



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves - 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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Sunday, January 3, 2021

Second Sunday after Christmas Day

Sunday Closest to Epiphany

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: A sincere welcome and a blessed 2021 to all, including those who join us by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook. Today the Sunday closest to Epiphany, we celebrate the coming of Christ to the entire world. We pray God to shine his transforming light upon us in this time of worship. Welcome.

Pastor: Rev. Ezra Parris

(Manse: 246-546-0344)

Associate Pastor:

Rev. Movelle Kellman

WATCHWORD: In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. *(Ephesians 1:7)*

Provincial Theme 2021: "Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T."

ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Call to Worship

Leader: *“Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; Sing praises on the harp to our God,”*(Ps. 147:7)

Congregation: *“Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; For it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful.”* (Ps. 147:1)

Litany: Epiphany p. 106 – Liturgy Book / Projected

Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Songs & Choruses

Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 60:1 – 6**

Second Scripture Reading: **John 1:6 – 18**

Preparatory Chorus – *“Thy Word is a lamp Unto My Feet”*

Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn 410 – *“God of Mercy, God of Grace”*

The Blessing

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.



EPIPHANY

p. 50 – Caribbean Moravian Praise Liturgy Book

All standing.

Tune: ST. GEORGE – # 593

***From the vast and veiled throng,
Round the Father's heavenly throne,
Swells the everlasting song:
Glory be to God alone!
Round Immanuel's cross of pain
Mortal men, in tribes unknown,
Sing to him who once was slain:
Glory be to God alone!***

***Blend ye raptured songs, in one,
Men redeemed, your Father own;
Angels, worship ye the Son:
Glory be to God alone;
Spirit, 'tis within thy light,
Streaming far from cross and throne,
Earth and heaven their songs unite:
Glory be to God alone!***

Hervey Ganse (1822 – 1891)

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, hear us.

Here all join to say the Lord's Prayer:

Let us pray as our Saviour has taught us:

***Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.***

**Give us this day our
daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who
trespass against us.
And lead us not into
temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom
The power and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

Lord God, Son, thou Saviour of the world,
Be gracious unto us.

Lord God, Holy Ghost,
Abide with us forever.

This is a trustworthy saying and everyone should accept it: “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;”
Of whom I am chief.

Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.
Blessing, and honour, and glory and power belong to the one sitting on the throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever.

Tune: CRÜGER – # 381

**Arabia's desert ranger
To him shall bow the knee;
The Ethiopian stranger
His glory come to see:
With offerings of devotion
Ships from the isles shall meet,
To pour the wealth of ocean
In tribute at his feet.**

**Kings shall fall down before him,
And gold and incense bring;**

***All nations shall adore him,
His praise all people sing;
For he shall have dominion
O'er river, sea, and shore,
Far as the eagle's pinion,
Or dove's light wing, can soar.***

James Montgomery (1771 – 1854)

How beautiful on the mountain are the feet of the messenger who brings good news – good news of peace and salvation.

Their message has gone throughout the earth, and the Word to all the world.

The Lord gives the Word:

And a great army brings the Good News.

Wake up and look around, the fields are already ripe for harvest.

The harvest is great, but the workers are few.

So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into the field.

The Lord says, O Jerusalem I have posted watchmen on your walls; they will pray night and day continually; take no rest, all you who pray to the Lord.

Look and see for everyone is coming home!

Your sons are coming from distant lands; your little daughters will be carried home.

Arise, let your light shine for all to see;

For the glory of the Lord rises to shine on you.

The same star that led the Wise Men to the Christ Child, similarly lingers before us to guide God's people to the Saviour of the world.

May God's people, like the Wise Men, rejoice greatly when they see the star and find the Saviour.

For God has elevated him to the place of highest honour and given him the name above all other names.

At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth.

Yes, let every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET – # 41

***How bright appears the Morning Star
With mercy beaming from afar;
The host of heaven rejoices;
O righteous branch, O Jesse's rod,
Thou Son of man, and Son of God.
We too will lift our voices.
Jesus, Jesus,
Holy, holy, yet most lowly,
Draw thou near us;
Great Immanuel stoop and hear us.***

John C. Jacobi a. (1670 – 1750)

All seated.

Let us pray:

Bless, O Lord, ours and all other Christian congregations; keep them as the apple of your eye.

Let them be a light unto those who sit in darkness, and in the region and shadow of death.

Have mercy on your ancient covenant people; deliver them from their blindness, and bring all nations to your saving knowledge.

Hear us, gracious Lord and God.

Let the wanderers come – from the West, and from the East.

And from the North, and from the South.

Thou Light and Desire of all nations, watch over thy messengers both by land and sea. Accompany the word of their testimony concerning thy atonement with demonstration of the Spirit and of power. Thou knowest where they dwell, and wherein they labour; and that they are keeping the word of thy patience. In the hour of

temptation do thou keep them and let thy holy name be named upon them. Preserve them in times of danger and distress. Let them find comfort in the fellowship and intercession of the churches, which have sent them forth in obedience to thy call. May the fire of thy love awaken and preserve amongst us the spirit of the great cloud of witnesses, who loved not their life unto the death. Bless us all, both them and us, and make of us a blessing. Amen.

