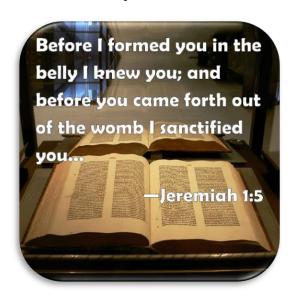


# SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

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

Email: <a href="mailto:sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com">sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com</a>
Church Office/Pastor's Study Tel: 425-4011

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164



Sunday, February 2, 2025 Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany 9:30 a.m.

Welcome: With joy we extend welcome to all worshiping with us today; whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. We pray for the revitalizing experience of God's Holy Spirit in this hour. Welcome.

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

Associate Pastor: Rev. David Ince

Church Office/Pastor's Study: 246-425-4011

Email: sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164

WATCHWORD: For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. (1 Corinthians 13:12)

**Provincial Theme 2025:** 

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

# ORDER OF SERVICE



**Prelude** 

Introit - Choir

**Call To Worship:** 

L: Send out thy light and thy truth, let them lead me

C: Let them bring me to thy Holy Hill.

L: I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord;

All: Serve the Lord with gladness, come before His presence with singing.

Hymn 467 – "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

**Prayer & Lord's Prayer** 

**Responsive Reading: Psalm 71:1 – 6** 

**Worship in Tithes & Offerings** 

Offertory Sentence: "<sup>23</sup> Whatever task you must do, work as if your soul depends on it, as for the Lord and not for humans, <sup>24</sup> since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ." (Colossians 3:23 – 24)

Offertory Song: "I Will Serve Thee"
Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Doxology: "Thanks, Thanks, I Give You Thanks"

**Greetings, Celebrations & Notices** 

**Installation of Church Officers (CMP Liturgy Book p.207)** 

**Adoration in Song** 

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 1:4 – 10 Second Scripture Reading: Luke 4:21 – 30

Choir Anthem – "Come Unto Him" Sermon – Rev. David Ince

**Prayer of Commitment & Intercession** 

MUSICAL INTERLUDE / Prayer of Preparation (p. 50 – Liturgy Book / p. 9 – Hymnal)

RECEPTION OF COMMUNICANTS (p. 61 – Liturgy Book) – Sis. Donna Grant

HOLY COMMUNION (LORD'S SUPPER I – CMP LITURGY BOOK, P. 50)

**Invitation** 

**Eucharistic Prayer** 

Hymn 555 - "Together With These Symbols Lord"

**Consecration of the Bread** 

Distribution Hymns: 558 – "We Come Now To Your Table Lord"

566 - "Let Us Break Bread Together"

**Consecration of the Wine** 

Distribution Hymns: 582 – "By Christ Redeemed"

576 – "With Deep Devotion"

Hymn of Thanksgiving: 577 - "Strengthen for Service, Lord the hands"

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** 

Covenant Song - "Make Us One"

The Blessing Organ Postlude



Organ Prelude Introit – Choir Call to Worship:

L: Send out thy light and thy truth, let them lead me

C: Let them bring me to thy Holy Hill.

L: I was glad when they said unto me let us go into the house of the Lord;

All: Serve the Lord with gladness, come before His presence with singing.



Opening Hymn: 467 –

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us,
Binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.



## **Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**



#### **RESPONSIVE READING:**

**PSALM 71:1 – 6** 

- 1. In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.
- 2. Deliver me in thy righteousness, and cause me to escape: incline thine ear unto me, and save me.
- **3.** Be thou my strong habitation, whereunto I may continually resort: thou hast given commandment to save me; for thou art my rock and my fortress.
- **4.** Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.
- **5.** For thou art my hope, O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth.
- **6.** By thee have I been holden up from the womb: thou art he that took me out of my mother's bowels: my praise shall be continually of thee.



#### **WORSHIP IN TITHES & OFFERINGS**

Offertory Sentence: " $^{23}$  Whatever task you must do, work as if your soul depends on it, as for the Lord and not for humans,  $^{24}$  since you know that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward; you serve the Lord Christ." (Colossians 3:23-24)

Offertory Hymn -

I will serve Thee, because I love Thee
You have given life to me
I was nothing, before You found me
You have given life to me

Heartaches, broken pieces, ruined lives
Are why You died on Cavalry
Your touch was what I longed for
You have given life to me



**Prayer of Dedication of 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.



**Greetings, Celebrations & Notices** 



# INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

From the Liturgy Book of the Moravian Church in the Caribbean

All standing.

Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who then is the faithful and wise steward, whom His Lord shall set over His household to give them their portion of food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom His Lord, when He comes shall find so doing.

Hear also what St. Paul writes: Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant. For there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are diversities of ministration, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of workings, but the same Lord who works all things in all. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit to profit withal. Moreover, it is required in stewards that they be found faithful.

## Let us pray:

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, we give you thanks that you have called us into your service. Grant us, we pray, the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, so that we may know our calling, and that we may obey you and do your work in accordance with your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

We are gathered together in the sight of God to publicly commission our brothers and sisters as members of the Board of Elders and Board of Stewards and Delegates to Island Conference. We believe that they have been called of God to this great office. They have been examined and approved, according to the rules and principles of the Moravian Church.

We pray that God will endue them with love and power that they may exercise the ministry of His Word with true conviction and power, edifying His Church, and living to the honour and glory of His name.

\*\*Amen.\*\*

# To the outgoing officers:

On behalf of the congregation I thank you for your faithful service to God in His Church. May his blessing be yours, and may you experience the joy of knowing that you were used by your Master in a special way as you continue to pray for His guidance in your life and in the life of His Church.

# Addressing those to be installed:

After prayerful consideration and under the leading of the Holy Spirit, the membership of this congregation has chosen you to the offices to which you *have been ( /* are to be) named.

# (Here the officers and offices shall be named.)

Are you willing to accept this position now as a trust committed to you by our Lord and Master, the Head of this body, the Church?

Officers: I am

Do you promise to serve to the best of your ability as faithful stewards called by God?

Officers: I do, the Lord being my Helper.

Addressing the congregation:

Brothers and sisters, inasmuch as these officers, responsible for the well-being of this congregation have publicly pledged themselves under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to exert their very best efforts to this end, will you now promise to bear in mind that you as members collectively elected them, and will you therefore pledge to support them by prayer, by word and by work at all times?

Congregation: We will.

In the name of the Church's Head, I now declare you to be duly installed into the offices to which you have been elected and appointed.

## Let us pray:

Almighty Father, who has called us into the fellowship of your church, grant we pray that in all our offices we may fulfill the duties and enjoy the privileges of our spiritual home. Upon those who offer themselves for your service, bestow the fullness of your grace. Bless and help these your servants. Be present in all the works of your Church which are undertaken according to your will. Grant to these labourers a pure intention, patient faith, sufficient success upon earth and the bliss of serving you in heaven, through Christ our Lord.

\*\*Amen.\*\*

My beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.

A hymn is sung while the Minister extends the right hand of fellowship to the newly installed officers.

427 S.M.

*Tune: Narenza - # 403* 

Ye servants of the Lord, Each in his office wait, Observant of his heavenly word, And watchful at his gate.

Let all your lamps be bright, And trim the golden flame; Gird up your loins as in his sight, For awful is his name. Watch! 'tis your Lord's command, And while we speak, he's near; Mark the first signal of his hand, And ready all appear.

Glad will that servant be, In such a posture found! Who shall the Lord with rapture see, And be with honour crowned.

Christ shall the banquet spread
With his own royal hand,
And raise that faithful servant's head
Amidst the angelic band.

1755. P. Doddridge.



# **Adoration in Song**



# **Ministry of the Word**

# First Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 1:4 – 10

- **4.** Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
- 5. Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.
- **6.** Then said I, Ah, Lord GoD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.
- 7. But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.
- **8.** Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.
- **9.** Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.
- **10.** See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.



# **Second Scripture Reading:**

# Luke 4:21 – 30

- 21. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.
- **22.** And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son?
- **23.** And he said unto them, Ye will surely say unto me this proverb, Physician, heal thyself: whatsoever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in thy country.
- 24. And he said, Verily I say unto you, No prophet is accepted in his own country.
- **25.** But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land;
- **26** But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow.
- **27.** And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian.
- **28.** And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath,
- **29.** And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong.
- **30.** But he passing through the midst of them went his way,



Choir Anthem - "Come Unto Him"



Sermon – – *Rev. David Ince* 



**Prayer of Commitment & Intercession** 



**MUSICAL INTERLUDE / Prayer of Preparation** 



#### THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNICANTS

Dearly beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, we welcome Donna Grant who *has* already made a profession of faith in Christ and *has* been received into full communion with the Church *and* now *wishes* to become *a member* of this congregation.

