

SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

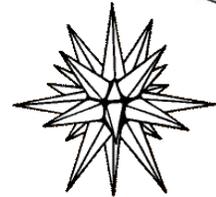
(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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56

Sunday, November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday Closest to Independence Day

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: Welcome on this First Sunday of Advent, which is the Sunday closest to the 56th Anniversary of the Independence of our nation Barbados, and the First Anniversary of our becoming a republic. Welcome to all, whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. We commit to walking in the light of God as we press on as a church and as a nation.

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

Associate Pastor:
Rev. Movelle Kellman

WATCHWORD Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!
(Isaiah 2:5)

Provincial Theme 2022: "Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T."
Seek & Submit; Hear & Heed; Imagination & Insight;
Focus & Function; Total Transformation



ORDER OF SERVICE



Organ Prelude

Introit

Welcome & Invitation to Worship

Litany: The First Sunday of Advent p. 84 – CMP Liturgy Book /Projected

Worship in Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Sentence: “Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits.”

(Psalm 68:19)

Offertory Hymn: 722 – “I Vow To Thee My Country”

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes & Offerings – Bro. Anthony Ifill

Offertory Doxology: “Give Thanks”

Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Songs & Choruses

Ministry of the Word:

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 2:1 – 5 – Bro. Clarence Cummings

New Testament Reading: Matthew 24:36 – 44 – Sis. Etwin Parris

Choir Anthem – “Barbados – Land That We Love”

The Sermon – Rev. Ezra Parris

Prayer of Commitment & Prayer for the Nation of Barbados

The National Anthem of Barbados

The Benediction

Recessional Hymn: 719 – “Mine Eyes have Seen the Glory”

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.



Organ Prelude

Introit

Welcome & Invitation to Worship



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

All standing

Sing, O heaven, and be joyful, O earth, for the majesty and splendour of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together just as God has said.

Rejoice greatly! Celebrate, Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your King comes to you, righteous and victorious.

Tune: CRUGER - # 381

**(All) Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.**

(Choir) *He comes with succour speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong,
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in his sight.*

**(All) O'er every foe victorious,
He on his throne shall rest;
From age to age more glorious,
All-blessing and all-blest;
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove:
His name shall stand for ever,
That name to us is love.**

The congregation sits

Let us pray

O God, you promised that your majesty and splendour should be revealed and that all flesh should see it together; stir up our hearts we implore you, to prepare the way of your one and only Son, and pour out upon us your loving kindness, that we who are afflicted because of our sins may be made whole by the coming of our Saviour. Help us to rejoice in his advent as we see his glory and receive his blessing, who lives and reigns as one, world without end. *Amen.*

Praise to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and set his people free.

He has sent us a mighty Saviour from the royal line of David his servant; just as he promised through his holy prophets of long ago:

To show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, the oath he swore to our father Abraham.

To rescue us from the hand of our enemies, so we can serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness before him as long as we live.

And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him;

To give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will break in upon us.

To shine on those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, then show us the way, one step at a time, down the path of peace.

Tune: ELLACOMBE - # 261

**O how shall I receive thee,
How greet you, Lord aright?
All nations long to see thee,
My hope, my heart's delight.
O kindle, Lord, most holy,
Thy lamp within my breast,
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please thee best.**

**Thy Zion palms is strewing
And branches fresh and fair;
My heart, its powers renewing,
An anthem shall prepare.
My soul puts off her sadness,
Thy glories to proclaim;**

**With all her strength and gladness,
She fain would serve thy name.**

All standing

A voice of one calling in the wilderness: “Prepare for God's arrival! Make the road straight and smooth, a highway fit for our God.

“Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; mercy and truth go before you.

Blessed are those who have learned to praise you, who walk in the light of your presence, LORD.

He won't brush aside the bruised and the hurt and he won't disregard the small and insignificant, but he'll steadily and firmly set things right. Say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come to save you.

Like a shepherd, he will care for his flock, gathering the lambs in his arms, hugging them as he carries them.