All standing.

Tune: BISHOPGARTH – # 390

*Almighty Lord, whose sovereign right
Extends o'er every nation,
We bless thee for the gospel light
That brought to us salvation.
And unto thee we raise our prayer
For all in darkness dwelling;
That they with us thy light may share,
With us thy praise be telling.*

*And hear us as we call on thee
For all the truth possessing,
That they may ever ready be
To share the heavenly blessing;
To send to earth's remotest shore
The gladdening gospel story,
That all the nations may adore
Jesus, the King of glory.*

Evelyn R. Hasse (1855 – 1918)



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

A sincere welcome and a blessed 2021 to all, including those who join us by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook. Today the Sunday closest to Epiphany, we celebrate the coming of Christ to the entire world. We pray God to shine his transforming light upon us in this time of worship. Welcome.





Advanced: Jason Lewis & Charlton Moore (Jan. 4th), Martin Codrington & Kempton Whitehall (5th), Alonna Goddard & Christina Joseph (7th)



Congratulations to Bro. Victor & Sis. Maria Carrington who will celebrate their 5th Wedding Anniversary on January 9, 2021

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & INVOLVEMENT

✝ **Today:** Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m.

✝ Week of Prayer begins – 6:30 p.m. online via Zoom.

Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (D. C. Moore Centre)

✝ **Monday to Friday:** Sharon & Dunscombe Week of Prayer Services – 7:30 p.m. online via Zoom

✝ **Saturday:** Conference Youth Workshop – 10:00 a.m. D. C. Moore Centre.

✝ **Next Sunday:** Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m.

In the Month of January 2021

✝ Moravian Disciples Concert – Saturday 23rd

✝ Moravian Church Barbados Conference at Prayer – Saturday, 23rd

✝ Annual Church Council – Sunday, 24th

✝ Harvest Festival at Centenary – Sunday, 24th



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. **From the Superintendent:** Greetings Brothers and Sisters. As a result of recent COVID-19 related developments, the Government of Barbados has today asked religious groups to suspend gathering or assembling for the next two weeks.

✝ Please note therefore that in compliance, Moravian church buildings in Barbados will be closed to the general membership and the public, except for funerals, weddings and the livestreaming of services, from tomorrow, January 3, 2021 to January 14, 2021. Specific guidelines have been given for these exceptions.

- † As permitted, some of our sanctuaries will be used to livestream weekly worship as led by select teams. Members and the public are invited to gather virtually and worship via the livestream from the Calvary / Grace Hill / Fulnec Pastorate, the Bethlehem / Faith Pastorate or the Sharon / Dunscombe Pastorate on their YouTube and Facebook pages. These can be found by a web search.
- † Worship times are as follows:
- Calvary / Grace Hill / Fulnec Pastorate — Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
 - Sharon / Dunscombe Pastorate — Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
 - Bethlehem / Faith Pastorate — Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
- † I call on our membership to follow the directives and recommendations our public health officials and agencies, that we may do our part in maintaining the health of our community and fighting the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- † Although we are off to a rough start, I pray God's blessing and restoration for us all in the year ahead. We still serve a God who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us (Ephesians 3:20).
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **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.
 5. **Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme:** “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
 6. **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).
 7. **Invite someone to get on board!** Our Bus is back on Route on Sundays. The Route to and from Sharon remains: Quarry Road (8:30a.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.



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.
- **A Book written by Rev. Dr. WinelleKirton-Roberts:** ‘Created in Their Image: *Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914*’The cost is \$50.00.



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*



Blessing of Tithes & Offerings



Adoration in Songs & Choruses



Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60:1 – 6

- 1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.
- 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.
- 3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

- 4 Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side.
- 5 Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.
- 6 The multitude of camels shall cover thee, the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; all they from Sheba shall come: they shall bring gold and incense; and they shall shew forth the praises of the LORD.



Second Scripture Reading:

John 1:6 – 18

- 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.

- 15 John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake,
He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me.
- 16 And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.
- 17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.
- 18 No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the
bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.



Preparatory Chorus – “*Thy Word is a lamp Unto My Feet*”



Sermon -- *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn 410 –

**God of mercy, God of grace,
Show the brightness of thy face;
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
Fill thy Church with light divine;
And thy saving health extend
Unto earth’s remotest end.**

**Let the people praise thee, Lord;
Be by all that live adored;
Let the nations shout and sing
Glory to their Saviour King;
At thy feet their tribute pay,
And thy holy will obey.**

**Let the people praise thee, Lord;
Earth shall then her fruits afford;
God to man his blessing give,
Man to God devoted live;
All below and all above,
One in joy, and light, and love.**



The Benediction



Organ Postlude



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.

