



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

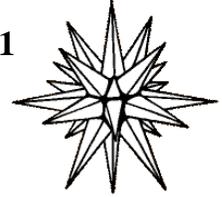
(Built by Slaves - 1799)

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LESSONS & CAROLS

the promise of the Messiah - the birth of Jesus
Scripture - carols - choral music - hymns

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: A warm Christian welcome is extended to all worshipping here today and those who join by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook. We continue in the season of Advent and may we worship with hearts filled with praise, lifting high and proclaiming as worthy, the name of Jesus.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris
(Manse: 246-546-0344)

Associate Pastor:
Rev. Movelle Kellman

WATCHWORD: May the God of peace sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(1)

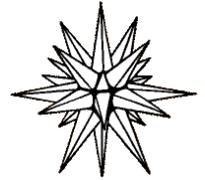
Thessalonians 5:23)

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





ORDER OF SERVICE



Organ Prelude

Introit

Call to Worship

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

Liturgy – Third Sunday in Advent (p. 92 – Liturgy Book)

Welcome & Celebrations

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

✧ *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.) Reader

– *Bro. Victor Hurdle*

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.)

– *Sis. Dawn Maynard*

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

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

– *Bro. Steven King*

Hymn 50 – *“Hark the glad sound,”* (49) (Congregation)

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

– *Sis. Angela Grazette*

Anthem – *“Light a single candle”* (Choir)

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

– *Sis. Shirley Blackman*

Solo – Sis. Evelina King-Harper – *“Breath of Heaven (Mary’s Song)”*

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

– *Bro. Kyle Blackman-Gibbons*

Hymn 68 – *“Away In A Manger”* (669) (Youth Hymn)

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

– *Sis. Jacqueline Walrond*

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

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

– *Bro. Carlisle Knight*

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

Anthem – *“Never A Baby Like Jesus”* (Choir)

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

– *Rev. Movelle Kellman*

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

Notices

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

The Benediction

Organ Postlude



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**



Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

A warm Christian welcome is extended to all worshipping here today and those who join by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook. We continue in the season of Advent and may we worship with hearts filled with praise, lifting high and proclaiming as worthy, the name of Jesus.



Today Shauntelle Springer & Shakera Springer

Advanced: Glendene Harris (14th), Richard Lewis (15th), Judy Dear & Pauline Stevenson (16th), Alvin Maynard, Amani Millar (17th), Brian Maynard & Resa Williams (18th), Marissa Boyce & Deborah Greenidge (19th)



Blessing of Tithes & Offerings



✧ *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.)*

Reader – Bro. Victor Hurdle

- 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.

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.) – Sis. Dawn Maynard

- 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.*)

– Bro. Steven King

- 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 50 – *“Hark the glad sound,” (Congregation)*

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.



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

– *Sis. Angela Grazette*

- 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.

Anthem – “Light a single candle” (Choir)



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

– Sis. Shirley Blackman

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.

Solo – Sis. Evelina King-Harper – “Breath of Heaven (Mary’s Song)”



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

– Bro. Kyle Blackman-Gibbons

- 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” (Youth Hymn)

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

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.

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.



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

- 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.

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

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

“Fear not!” said he, – for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind –
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.

“To you, in David’s town, this day
Is born of David’s line
A Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign:

“The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, and thus

Addressed their joyful song: –

“All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace:
Good-will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.”



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

– *Bro. Carlisle Knight*

- 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.

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

**As with gladness, men of old
Did the guiding star behold,
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright, –
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to thee.**

**As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before
Thee, whom heaven and earth adore, –
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek thy mercy-seat.**

**As they offered gifts most rare
At thy manger rude and bare, –
So may we with holy joy,
Pure, and free from sin’s alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.**

**Holy Jesus, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.**

**In the heavenly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down;
There for ever may we sing
Hallelujahs to our King.**

Anthem – “Never A Baby Like Jesus” (Choir)



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

– Rev. Movelie Kellman

- 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.