The minister says: Donna Grant do you reaffirm your faith in Christ and wish to worship and serve him in this congregation?

Answer: I do.

All: We rejoice to welcome and receive you into this congregation. May the blessing of God rest on all of us in our fellowship and service; may we help and enrich one another in love; may we live together in the spirit befitting the company of Christ's people, bearing witness to the strength and purpose of our Lord and Master Jesus Christ. Amen.

The minister and others so appointed give the right hand of fellowship to the new member during the singing of these verses.

TUNE: GÖRLITZ

Here in the name of Christ our Lord, The Church's Head by all adored, With Christian love and purpose true, This Church in faith embraces you.

We welcome you among us here, With joy that God has brought you near. With heart and hand we pledge our love, And pray God's blessing from above.

The God of peace you sanctify
And bless you richly from on high,
That spirit, soul and body may
Reflect God's presence every day.

Moravian Book of Worship, 1995, anon. ©Used with permission.



# The Lord's Supper I

A Prayer for private preparation:

I confess to thee, O God, that I have sinned in thought, word and deed through my own fault; wherefore I pray thee to have mercy upon me. O Lord, forgive me all my sins, and deliver me from evil; confirm me in all goodness; and bring me to life everlasting, through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The congregation stands as the minister brings the elements to the table.

Our Saviour saith, 'Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

I am the bread of life: whoever cometh to me shall never hunger; and whoever believeth in me shall never thirst.'

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold mercies.

But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy; grant us, gracious Lord, so to take this bread and drink this cup, that our fellowship with Thee may cleanse us from our sin and that we may evermore dwell in thee, and thou in us.

Amen.

A hymn is sung, or the Sursum Corda is used:

Lift up your hearts:

We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God:

It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee O Lord, holy Father, almighty everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee and saying,

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee O Lord most high.

Prayer is offered, or this form may be used:

Let us pray.

All glory and thanksgiving be to thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, that thou didst take our nature upon thee, and suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; that thou didst make there a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the world; and didst institute, and in thy holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that thy precious death.

Wherefore, we commemorate thy last supper with thy disciples and having in remembrance thy work and passion, thy glorious resurrection and ascension, and pleading thy eternal sacrifice, we thy servants do set forth this memorial which thou willest us to make, giving thee thanks that thou hast counted us worthy to stand before thee.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O Lord, that with thy holy life-giving Spirit thou wilt bless and sanctify both us and these gifts of bread and wine which we set before thee; that this bread which we break may be to us the communion of thy body; and the cup of blessing which we bless the communion of thy blood; that we, and thy whole Church, receiving the same by faith, may be partakers of thy body and blood, to our spiritual nourishment and growth in grace.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy and living sacrifice, humbly beseeching thee that all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction.

And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences: and in fellowship with all the faithful in heaven and earth, we pray thee to fulfil in us and in all thy people the purpose of thy redeeming love; and to thee, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end.

\*\*AMEN.\*\*



555

Together with these symbols, Lord,
Thy blessèd self impart;
And let thy holy flesh and blood
Feed the believing heart.

Let us from all our sins be washed In thy redeeming blood; And let thy Spirit be the seal That we are sons of God. Come, Holy Ghost, with Jesus' love Prepare us for this feast; So shall we banquet with our Lord, And lean upon his breast.



All stand.

The Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, 'Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of me.'

The Bread is distributed while hymns are sung.



**558** 

We come now to your table Lord,
You are the Living Bread.
We come now to your table Lord,
Let every soul be fed.
You are the Living Bread,
Let every soul be fed,
And now may every soul be fed,
With Living Bread.

We drink the cup, it was for us Your sacred blood was shed, We drink the cup, it was for us You suffered pain and bled; Your sacred blood was shed, You suffered pain and bled; We drink the cup, it was for us Your blood was shed.

A holy feast transforming us, The sacred Bread and Wine, A holy feast transforming us, That makes our lives divine; The sacred Bread and Wine, That makes our lives divine; A holy feast transforming us, This Bread and Wine.



Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.



All having received the Bread, the Congregation stands.

Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ's body was given for you: and feed upon him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

All partake together, then sit or kneel, and after silent prayer, sing this verse:

Tune: Media Vita (Part II)

Most holy Lord and God,
Holy, almighty God,
Holy and most merciful Saviour,
Thou eternal God;
Grant that we may never
Lose the comforts from thy death,
Have mercy, O Lord.



