

SHARON MORAVIAN CHURCH

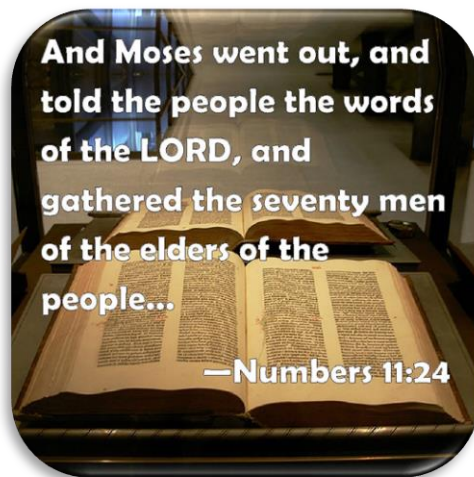
(Built by Slaves – 1799)

Sharon, St. Thomas. BB22136

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Church Vestry Tel: 425-0164



Sunday, September 26, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: Welcome to all on this, another day that the Lord has made; we must rejoice and be glad in it. We welcome you as you join us in worship by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook, and today, we give special welcome in the sanctuary, those who are here for the sacrament of Baptism. Welcome.

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

Associate Pastor:
Rev. Movelle Kellman



WATCHWORD: Jesus said, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” (Mark 9:35)

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

ORDER OF SERVICE

Organ Prelude

Introit

Hymn 475 – *“Praise The Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him”*

Responsive Reading: Psalm 19

Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving

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

Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Adoration in Songs & Choruses

Prayer of Dedication of Offerings

MINISTRY OF THE WORD:

First Scripture Reading: Numbers 11:16 – 25

Selection – Norma Nicholls

Second Scripture Reading: Mark 9:38 – 50

Hymn of Preparation: 11 – *“Sing Them Over Again To Me”*

Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*

Prayer of Commitment and Intercession

Hymn 543 – *“This Child We Dedicated To Thee”*

Baptism

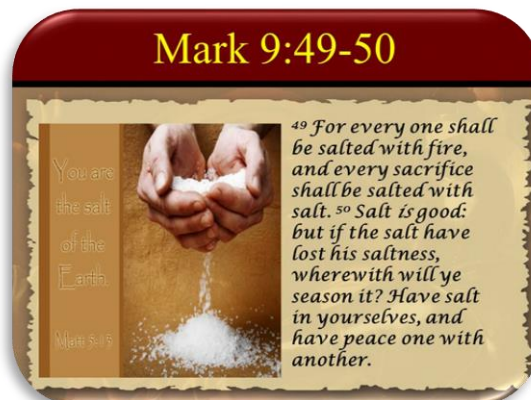
Hymn 546 – *“A Charge To Keep I Have”*

Benediction

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.



Opening Hymn: 475 –

Praise the Lord! ye heavens adore him;
Praise him, angels, in the height;
Sun and moon, rejoice before him,
Praise him, all ye stars and light:
Praise the Lord! for he hath spoken;
Worlds his mighty voice obeyed;
Laws which never shall be broken
For their guidance he hath made.

Praise the Lord! for he is glorious;
Never shall his promise fail;
God hath made his saints victorious;
Sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation!
Hosts on high, his power proclaim;
Heaven and earth, and all creation,
Laud and magnify his name!



Responsive Reading: Psalm 19

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.
- 2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.
- 3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.
- 4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.
In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,
- 5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man
to run a race.
- 6 His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and
there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is
sure, making wise the simple.

- 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.
- 11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.
- 13 Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.



Prayer of Adoration, Confession and Thanksgiving



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.



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices



Adoration in Songs & Choruses



Prayer of Dedication of Offerings



Ministry of the Word

First Scripture Reading: Numbers 11:16 – 25

- 16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee.
- 17 And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone.
- 18 And say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow, and ye shall eat flesh: for ye have wept in the ears of the LORD, saying, Who shall give us flesh to eat? for it was well with us in Egypt: therefore the LORD will give you flesh, and ye shall eat.
- 19 Ye shall not eat one day, nor two days, nor five days, neither ten days, nor twenty days;
- 20 But even a whole month, until it come out at your nostrils, and it be loathsome unto you: because that ye have despised the LORD which is among you, and have wept before him, saying, Why came we forth out of Egypt?
- 21 And Moses said, The people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month.

- 22 Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them? or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to suffice them?
- 23 And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD'S hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my word shall come to pass unto thee or not.
- 24 And Moses went out, and told the people the words of the LORD, and gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people, and set them round about the tabernacle.
- 25 And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease.



Selection – – Norma Nicholls



Second Scripture Reading: Mark 9:38 – 50

- 38 And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbad him, because he followeth not us.
- 39 But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me.
- 40 For he that is not against us is on our part.
- 41 For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward.
- 42 And whosoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea.
- 43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:
- 44 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.
- 45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:
- 46 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.
- 47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:

- 48 Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.
49 For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt.
50 Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.