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.***



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

Today: Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m.
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 Prayer Meeting – 6:00 p.m.
Next Sunday: Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m.



ACTIVITIES IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2020:

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



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. The Moravian Church Barbados Conference extends congratulations to Brigadier General Rudyard Eggleton Carrington Lewis, GCM, CVO, JP of the Clifton Hill congregation upon whom was conferred the accolade of Knight of St. Andrew, the nation's highest

award. Bro Lewis was honoured for his extraordinary achievement and meritorious service to the military in Barbados.

2. The Provincial Board makes the following announcements:

✝ The Moravian Provincial family extends **congratulations to the Rev. Dr. Cicely Athill-Horsford** on her election as the Chairman of the Barbados Christian Council. The election was held on December 7, 2020. Sis. Athill-Horsford is the first female to be elected Chairman of this Christian Council. Let us pray for Sis. Athill-Horsford as she assumes this role in the wider Christian community in Barbados.

✝ The **Rev. Hilton Joseph** who now serves as the Superintendent of the Moravian Church St. Kitts Conference and as Pastor of the Zion and Bethel Pastorate in St. Kitts, has accepted a call to serve as the pastor of the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua. This call takes effect from March 1, 2021.

✝ The **Rev. Onita Samuel-Warner**, who now serves as Associate Pastor of the Zion and Bethel Pastorate in St. Kitts, has accepted a call to serve as the Pastor of the Zion and Bethel Pastorate in St. Kitts. This call takes effect from March 1, 2021.

✝ The **Rev. Erwin Warner**, who serves as the Pastor of the Bethesda and New Dawn Pastorate in St. Kitts, has accepted a call to serve as the Acting Superintendent of the St. Kitts Conference. This call takes effect from March 1, 2021. Please keep Bro. Joseph, Sis. Samuel-Warner, and Bro. Warner and their families in your prayers as they prepare to assume these new calls.

✝ The Moravian Provincial family expresses **condolences to the Rev. Eulencine Christopher and Mrs. Joan Thomas and their family** on the death of their uncle Mr. Jeremiah Ralph also known as Rolston Ralph of All Saints Village, Antigua, last residing in Bronx, New York. Mr. Ralph died on November 17. His funeral service will be held on December 13, 2020 in New York. Please keep Sis. Christopher and Sis. Thomas and their family in your prayers as they mourn.

3. We say “Thank you” to those who supported our Missionary Festival held on Sunday, October 25, 2020. Rev Dr Mikie Roberts, Programme Executive for Spiritual Life and for Faith and Order at the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland delivered the Sermon with the theme, *Tell Just One*. To date, we have raised \$13,261.45 towards our target of \$18,000. We commend the groups and individuals who contributed to the effort in any way.

4. Flower Festival 2021: As 2020 draws to a close, we look with faith to a brighter 2021 in every area of our lives. We seek a renewal physically, spiritually and morally, and we pray for a Rebirth!

✝ Hence the theme for the FLOWER FESTIVAL 2021 – REBIRTH! The Festival is scheduled for the weekend of June 12 – 13, 2021.

✝ The Flower Festival Committee has met and plans are in progress. This is an invitation to ALL members and friends to once again sponsor and donate to this event. Sponsorship fees remain unchanged at \$300.00. We look forward to your support as before. All persons desirous of sponsoring – again or for the first time – should indicate by the end of December, so that a location can be reserved for you.

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. **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.
7. Remember to listen to the **Moravian Radio Programme**: “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
8. 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).
9. Invite someone to get on board! **Our Bus is back on Route** on Sundays. The Route to and from Sharon remains: 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). Contributions to the Bus Fund are welcome. Envelopes are available from the vestry.



PRAYER NEEDS:



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

The Sick / Recovering: *Bro Sydney Gibson*



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!”***



Benediction



Organ Postlude



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. 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.



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.