All stand

After the same manner also, the Lord Jesus took the cup when he had supped, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, 'Drink ye all of it, for this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins. This do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.'

The Wine is distributed while hymns are sung.



By Christ redeemed, in Christ restored,
We keep the memory adored,
And show the death of our dear Lord,
Until He come.

His body broken in our stead
We 'take and eat' – the living bread;
And thus, by faith, our souls are fed
Until He come.

The drops of His dread agony, His life blood shed for us, we see; The wine shall tell the mystery Until He come.

And thus that dark betrayal night With the last advent we unite By one blest chain of loving rite, Until He come.

O blessèd hope! with this elate Let not our hearts be desolate, But, strong in faith, in patience wait Until He come.



With deep devotion
We in Christ's sufferings trace
The unfathomed ocean
Of his abounding grace;
He gave
Himself, our souls to save.

His body broken
Upon the shameful cross,
As he hath spoken,
Was given to death for us:
We feed
On everlasting bread.

576

The Lord draws near us,
Let us to meet him haste;
He comes to cheer us,
His flesh is our repast,
His blood
Our drink and highest good.

In sweet communion
With Christ, our Paschal Lamb,
And holy union
With all who love his name
May we
Abide continually.



All having received the Wine, the Congregation stands.

Take and drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for you, and be ye thankful.

All partake together, then sit or kneel, and after silent prayer, sing this verse:

Most holy Lord and God,
Holy, almighty God,
Holy and most merciful Saviour,
Thou eternal God;
Bless thy congregation
Through thy sufferings, death and blood,
Have mercy, O Lord.



Verses of Thanksgiving may be sung or a prayer of thanksgiving such as the following is offered:



**Hymn of Thanksgiving – 577** 

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands
That holy things have taken;
Let ears that now have heard thy songs
To clamour never waken.

Lord, may the tongues which 'Holy' sang Keep free from all deceiving; The eyes which saw thy love be bright, Thy blessèd hope perceiving.

The feet that tread thy holy courts From light do thou not banish; The bodies by thy Body fed With thy new life replenish.



O Christ, our ever-living Lord, who in thy great love hast fed us at thy table, we most heartily thank thee for this time of fellowship, and for the spiritual strength and comfort thou dost impart to our souls. Grant us thy help to keep the vows which here we renew. May the uplifting sense of thy presence remain with us to guide and defend our lives.

We praise thee that thou has made us members of thy mystical body, the blessed company of all faithful people: and we commend to thee all those who are joined to us in the one true faith. We bring to thee in love and tenderness all who are dear to us .... Be pleased to unite thy people everywhere in love and charity; and let thy Church spread abroad in the earth, drawing all people unto thyself, that they may find redemption and peace in thee.

Rejoicing in the communion of saints, we thank thee for all thy servants who have departed in the faith, the great cloud of witnesses by whom we are encompassed, who in every age have loved thee in life, and continued faithful unto death, especially those most dear to our own hearts ...... Give us grace with them to follow thee, and bring us at the last to those things which eye hath not seen nor ear heard, which thou hast prepared for them that love thee.

Now, unto him that loved us, and hath loosed us from our sins by his blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto his God and Father, unto him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.

AMEN.

During a covenant hymn, the right hand of fellowship is given, as a pledge of rededication to the service of Christ and a sign of our oneness in him.



Covenant Hymn -

Make us one heart
Make us one mind
Make us one, let your will be done
Make us one flame, to proclaim your name

#### Make us one, make us one



# The Blessing:

THE Lord bless thee and keep thee;

The Lord make his face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee;

The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.

In the name of Jesus. AMEN.

All remain standing whilst the minister removes the elements from the table.



# **Organ Postlude**



## **Greetings, Celebrations & Notices**

Welcome: With joy we extend welcome to all worshiping with us today; whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. We pray for the revitalizing experience of God's Holy Spirit in this hour. Welcome.





<u>Today:</u> Leila Bernstein, Heather Greenidge, Carl Ifill, Sandra Maynard & Maggie Phillips-Brewster

<u>Advanced</u> Ciauné Barker & Cynthia Waldron (3<sup>rd</sup>), Shada Applewhaite,
Tara Gilkes & Margaret Morris (6<sup>th</sup>), Patsy Turton-Beckles (7<sup>th</sup>)



#### 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 & Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.

**♦** Adventures in worship (All ages) – 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre

#### This Week at Sharon:

→ 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:** Bible Study – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom. Meeting ID: 861

4335 8604 / Passcode: 244093.

