

SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

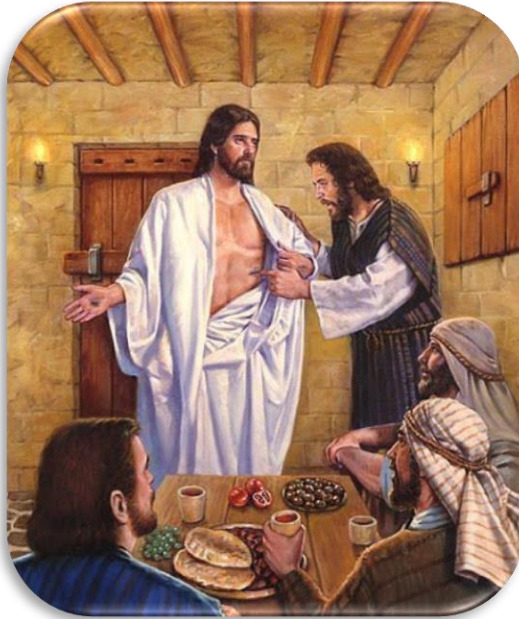
(Built by Slaves - 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

Email: sharonmoravian@caribsurf.com

Church Office/Pastor's Study Tel: 425-4011

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164



Sunday, April 11, 2021

Second Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: We gather again to celebrate the good news, He is risen! With thanksgiving, we declare the sure mercies of God, and the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Welcome.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris

(Manse: 246-546-0344)

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Movelle Kellman



WATCHWORD: If we walk in the light as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

(1 John 1:7)

Provincial Theme 2021: *“Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T.”*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Call to Worship (Psalm 118:24):

Leader: This is the day the LORD has made;

Congregation: *We will rejoice and be glad in it.*

Hymn 120 – *“With Hearts And With Voices”*

Confession of Faith 1 (p. 240, Liturgy Book / Projected)

Prayer of Adoration, Confession & Thanksgiving

Hymn 115 – *“The Day of Resurrection”*

Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Songs & Choruses

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

Scripture Reading: John 20:19 – 31

Hymn of Preparation: 194 – *“O Jesus, Thou Art Standing”*

Sermon – Rev. Ezra Parris

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn 124 – *“Thine Be the Glory, Risen Conquering Son”*

The Benediction

Organ Postlude



Visit our Website at <http://sharonmoravian.info>; Visit our Facebook Page and subscribe to our YouTube Channel. These are means by which we can connect to our brothers and sisters, and get the word out on what’s happening in the church. Like us; Follow us; Re-post us.



Call to Worship (Psalm 118:24):

Leader: This is the day the LORD has made;

Congregation: *We will rejoice and be glad in it.*



Opening Hymn: 120 –

**With hearts and with voices, O praise ye the Lord;
Man's foes he has conquered, fulfilling his word;
He lives who was dead, and how rules in his might,
Let all in their loud hallelujahs unite.**

**Hell's host he has conquered, has broken sin's chain;
Led death, too, his captive, man's freedom to gain;
As Prince of earth's peace, he now reigns on his throne;
Once bond-slaves of Satan, he claims us his own.**

**Man's debt has been paid, for man's surety has died;
God's Lamb has been slain, and his blood been applied;
Redemption's accomplished for Adam's lost race,
For Jesus has risen, attesting God's grace.**

**Then bless the great conqueror with heart and with song;
He now ever liveth, his praises prolong;
In us, living Lord, be thy home ever found,
Till earth's hallelujahs in heaven resound.**



CONFESSIONS OF FAITH

I

I believe in the one only God: Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Who created all things, and was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself;
Glory be to You, O Lord most high.

I believe in God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who chose us in him before the foundation of the world;
Who delivered us out of the power of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love;
Who has blessed us in every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ;

Who made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; having foreordained us unto adoption as sons through Jesus Christ unto himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him I truly believe.

I believe in the only begotten Son of God, by whom are all things and we through him;
Who became flesh, and dwelt among us;
And took on him the form of a servant; Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of man;
He was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin;
He spoke that which he did know, and bore witness of that which he had seen;
As many as received him, to them gave he the right to become children of God.

In him I truly believe.

Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world;
Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, and the third day rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father, from whence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

This is my Lord, who redeemed me, a lost and undone human creature, purchased and gained me from sin, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood, and with his innocent suffering and dying; to the end that I should be his own, and in his kingdom live under him and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence and happiness; even as he, being risen from the dead, lives and reigns, world without end.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, who proceeds from the Father, and whom our Lord Jesus Christ sent, after he went away, that he should be our Comforter, and abide with us for ever;
That he should help our infirmity, and make intercession for us, with groanings which cannot be uttered; that he should bear witness with our spirit, that we are children of God, and teach us to cry, Abba, Father;
That he should shed abroad in our hearts the love of God;
And make our bodies his holy temple;
And that he should work in us the will of God, dividing his gifts to each one, even as he will.

