Plan.
- 2.4. For this year, 2025, we are appealing to you make a contribution of \$100 on November 30, 2025. Special envelopes are available and you can simply use your own envelope, marked “My Pension Contribution.” Those who give to their congregation electronically can also give by that means, making sure to indicate by note or email the amount to be directed towards pensions.
- 2.5. The appeal will continue in 2026 and will be maintained over a seven-year period, the proposal being a monthly \$10 donation or \$120 annually.
- 2.6. Thank you for your assistance and your ongoing focused prayer regarding this matter.
3. From the Provincial Board:
 - 3.1. The Provincial family expresses condolences to Rev. Denise Smith-Lewis and Rev. Dr. Ulston Patmore Smith and their family on the death of their mother, Mrs. Genevieve Smith, on December 11, 2025, at age 91 years. Sis. Smith was a member of the Potters/Zion congregation in Antigua. Please pray for Sis. Denise Smith-Lewis and Bro. Ulston Patmore Smith and family in their time of grief and loss.
 - 3.2. Hurricane Melissa:
 - 3.2.1. The images of the devastation caused by Hurricane Melissa in Jamaica and across several of our Caribbean neighbours are truly heartbreaking. Our support for the Jamaica Province is already underway. Rev. Neilson Waithe is currently in Jamaica providing counselling and logistical assistance.
 - 3.2.2. The Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province is actively exploring additional ways to assist our sisters and brothers during this difficult time. Their needs will be many as they begin the long process of rebuilding their lives. While we await a detailed assessment of the specific items required, we can already offer meaningful help through financial gifts.
 - 3.2.3. As you are able and as the Holy Spirit leads, you may contribute through your congregation or Conference. All funds received will be forwarded directly to the Jamaica Province to aid in the recovery effort. Monetary gifts of any size are deeply appreciated.

Your generosity will serve as a tangible reminder to our Moravian siblings that they are not alone – we stand with them.

- 3.2.4. Let us continue to lift our brothers and sisters in prayer as they navigate this season of loss and rebuilding.
- 3.3. The Provincial Board invites the prayers of the Province for the Grenada Mission. As they continue to minister faithfully in Mount Tranquil, Grenada, they are without the immediate presence of a Pastor. For the next two Sundays, Bro. Daniel Mark will be there to provide pastoral leadership and presence. Sis. Adelyn Mgonela from the St. Kitts Conference will do the same for the following Sunday. There will be a similar arrangement next month providing pastoral leadership and presence. As you pray, please also listen for God's call on how you may support the Grenada Mission with your presence or your resources.
4. From the Moravian Church Barbados Conference 260th Anniversary Committee:



MORAVIAN HISTORY (BETHLEHEM)



Part 3 Searching for Moravians in Christ Church

In 1963, the small group of founding members undertook a dedicated effort to locate other Moravians residing within the parish of Christ Church. Their search extended to several areas: Sayers Court and Seawell to the east, Harts Gap to the west, as well as Gall Hill and Kendall Hill to the northwest of Enterprise—the home of the Williams family. This diligent outreach aimed to connect with fellow Moravians who, like themselves, may have found it challenging to attend worship services at more distant congregations. Through these endeavours, the group sought to bring together those who would benefit from a local place of worship and community.

**DID YOU
KNOW?**



MORAVIAN HISTORY (BETHLEHEM)



Part 4 Establishment of Regular Worship Services

On February 14, 1963, the congregation took a significant step forward by holding its first monthly worship service at Bellehaven, the residence of the Williams family. This initial gathering marked the beginning of a consistent pattern of worship for the Moravians in Christ Church.

As the year progressed and the need for more frequent fellowship became evident, the frequency of services was increased. Soon, the congregation began meeting twice each month, allowing for deeper connections among members and greater spiritual support within the community. By October 1963, these services had evolved into weekly gatherings, fostering a sense of stability and growth for the congregation.

During this period, pastoral leadership was provided by Rev. A.C. Pilgrim, who was both Minister of the Mt Tabor and Penuel congregations and Superintendent of the Barbados Conference. Rev. Pilgrim served as pastor for the burgeoning group, with valuable support from lay members of the community.

**DID YOU
KNOW?**

5. 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, 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

6. 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.

6.1. 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.



7. 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.

8. We are thankful for your financial support.

8.1. 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.

8.2. You are reminded that labelled envelopes can be dropped into the slot in the front door of the Manse.

8.3. 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.

9. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on Life 97.5 FM.

9.1. 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.

9.2. We invite you to tune in for inspiration and information to enable you in your Christian walk and service.

9.3. 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>).

9.4. 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*
3. The Bereaved: *We extend condolences to and pray for Sis. Sheila Foster-Clarke and family on the passing of her brother, Leonard Foster.*
4. World Peace



AVAILABLE (Through 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.

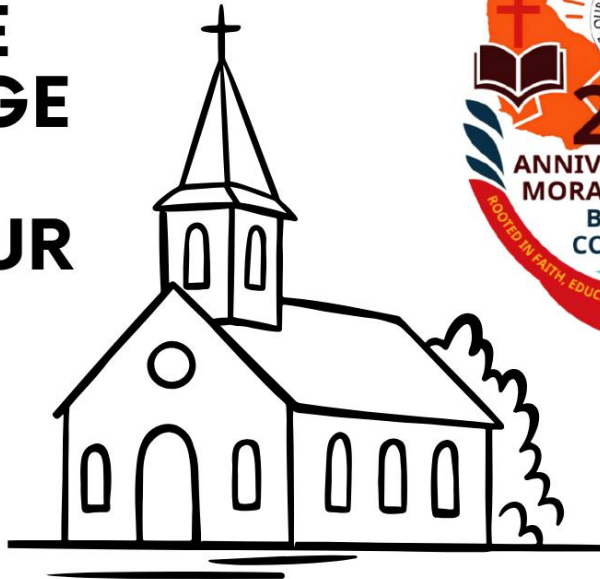
“Broadly speaking, renewing identity speaks of who we are as Christ-followers; renewing our purpose speaks to why the church exists; re-igniting our passion speaks to our willingness to share our faith with others. — Chairman of PEC



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.



CELEBRATE OUR HERITAGE & HONOUR OUR HISTORY



OCTOBER 2025 - SEPTEMBER 2026



MONTH OF OCTOBER



- WEEK 1 - THE MISSIONARIES
- WEEK 2 - BUNKERS HILL
- WEEK 3 - CUSTOMS & PRACTICES
- WEEK 4 - EDUCATION

MONTH OF FOCUS FOR EACH CONGREGATION

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ❁ NOVEMBER - FAITH (2018) | ❁ MAY - DUNSCOMBE (1860) |
| ❁ DECEMBER - BETHLEHEM (1964) | ❁ JUNE - CLIFTON HILL (1841) |
| ❁ JANUARY - PENUEL (1914) | ❁ JULY - CALVARY (1834) |
| ❁ FEBRUARY - FULNEC (1894) | ❁ AUGUST - MOUNT TABOR (1825) |
| ❁ MARCH - GRACE HILL (1882) | ❁ SEPTEMBER - SHARON (1768) |
| ❁ APRIL - CENTENARY (1865) | |

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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