



SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

Email: sharon.moravian.church@gmail.com

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

Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164



And when they were come
into the house, they saw
the young child with Mary
his mother, and fell down,
and worshipped him...

—Matthew 2:11

Sunday, January 5, 2025

Second Sunday of Christmas
Sunday Closest to Epiphany

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: A sincere welcome and a blessed 2025 to all – whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. Today we celebrate the coming of Christ to the entire world – his epiphany. We pray God to shine his transforming light upon us in this time of worship.

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

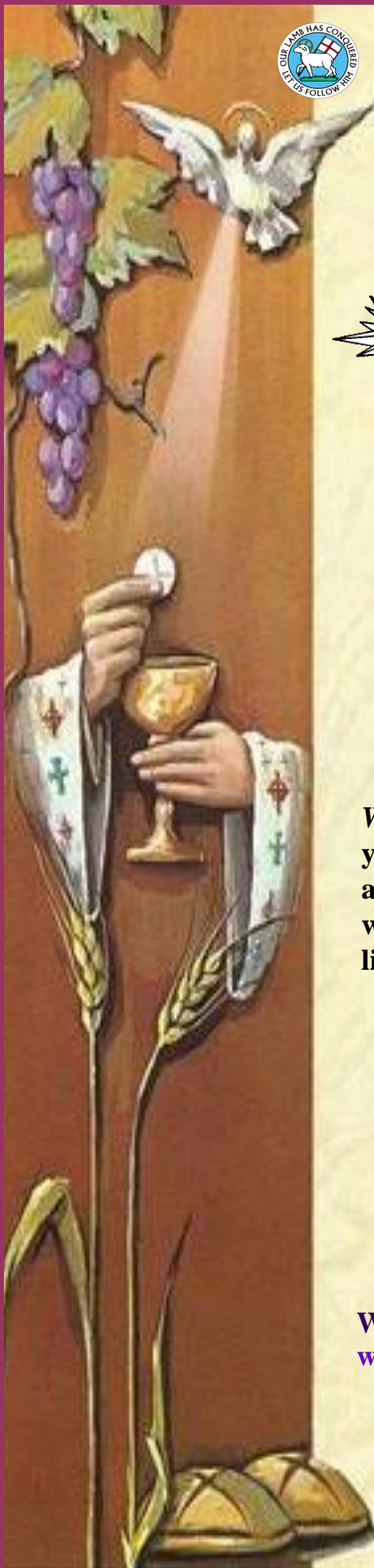
Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164

WATCHWORD: God has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ.

(Ephesians 1:9)

Provincial Theme 2025:

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



ORDER OF SERVICE



Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship (Psalm 34:3)

Leader: Oh, magnify the LORD with me,

Congregation: *And let us exalt His name together.*

Hymn 467 – “*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*”

Invocation

Litany For Epiphany p. 106 – CMP Liturgy Book

Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: “*Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; Sing praises on the harp to our God, Who covers the heavens with clouds, Who prepares rain for the earth, Who makes grass to grow on the mountains. He gives to the beast its food, And to the young ravens that cry.*” (Psalm 147:7 – 9)

Offertory Hymn: 69 – “*As With Gladness Men of Old*”

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Doxology: “*Thanks, Thanks, I Give You Thanks*”

Greetings, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Song

† “*Blessing and Honour, Glory and Power*”

† “*How Great Is Our God*”

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 31:7 – 14

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1 – 12

Choir Anthem – “*The Adoration*”

Sermon – *Rev. Ezra Parris*

Prayer of Commitment & Intercession

Hymn – “*Shine Jesus, Shine*”

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

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

Invitation

Eucharistic Prayer

Consecration of the Bread

Distribution Hymns: 581 – “*Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face To Face*”

191 – “*I’ve Found A Friend; O Such A Friend*”



188 – *“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”*

Consecration of the Wine

Distribution Hymns: 165 – *“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”*

580 – *“My Heart Is Resting, O My God”*

162 – *“Love Divine All Loves Excelling”*

Hymn of Thanksgiving: 36 – *“Praise to the Holiest in the Height”*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Covenant Hymn: 599 – *“We Covenant With Hand And Heart”*

The Blessing

Organ Postlude



Organ Prelude

Introit – Choir

Call to Worship (Psalm 34:3)

Leader: Oh, magnify the LORD with me,

Congregation: *And let us exalt His name together.*



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.