In him I truly believe.

To God be glory in the Church which is in Christ Jesus, the holy universal Christian Church, in the communion of saints, at all times, and from eternity to eternity.

Amen.



Hymn 115 –

The day of resurrection
Earth, tell it out abroad;
The passover of gladness,
The passover of God!
From death to life eternal,
From earth unto the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over,
With hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil,
That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal
Of resurrection light,
And, listening to his accents,
May hear, so calm and plain,
His own “All hail!” and, hearing,
May raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful;
Let earth the song begin;
Let the round world keep triumph,
And all that is therein;
Invisible and visible,
Their notes let all things blend,
For Christ the Lord hath risen,
Our joy that hath no end.



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices



Adoration In Songs & Choruses



Ministry of the Word

Scripture Reading: John 20:19 – 31

- 19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.
- 20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD.

- 21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.
- 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:
- 23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.
- 24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.
- 25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the LORD. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.
- 26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.
- 27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.
- 28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My LORD and my God.
- 29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.
- 30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:
- 31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.



Hymn of Preparation: 194 –

O Jesus, thou art standing
Outside the fast-closed door,
In lowly patience waiting
To pass the threshold o'er:
Shame on us, Christian brothers,
His name and sign who bear,
O shame, thrice shame upon us,
To keep him standing there!

O Jesus, thou art knocking;
And, lo! that hand is scarred,
And thorns thy brow encircle,
And tears thy face have marred:

O love that passeth knowledge,
So patiently to wait!
O sin that hath no equal,
So fast to bar the gate!

O Jesus, thou art pleading
In accents meek and low,
'I died for you, my children,
And will ye treat me so?'
O Lord, with shame and sorrow
We open now the door;
Dear Savior, enter, enter,
And leave us nevermore.



Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Closing Hymn: 124 –

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won;
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.**

*Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son;
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.*

**Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing.
For her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.**

**No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of Life!
Life is naught without Thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love:
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.**



Benediction



Organ Postlude



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

We gather again to celebrate the good news, He is risen! With thanksgiving, we declare the sure mercies of God, and the hope we have in Jesus Christ. Welcome.



Today: T'Shura Hinds

Advanced: Tyler Codrington & Shaniyah Payne (12th), Daphne Alleyne (14th), Darren Clarke & Gwendoline Hinds (15th), Chelsea Greenidge (16th), Shelah Clarke (17th)



Flowers today are donated by Gwendoline & T'Shura Hinds in celebration of their birthdays!



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

✝ TODAY: Worship – 9:30 am.

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).

✝ Wednesday: Bible Study – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom

✝ Saturday: “Touch & Go” – 4:00 p.m.

✝ NEXT SUNDAY: Worship – 9:30 a.m.



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. We express our gratitude to those who were “on watch for the Lord,” keeping the Unity Prayer Watch going. Sharon and Dunscombe were responsible for Wednesday, April 7th, 2:01 p.m. – Thursday, April 8th, 4:00 a.m. [14hrs]. This watch has been a Moravian practice since August 13, 1727 when the Moravian Church had its Pentecostal experience.

2. The Moravian Church Barbados Conference is holding a series of youth activities entitled “Touch and Go” via Zoom:

✝ Intermediates (9-12yrs) – Saturday, April 17, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

✝ Seniors (13yrs & Over) – Saturday, April 24, 2021 at 4:00 pm.

Come, share and explore under the theme: “*S.H.I.F.T the Focus.*”

3. On the last Sunday of April on which the Moravian Church Barbados Conference holds its Annual Youth Convention, the youth of the Conference will host an online worship experience at 10:00 a.m. The message will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Jeremy Francis from the USVI Conference. All are invited to visit the Conference’ YouTube Channel and FaceBook Page for the livestream.
4. The Provincial Board of the European Continental Province (ECP) has drawn the Watchword for each Province and Unity Undertaking for 2021. The watchword drawn for the Eastern West Indies Province (EWIP) is “*He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth*” (Psalm 105:7). The watchword is assigned for April 3, 2021.
5. 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.
6. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.



PRAYER NEEDS:



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

The Bereaved: We express condolences to and pray for Sis Sylvia Arthur-Hurdle and family on the passing of her niece, Gina Pilgrim.



AVAILABLE:

- ✝ Moravian Daily Text 2021: American Regular Print Paperback Edition – \$24
- ✝ Offering Envelopes for 2021 – 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.
- ✝ 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 – 2021

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. Infant 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.



AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

St. Thomas	1732
St. Croix	1734
St. John	1741
Antigua	1756
Barbados	1765
St. Kitts	1777
Tobago	1790
Trinidad	1890
Tortola	1993
Grenada	

**THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS CONFERENCE
OF THE
MORAVIAN CHURCH
EASTERN WEST INDIES PROVINCE**

Chairman:	The Rev. Algernon Lewis, B.A., M.A.
Vice Chairman:	The Rev. Dr. Errol Connor, B.A., S.T.M., D.Min.
Secretary:	The Rev. Dr. Adrian Smith, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.
Member:	Mrs. Karen Challenger-George, B.A., M.S.
Member:	Mr. Anselm Richards, BSc, MSc
Treasurer:	Ms. Elisa G. Hodge, B.S., M.B.A.
Assistant Treasurer:	Mrs. Megan Samuel Fields, CPA, LL.B (<i>Hons</i>), MSc FFL



Provincial Headquarters, P.O. Box 504, Cashew Hill, Antigua, W.I.
Tel: (268) 560-0185; Fax (268) 462-0643
E-mail: moravianchewip@gmail.com,

To: All Members of Staff/Congregations
cc Members of PEC, Bishops

From: Rev. Algernon Lewis
Chairman of PEC

Subject: Easter/Resurrection greetings

Date: April 1, 2021

Ref: PEC 72/21

FOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warm Christian greetings in the name of Jesus, our Chief Elder.

On behalf of the members of the PEC I greet you with the familiar greeting: "The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!"

It may be difficult to embrace the full impact of the hope and joy that make up the Easter greeting. Yet, as Easter/Resurrection people, we know that Good Friday is part of the landscape. As we endure what seems like an endless Good Friday, let us look ahead to what God has for those who allow faith in God to govern their lives rather than the daily headlines.

None of us knows what will happen when the immediate threat of COVID19 subsides. At the same time, we are confident in the providence and sufficiency of God. As disciples, we are called to represent God in the world and point people to Jesus.

"Jesus is risen indeed" and we get to face the future under the cover of the risen Christ. Do you believe this? (John 11:26)

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

St. Thomas 1732
St. Croix 1734
St. John 1741
Antigua 1756
Barbados 1765
St. Kitts 1777
Tobago 1790
Trinidad 1890
Tortola 1993
Grenada

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To: All Members of Staff/Congregations
cc Members of PEC, Bishops
From: Rev. Algernon Lewis
Chairman of PEC
Subject: Condolences
Date: April 10, 2021
Ref: PEC 74/21

FOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warm Christian greetings in the name of Jesus, our Chief Elder.

The Moravian Church Provincial family expresses condolences to Sis. Monique Richards the Lay Minister of Christian Education in the Virgin Islands Conference, on the death of her mother, Mrs. Eleanora Virginia Peter of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. Sis. Peters died on April 8, 2021 at age 90 years.

The funeral service for Sis. Peters will be held at the Memorial Moravian Church in St. Thomas on April 21, 2021 at 10:00 am.

Sis. Monique Richards is also mourning the death of her brother-in-law, Mr. Cyrenus Lambert, who died on the same day in New York.

Please pray for Sis. Monique Richards and family as they journey through this valley of grief and loss.

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

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To: All Members of Staff/Congregations
cc Members of PEC, Bishops

From: Rev. Algernon Lewis
Chairman of PEC

Subject: Furloughs and Prayer

Date: April 10, 2021

Ref: PEC 75/21

FOR ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warm Christian greetings in the name of Jesus, our Chief Elder.

The Provincial Board makes the following announcements:

1. The PEC has granted furlough to the Rev. Roslyn Hamblin of the Bethlehem and Faith Moravian Pastorate in the Barbados Conference. Sis. Hamblin's furlough runs from April 15, 2021 to August 14, 2021.
2. The PEC has granted furlough to the Rev. Alicia Ross-Floyd of the Friedensthal Moravian Church in St. Croix, Virgin Islands Conference. Sis. Ross-Floyd's furlough runs from May 3, 2021 to September 2, 2021.
3. The PEC has granted furlough to the Rev. Walton Frederick of the Friedensfeld Moravian Church in St. Croix, Virgin Islands Conference. Bro. Frederick's furlough runs from August 3, 2021 to December 2, 2021.

Please keep Sis. Hamblin, Sis. Ross-Floyd, and Bro. Frederick and their families in your prayers.

Prayers are also requested for the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the surrounding islands as they deal with the effects of the eruption of the La Soufriere volcano in St. Vincent.