The HOSANNA ANTHEM (Matt. 21.9)

B. HOSANNA, blessed is he that | comes!
G. | Hosanna,
blessed is he that | comes!
B. | Hosanna,
G. Hosanna,—
B. Hosanna,—
G. Hosanna,—
B. Blessed is he that | comes!
G. | Blessed is he | that comes!
B | he that
comes in the Name | of the Lord!
G. | He that comes in the Name of the Lord!
B. Hosanna, blessed is he that comes!
G. Hosanna, blessed is he that comes!
B. Hosan- | na,
G. | Hosan- na,
B | Hosan- na,
G | Hosan- na,
B | Hosan- na,

And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
Most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
We may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
Her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
And soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
And her ways are ways of gentleness, and all her paths are peace.



Prayer of Dedication of Offerings – *Bro. Anthony Ifill*

Offertory Doxology:

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy
Give thanks for he has given Jesus Christ is Son (*repeat*)
And now let the weak say I am strong
Let the poor say I am rich for what the Lord has done
Give thanks. (*repeat*)



Celebrations & Notices



Adoration in Songs & Choruses



MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Scripture Reading: **Isaiah 2:1 – 5 – Bro. Clarence Cummings**

1. The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
2. And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it.
3. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

4. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.
5. O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord.



Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 24:36 – 44 – Sis. Etwin Parris

36. But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.
37. But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
38. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark,
39. And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.
40. Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.
41. Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left.
42. Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.
43. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.
44. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.



Choir Anthem – “Barbados – Land That We Love”



Sermon – – Rev. Ezra Parris



Prayer of Commitment & Prayer for the Nation of Barbados



The National Anthem of Barbados



The Benediction



Recessional Hymn: 719 –

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

In a manger on a straw bed Christ was born yet King is He,
With a glory in his bosom that transfigures you and me:
As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free;
While God is marching on.

He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,
He is wisdom to the mighty, he is succour to the brave;
So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of time his slave:
Our God is marching on.



The Benediction



Organ Postlude



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Welcome on this First Sunday of Advent, which is the Sunday closest to the 56th Anniversary of the Independence of our nation Barbados, and the First Anniversary of our becoming a republic. Welcome to all, whether you are here in the sanctuary or online, at home or abroad. We commit to walking in the light of God as we press on as a church and as a nation.



*Today: Marcia Carrington, Philmore Davis & Denzil Holder
Advanced: Tara Blackman, Diana Cox & Yvonne Martindale (28th), Ken Adams, Marcia Coombs, Athelstan Headley & Ingrid Ibrahim (29th), Ricardo Carter, Thora Moore & Ismay Straker (30th), Annie Harris (Dec. 1st), Stephanie Mayers (2nd)*



Congratulations to Bro. Athelstan & Sis. Fraulene Headley who will celebrate their 42nd Wedding Anniversary on November 29, 2022

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: The First Sunday of Advent
 - † Divine Worship – 9:30 a.m.
 - † Sunday School (all ages) – 9:30 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre
 - † Conference Christingle – *John W. Peterson's Night of Miracles* – 5:00 p.m. at the Calvary Moravian Church, Roebuck Street. Admission – \$20.00.

- † This Week:
 - † Office Hours – Tuesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (D. C. Moore Centre).
 - † Tuesday: Women's Fellowship – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom.
 - † Wednesday: INDEPENDENCE DAY
 - † Thursday: Provincial Day of Prayer: 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 - † Friday: Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.
 - † Saturday: Reaffirmation of Baptism – 8:00 a.m. at Batts Rock Beach
 - † Next Sunday: Second Sunday in Advent
 - † Divine Worship & Holy Communion – 9:30 a.m.
 - † Sunday School (all ages) – 9:30 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre



In the Month of December 2022:

- ✝ Provincial Day of Prayer – 1st, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- ✝ 33rd Provincial Synod – Thursday, 8th, at 3:00 p.m.
- ✝ Service of Nine Lessons and Carols – Sunday, 11th
- ✝ Joint Board Planning Meeting – Tuesday, 13th, in sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.
- ✝ Meeting of Island Conference – Saturday, 17th at 10:00 a.m. at the D. C. Moore Centre.
- ✝ Purple Sunday – 18th
- ✝ Worship on Christmas Day – Sunday, 25th at 5:00 a.m.
- ✝ Watch-Night Service – Saturday, 31st, 10:30 p.m.