Invocation



EPIPHANY

All standing.

Tune: St. George

**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 for ever.

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

**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 Der Morgenstern

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

**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)



WORSHIP IN TITHES & OFFERINGS

Offertory Sentence: *“Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; Sing praises on the harp to our God, Who covers the heavens with clouds, Who prepares rain for the earth, Who makes grass to grow on the mountains. He gives to the beast its food, And to the young ravens that cry.” (Psalm 147:7 – 9)*

Offertory Hymn: 69 –

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.



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.*



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices



Worship in Song –

Ancient of Days

Blessing and honour, glory and power
Be unto the Ancient of Days
From every nation all of creation
Bow before the Ancient of Days

*Every tongue in heaven and earth shall declare Your glory
Every knee shall bow at Your throne in worship
You will be exalted O God
And Your kingdom shall not pass away
O Ancient of days*

Your kingdom shall reign over all the earth
Sing unto the Ancient of Days
For none can compare to Your matchless worth
Sing unto the Ancient of Days



How Great Is Our God

The splendor of a King,
Clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice,
All the earth rejoice.
He wraps himself in Light,
And darkness tries to hide;
And trembles at His voice,
Trembles at His voice.

*How great is our God, sing with me
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.*

Age to age He stands;
And time is in His hands;
Beginning and the end,
Beginning and the end.
The Godhead Three in One;
Father Spirit Son;
The Lion and the Lamb,
The Lion and the Lamb.

Bridge

*Name above all names,
Worthy of our praise;
My heart will sing,
How great is our God.*



Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 31:7 – 14

7. For thus saith the LORD; Sing with gladness for Jacob, and shout among the chief of the nations: publish ye, praise ye, and say, O LORD, save thy people, the remnant of Israel.

8. Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the coasts of the earth, and with them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her that travaileth with child together: a great company shall return thither.
9. They shall come with weeping, and with supplications will I lead them: I will cause them to walk by the rivers of waters in a straight way, wherein they shall not stumble: for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.
10. Hear the word of the LORD, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock.
11. For the LORD hath redeemed Jacob, and ransomed him from the hand of him that was stronger than he.
12. Therefore they shall come and sing in the height of Zion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the LORD, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young of the flock and of the herd: and their soul shall be as a watered garden; and they shall not sorrow any more at all.
13. Then shall the virgin rejoice in the dance, both young men and old together: for I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and make them rejoice from their sorrow.
14. And I will satiate the soul of the priests with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the LORD.



Second Scripture Reading:

Matthew 2:1 – 12

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.



Choir Anthem – *“The Adoration”*



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn –

Lord the light of your love is shining
 In the midst of the darkness shining
 Jesus light of the world shine upon us
 Set us free by the truth you now bring us
 Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine Jesus shine,
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze spirit blaze,
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow river flow,
Flood the nations with peace and mercy,
Send forth your word,
Lord and let there be light.*

Lord I come to your awesome presence
From the shadow into your radiance
By your blood I now enter your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me, shine on me.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
So our faces display your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
Shine on me, shine on me.



MUSICAL INTERLUDE / Prayer of Preparation



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.*



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.



581

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of Heaven;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

I have no help but Thine; nor do I need
Another arm save Thine to lean upon;
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness:
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;

Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace;
Thy Blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God!

This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heavenly table spread for me;
Here let me feast, and feasting, still prolong
The brief, bright hour of fellowship with thee.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by;
Yet, passing, points to the glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love.



191

I've found a friend; O such a friend!
He loved me ere I knew him;
He drew me with the cords of love,
And thus he bound me to him;
And round my heart still closely twine
Those ties which naught can sever,
For I am his, and he is mine,
Forever and forever.

I've found a friend; O such a friend!
He bled, he died to save me;
And not alone the gift of life,
But his own self he gave me.
Nought that I have mine own I call,
I'll hold it for the giver;
My heart, my strength, my life, my all
Are his, and his forever.

I've found a friend, O such a friend!
So kind, and true, and tender!
So wise a counselor and guide,
So mighty a defender!
From him who loves me now so well
What power my soul shall sever?
Shall life or death, shall earth or hell?
No! I am his for ever.