**†** Friday: Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.

**♣** Saturday: Sharon's 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner & Gala – 6:00 p.m. at the

**Hilton Hotel.** 

**Next Sunday:** Sharon's 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations Closing Service

**Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m.** 



## **Activities in the Month of February 2025:**

- **♣** Harvest Festival at Fulnec Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 a.m.
- **♣** Friendship Week at Sharon Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>.
- ♦ Sharon's 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner & Gala Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton. 6:00 p.m.
- **♦** Sharon's 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations Closing Service Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m. Members are encouraged to wear their Sharon Anniversary shirts. Those who do not have can wear their usual Sharon shirt if they desire.
- **†** Harvest Festival at Calvary − Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup>
- **♥** Women's Prayer & Fasting Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup>
- **♣** Harvest Festival at Dunscombe Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m.
- **♥** Conference Fundraising Fish Fry Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> at the D. C. Moore Centre.
- $\Phi$  Black Heritage Sunday  $-23^{\rm rd}$ . Come in your Afro wear. Celebrate our identity and heritage.
- ₱ Harvest Festival at Clifton Hill Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup>



## **NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS**

1. At our Church Council last Sunday, it was announced that Sis. Diane Tull-Knight was elected to the Board of Stewards. However, an error was made, in that, her votes were written next to the name of Sis Evelina King-Harper and visa-versa. The error was recognised in the Church Office on Friday and the ballots were recounted in the presence of the Returning Office and the results verified. Sis Evelina King-Harper was elected to the Board of Stewards instead of Sis Diane Tull-Knight.

Those to be installed today are:

**Elders** Stewards

Sis. Hazel Carter Sis. Sylvia Arthur-Hurdle

Sis. Cora Cumberbatch Sis. Joy Best

Sis. Carmel Downes Sis. Patricia Brathwaite-Marshall

Sis. Merville Franklyn
Sis. Jennifer Clarke
Sis. Lelia Gibbs
Bro. Patrick Cadogan
Sis. Denise Grant
Sis. Sian Cumberbatch
Bro. Victor Hurdle
Bro. Darwin Dottin
Sis. Ingrid Ibrahim
Sis Charlene Ellis
Bro. Anthony Ifill
Sis. Sonia King

Bro. Steven King Sis. Evelina King-Harper

Sis. Veronica Leacock Bro. Andrew Lowe Bro. Edwin Sandiford Sis. Brenda Mascoll

Sis. Ismay Straker

**Delegates To Island Conference** 

Sis. Sylvia Arthur-Hurdle

Sis. Evelina King-Harper

Sis. Orrin Williams

Sis. Angelus Hurdle (Alternate)

- 2. We are celebrating 225 years since the laying of the cornerstone here at Sharon. Upcoming events being planned include:
  - **♣** Anniversary Dinner & Gala February 8, 2025, at the Hilton. Dinner \$200. Tickets are available.
  - **†** Closing Service − February 9, 2025
- ₩e have launched a "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.



- 3. If you plan to claim on contributions to our church when filing your 2024 Income Tax Return, please make a request and submit your TAMIS Number, so that a statement can be forwarded to the Barbados Revenue Authority on your behalf. Please send an email to sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com or call the Church Office during Office Hours.
- 4. From the Provincial Board:
- ₱ March 2, 2025, is Unity Sunday. At this time of year, we remember the birth of the Unitas Fratrum, the Moravian Church, on March 1, 1457 (568 years ago). Please continue to pray for the work and witness of our Church. A special Unity offering will be taken in all Moravian Churches worldwide on Sunday March 2, 2025. The Unity Offering for 2025 will be used to fund the Common Moravian Theological Education Curriculum. Details of the project are attached.
- **†** The Unity Prayer Watch is a special service to the world, offered by the worldwide Moravian Church. The Eastern West Indies Province will participate in the Unity Prayer Watch from April 03 − April 17, 2025. The Schedule is as follows:
  - **†** Tobago − 12 a.m. April 3 − 11:59 a.m. April 5, 2025
  - ♥ St. Kitts & The Grenada Mission 12 p.m. April 5 11:59 p.m. April 7, 2025
  - **†** Trinidad − 12 a.m. April 8 − 11:59 a.m. April 9, 2025
  - **♣** Barbados 12 p.m. April 9 11:59 p.m. April 11, 2025
  - **♣** Antigua 12 a.m. April 12 11:59 p.m. April 14, 2025
  - **♥** Virgin Islands 12 a.m. April 15 11:59 p.m. April 17, 2025