Upcoming Fundraising Event:

✝ **Police Band Concert – Saturday February 11, 2023**



NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

1. From the Provincial administration:

- ✝ Our final Provincial Day of Prayer for 2022 takes place on December 1, 2022 from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. – twelve hours of prayer, praise, proclamation, and prophetic declaration. Like other years, this event will require participation from all the Conferences. More information will be shared shortly.
 - ✝ The Chairman of the 33rd Provincial Synod has advised that the Constitution Committee has concluded its deliberations and is ready to report to the Synod. Therefore, the Provincial Board will reconvene the 33rd Provincial Synod on December 8, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. Synodals are requested to read all the documents sent to them in preparation for our one-day session. Please keep the 33rd Provincial Synod in your prayers.
2. The Women's Fellowship will hold a Farmer's Market immediately after Church on Sundays. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the financial proceeds will go to the Church to be used as needed. Items will cost either \$3.00 or \$5.00.
 3. Our next Colour-Sunday, a Purple Sunday, is planned for the Third Sunday in December; when we invite attendees to wear purple and to present a walk-up offering of purple Barbados currency. We are seeking contributions towards repairs to our church building.
 4. You are reminded of the important role the Choir plays in leading and enlivening our song in worship to God, and conveying to our hearts the message of the Gospel, on a weekly basis. You are invited to add your voice to this ministry. Please express your interest to the Director, Bro Kevin King.

5. We are in need of people to serve on our Media Team. Here is opportunity to be trained and then to engage in an important ministry to our congregation. Interesting persons should contact Sis Kristina Carter.
6. The Moramus Singers of Barbados on behalf of the Moravian Church Barbados Conference will present Christingle 2022 – *John W. Peterson’s Night of Miracles* at the Calvary Moravian Church, Roebuck Street, Bridgetown on Sunday, November 27, 2022. Admission – \$20.00. The word ‘Christingle’ means ‘Christ-Light’ and the Moravian Christingle service may be held in Advent, Christmas or Epiphany to emphasize and celebrate Jesus as the light and the hope of the world.
7. We draw to your attention the installation of fire extinguishers at strategic points in our church building. About twelve (12) persons have been trained in the use of the extinguishers and on them we will depend if they need to be used. We thank the Board of Stewards for spearheading the effort; Bro Wilfred Marshall (Grace Hill) for his advice and training; and Bro George Best for the installation of the units.
8. We are thankful for your financial support. We are mindful that we are not in the easiest of times, economically.
 - ✚ We are also grateful for the contribution of the Women’s Fellowship which has been giving \$700 to our general fund, every month.
 - ✚ 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.
 - ✚ 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.
9. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” which has been moved to Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on the same station, Life 97.5 FM.
 - ✚ 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.

- ✝ Over the past year, we conducted a review and have made changes in an effort to reach a wider audience.
- ✝ 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



PRAYER NEEDS:



1. Our Shut-ins: *Aileen Bowen, Royle Deane.*
2. The Sick/Recovering:
 - ✝ Of our congregation: *Sis. Ruth Bishop, Sis. Andilla Haynes, Sis. Marva Craigwell, Bro. Athelston Lawrence, Sis. Cynthia Eversley*
3. Our nation: *for strength and deliverance as we continue to battle the COVID-19 Pandemic.*
4. God's covering during the Hurricane Season
5. World Peace



AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

- ✝ **Moravian Daily Text 2022: American Paperback Edition – \$25 | American Large Print Paperback Edition – \$30**
- ✝ **Offering Envelopes for 2022 – 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**
- ✝ **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.**





Protocol for Worship Services during the COVID-19 Pandemic – 2022

In an effort to limit the spread of COVID-19 during our gatherings, the following is to be observed:

- 1. All attending shall sanitise their hands upon entering the church. Sanitisation stations have been set up at the entrances and exits.**
- 2. Face masks are optional but recommended, given the singing and speaking that is engaged in during worship. Attendees are asked to be respectful of others in their choice to wear or not to wear a mask.**
- 3. There shall be no physical contact between attendees.**
- 4. There shall be a physical distance of at least three (3) 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 (3) feet between one group and adjacent groups or individuals.**
- 5. Attendees shall be asked to deposit their offerings in fixed containers.**
- 6. Bibles, hymnals, leaflets or other materials should only be shared by family members**
- 7. The Lectern Bible has been removed and lesson readers shall be asked to use their own Bible.**
- 8. Infant Baptism, Confirmation, and rites involving the laying on of hands or anointing have been adjusted to exclude contact between individuals.**
- 9. Windows and doors shall be kept open to allow for ventilation.**
- 10. Attendees shall be asked to maintain the recommended social distance when leaving the building.**