What a Friend we have in Jesus,
 All our sins and griefs to bear!
 What a privilege to carry
 Everything to God in prayer!
 O what peace we often forfeit,
 O what needless pain we bear –
 All because we do not carry
 Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
 Is there trouble anywhere?
 We should never be discouraged:
 Take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Can we find a friend so faithful,
 Who will all our sorrows share?
 Jesus knows our every weakness –
 Take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
 Cumbered with a load of care?
 Jesus only is our refuge,
 Take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
 Take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee,
 Thou wilt find a solace there.



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.



165

The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never,
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow
My ransomed soul He leadeth,
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me,
And on His shoulder gently laid,
And home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction grace bestoweth;
And O what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;

Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever.



580

My heart is resting, O my God,
I will give thanks and sing;
My heart is at the secret source
Of every precious thing.

Now the frail vessel Thou hast made
No hand but Thine shall fill;
For the waters of the Earth have failed,
And I am thirsty still.

I thirst for springs of heavenly life,
And here all day they rise;
I seek the treasure of Thy love,
And close at hand it lies.

I have a heritage of joy
That yet I must not see;
The hand that bled to make it mine
Is keeping it for me.

And a new song is in my mouth
To long loved music set:
Glory to Thee for all the grace
I have not tasted yet.

My heart is resting on thy truth.
Who hast made all things mine;
O draw my captive will to thee,
And make it one with thine.



162

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown;

Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation;
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave:

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

Finish then thy new creation,
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in thee;

Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.



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 – 36

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise;
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood,
Which did in Adam fail,
Should strive afresh against the foe,
Should strive, and should prevail:

And that the higher gift than grace
Should flesh and blood refine:
God's presence and his very self,
And essence all-divine.

O generous love! that he who smote
In man for man, the foe,
The double agony in man
For man, should undergo.

And in the garden secretly,
And on the cross on high,
Should teach his brethren, and inspire
To suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
And in the depth be praise;
In all his words most wonderful,
Most sure in all his ways!



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: 599 –

We covenant with hand and heart,
To follow Christ, our Lord;
With world and sin and self to part,
And to obey his word:
To love each other heartily,
In truth and in sincerity,
And under cross, reproach and shame,
To glorify his name.



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: *A sincere welcome and a blessed 2025 to all – whether you are joining us here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. Today we celebrate the coming of Christ to the entire world – his epiphany. We pray God to shine his transforming light upon us in this time of worship.*



***Today: Martin Codrington, Kempton Whitehall
Advanced Alonna Goddard & Christina Joseph (7th), Sheridan Greaves
& Cynthia Waithe (10th), Lorna Bryan (11th)***



Congratulations to Bro. Victor & Sis. Maria Carrington who will celebrate their 8th Wedding Anniversary on January 9, 2024.



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).
- ✝ Monday to Friday
 - ✝ Sharon & Dunscombe Week of Prayer Services – 7:30 pm online via Zoom. Meeting ID: 861 4335 8604 / Passcode: 244093.
- ✝ Saturday: Youth Conference at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ✝ Next Sunday: Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m.
 - ✝ Adventures in worship (All ages) – 10:00 a.m. in the D.C. Moore Centre



Activities in the Month of January 2025:

- ✝ Prayer & Renewal Services – 6th – 10th
- ✝ Youth Conference – Saturday, 11th at 10.00 a.m. via Zoom (Meeting ID: 856 4518 9841 | Passcode: 901382). Theme: “*Empowered for Tomorrow.*” The Keynote Speaker will be Sis. Launée Richards of the Antigua Conference.
- ✝ Moravian Church Barbados Conference at Prayer – Saturday, 25th
- ✝ Moravian Disciples Concert – Saturday 25th
- ✝ Annual Church Council – Sunday, 26th
- ✝ Harvest at Centenary – Sunday, 26th
- ✝ PEC and Superintendents Conference – 27th – 31st in Antigua.



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. Thanks to all who supported our Missionary Festival on October 27, 2024. We raised so far \$14,229.15. Funds raised will go towards local missions, and to missionary endeavours across the region and the world through the various mission organisations of the Moravian Church.
2. 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.
 - ✝ Planting of a Time Capsule – February 9, 2025
 - ✝ Closing Service – February 9, 2025

- ✝ We 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. 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.