- **The Conferences are asked to use creative and innovative ways to observe the time allotted for our members to participate in this unbroken prayer chain.**
- This prayer meeting began on August 13, 1727, when the Moravian Church had its Pentecost experience. Prayer is still a vital part of our walk with God and the life of the church. Let us therefore be in readiness for this prayer event as we continue to seek God's guidance and direction for our Church, the world, and ourselves.
- 5. From the Superintendent:
- **♦** The 34th Provincial Synod of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province will be held in the Trinidad Conference in July 2025. The Synod will be both virtual and in-person. Synod will convene virtually on May 15, 2025, and June 12, 2025, to conduct housekeeping matters and to receive reports. The in-person sessions will be held from July 10 − 16, 2025 in Trinidad, with the 10th and 16th being travels days.
- The Congregations of the Province are being asked to cover the fees and costs of their Pastor(s)/Clergy Delegate(s) as usual. The estimated cost per delegate from Barbados is BD\$3,000, covering a Synod Fee of US\$1,000 and travel cost from Barbados to Trinidad of approximately BD \$1,000.
- The election of delegates is scheduled for Sunday, March 9, 2025, in the congregations of the Conference. Pastors have been asked to begin the process of having the Joint Board nominate one person from their congregation.
- As per the Book of Order (Paragraph 4.17), members of the Moravian Church Eastern West Indies Province may submit proposals on any aspect of our church's life, for resolution at the 34th Provincial Synod. Proposals should be seconded by a member of the Moravian Church and submitted to the Conference Office by February 14th, for consideration by the Island Conference and further submission to the Provincial Office by April 15, 2025.
- **Please begin to make preparations and to pray for the Synod.**
- 6. 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 helpinghands for this ministry. Please let the Pastors know of your interest.
- 7. We are thankful for your financial support.
- **♥** 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.
- **You 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 <a href="www.sharonmoravian.info/giving-monetary">www.sharonmoravian.info/giving-monetary</a> for these details.
- 8. 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.
- **We invite you to tune in for inspiration and information to enable you in your Christian walk and service.**
- ♣ 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).
- **†** You can email your comments and requests to: <a href="mailto:moravianvoice@gmail.com">moravianvoice@gmail.com</a>
- **†** Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: "Moravian Voice" on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on Life 97.5 FM.

# The Past 225 Years

41. In the early days of Sharon, membership was made up of mostly those who lived in the immediate area of the church, or within easy walking distance. Hence, Jackson, Arthur Seat, Melrose, Redman's Village, Bridgefield, Shop Hill, Lodge Hill, to name a few, would be the address of a member. Today, this is no longer the case. There are very few walkers, and members hail from across the island, with addresses in Christ Church, St James, St George, St Philip, St Joseph, not forgetting St Thomas and St Michael.





#### **PRAYER NEEDS:**



- 1. Our Shut-ins: Sis. Aileen Bowen, Sis. Vernice Alberta Osbourne
- 2. The Sick/Recovering:
  - ♥ Sis. Ansonia Cox-Burgess, Sis. Zelia Kellman, Sis. Shanna King (USA)
- 3. The Bereaved: We express condolences to and we pray for:
- † The Davis family on the passing of Sis. Ursulene Davis. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held here at Sharon on Friday, February 7, 2025 commencing at 3:00 p.m.
- 4. World Peace



# **AVAILABLE** (Through the Church Office):

- **♣** Missionary Collection Boxes 2025 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
- **†** Copies of Sunday sermons on CD − \$2.00.
- **†** Books:
- Rev. Neilson Waithe: <u>Understanding the Caribbean Worker</u> \$25; Provocation \$20.
- Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts: <u>Created in Their Image: Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914 \$50.</u>
- Rev. Dr. Joseph Nicholas: <u>Baptism Is a Gift of God: As Such It Is More Than</u> Water \$35.
- Greeting Cards (\$2.00) and Prints (\$20.00) of a painting of Sharon Church.



Visit our Website at <a href="http://sharonmoravian.info">http://sharonmoravian.info</a>; 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.



#### **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