4. The assignment of Elders Districts is as follows:

No.	DISTRICT	ELDERS
1	Edgehill Rd., Near Sharon, Upper Jackson.	Sis. Ismay Straker
2	Cane Garden, Cane Garden Park, Cane Garden New Development, Cane Garden Crescent, Cane Garden Heights.	Bro. Anthony Ifill
3	Lower Jackson, 1 st Avenue Jackson, Browne's Gap, Arthur Seat (W – West of Quarry Rd. to Warrens).	Bro. Edwin Sandiford
4	Canewood Rd., Lears Corner, St. George, St. John, Christ Church, Brittons Hill.	Sis. Ismay Straker
5	Bridgefield, Whitehall – St. T, Hopewell, Bloomsbury.	Sis. Merville Franklyn
6	Jackson Terrace, Jackson Tenantry, Arsenal Playing Field Rd.	Sis. Carmel Downes
7	Arthur Seat (East – Quarry Rd to Melrose Cnr.)	Sis. Ingrid Ibrahim
8	Melrose, Arthur Seat (Central), Welches, Padmore Village.	Sis. Denise Grant
9	Edgehill Terrace, Edgehill Heights, Shop Hill, Content, Spring Farm, Farm Path, White Hill Terrace, Hillaby.	Sis. Lelia Gibbs
10	Eden Lodge, Under Lodge Hill, White Hall – St. M, Cave Hill, Grazettes, Codrington Hill, Spooners Hill, Green Hill.	Bro. Steven King
11	Friendship Terrace, Lodge Hill, Rock Dundo Park, Farm Rd., Clermont, Lodge Terrace, Mahaica Gap.	Sis. Veronica Leacock
12	Black Rock, Fitts Village, West Terrace, Oxnards, Wanstead Heights & Gardens, Husbands, Hinds Hill, Thorpes, Holders Hill, Hoytes Village, Prior Park.	Sis. Cora Cumberbatch
13	Warrens, Welches – North, Redman's Village, Bagatelle, Baywoods, Bakers Woods, Mt. Brevitor.	Sis. Hazel Carter

5. We have resumed the “Basket of Hope” ministry. Each Sunday you are invited to make contributions of non-perishable food items, which will be distributed to those in need. Contributions can be made during the offertory hymn. We are appealing for volunteers to provide the needed management and helping-hands for this ministry. Please let the Pastors know of your interest.

6. 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 www.sharonmoravian.info/giving-monetary for these details.
7. 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: moravianvoice@gmail.com
 - ✝ 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

38. Many people are unaware that up to just over 25 years ago, both the organ and the choir were located downstairs in the front eastern corner of the church building. Following the relocation to the current position upstairs, the façade of the former organ stands on the eastern wall, behind the choir stall, as a proud memento.



PRAYER NEEDS:



1. Our Shut-ins: *Sis. Aileen Bowen, Bro. Tyrone Waithe, Sis. Vernice Alberta Osbourne*
2. The Sick/Recovering:
† *Sis. Ansonia Cox-Burgess, Sis. Zelia Kellman, Sis. Shanna King (USA), Sis. Ursulene Davis*
3. 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:** Understanding the Caribbean Worker – \$25; Provocation – \$20.
- ▣ **Rev. Dr. Winelle Kirton-Roberts:** Created in Their Image: Evangelical Protestantism in Antigua and Barbados 1834-1914 – \$50.
- ▣ **Rev. Dr. Joseph Nicholas:** Baptism Is a Gift of God: As Such It Is More Than Water – \$35.
- † **Greeting Cards (\$2.00) and Prints (\$20.00)** of a painting of Sharon Church.



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.



Provincial Theme 2024:

“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



**Moravian Church - Barbados Conference
Presents a Youth Conference**



"Empowered For Tomorrow"



Keynote Speaker:
Sis. Launée D.A. Richards
from the Antigua Conference

Saturday, January 11, 2025 - 10:00 a.m.

Online via Zoom

Meeting ID: 856 4518 9841 | Passcode: 901382

Scan or Click to join:



Come and be inspired to make big changes.

THE MORAVIAN DISCIPLES
presents

THE Ties THAT Bind

A DRAMA AND MUSIC PRODUCTION

JANUARY 25TH, 2025
6:00 PM



Tickets \$25
CHILDREN 7-17: \$15
Parental guidance suggested.

CALVARY MORAVIAN CHURCH
Roebuck Street, Bridgetown

REFRESHMENTS ON SALE.