Hymn of Preparation: 11 –

Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life,
Let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life;
Words of life and beauty teach me faith and duty.

*Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life,
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.*

Christ, the blessed One, gives to all wonderful words of life;
Sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life;
All so freely given, wooing us to heaven.

Sweetly echo the Gospel call, wonderful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life;
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify us forever.



Sermon – – *Rev. Ezra Parris*



Prayer of Commitment & Intercession



Hymn 543 –

This child we dedicate to thee,
O God of grace and purity;
Shield *him* from sin and threatening wrong,
And let Thy love *his* life prolong.

O may Thy Spirit gently draw
His willing soul to keep Thy law;
May virtue, piety, and truth,
Dawn even with his dawning youth.

We, too, O God, thy children are;

And if our feet have wandered far;
Recall us to our Father's home,
And keep us that no more we roam.



THE BAPTISM OF INFANTS

The Liturgy should be introduced at a suitable point in a service of public worship.

The congregation being seated and the child/children to be baptized and the parents or sponsors and god-parents being in place, the minister says:

Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, and blessed them.

As we share in this sacrament of baptism, we affirm our belief that baptism points to the grace of God freely given to all who avail themselves of it. We believe that all who are born into the world are children of God, made in his image. We acknowledge the fatherly and motherly love of God, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, and we pray that in due time *this child* may display in *his/her* life the gracious marks of a child of God.

Let us profess together the faith of the Church.

We believe in God the Father, creator of the universe.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, redeemer of the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, giver of life.

The parents/ or sponsor/s and god-parents stand.

The minister addresses them:

Earnestly believe that our Saviour Christ loves *this child*, that he is ready to receive and embrace *him/her*, to give *him/her* the blessing of eternal life, and to make *him/her* a partaker of his everlasting kingdom.

Our Lord has promised to grant the things which we ask in his name, which promise he for his part will most surely keep and perform.

Do you, for your part, make confession of the faith wherein *this child* is to be baptized, in God as your heavenly Father, in Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord, and in the Holy Spirit as your Sanctifier?

Answer: We do.

Do you promise, in reliance on divine grace, to teach *him/her* the truths and duties of the Christian faith, and by prayer, precept and example, to bring *him/her* up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and in the fellowship of the Church?

Answer: We do.

May God give you grace and wisdom to provide a caring and loving Christian home for this *new life* committed to your charge.

The minister addresses the congregation:

All standing.

Will you as a congregation accept *this child* as a new member of the Christian Church? Will you, by your witness, set a good and joyful example of fellowship, service and love?

Answer: We will.

This hymn verse is sung:

TUNE: ST MATTHIAS

**New life, O Lord to you we bring,
Giver of all, our Friend, our King;
Receive him/her in your strong embrace,
Within your Church give him/her a place;
A lifelong friendship here begin,
And grace, a crown of life to win.**

Moravian Alternative Order 1987, anon.

OR

**An infant, Lord, we bring to thee
As thy redeemed property,
And thee most fervently entreat
Thyself this child to consecrate;
Baptize him, and his soul embrace
In all the fulness of thy grace.**

Moravian Order 1960, anon.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose son Jesus Christ was carried as a child into the Temple, and who himself took little children into his arms and blessed them, look mercifully upon us now, and bless what in your name we do. May *this child*, now to be baptized into the Church, the body of Christ, by the work of the Holy Spirit grow into the likeness of *his/her* Saviour. May *he/she* in time be led to take a full part as a member of the Church. And by your grace may *he/she* remain your faithful witness all *his/her* days.

Each child is presented to the minister who baptizes him/her with water saying:

....., I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. ***Amen.***

The Lord bless you, and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
And give you peace.

In the name of Jesus. Amen.

After all have been baptized, the congregation says:

We receive this child into the Church, in the trust that hereafter he/she shall not be ashamed to confess his/her faith in Christ.

All seated.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus, Son of God, Saviour,

Have mercy upon us.

By your human birth,
By your obedience, diligence, and faithfulness,
By your life, suffering and death,
By your resurrection, and ascension,
By your continuing presence,
By your Church's teaching and worship,

Bless us now and always.

O God, we praise you for the mercies of birth, and for all the joy and blessing that children bring into the home and into the world. We give you thanks today for the safe arrival of *this child* and ask your blessing on *him/her* and all those who have responsibility for *his/her* care. May they, and all who share in the nurture of children, find great happiness and fulfilment in their ministry of love.

Heavenly Father, hear us.

O Christ, the friend of children everywhere, the faithful protector of all who are weak and small: keep, guard and bless your children. Through the work of your Spirit help them to grow in strength and beauty of character, and closer to you.

Jesus, Saviour, hear us.

Holy Spirit, bless us all and renew us this day. Help us to surrender ourselves to you, so that we, and the children committed to our care, may lead lives worthy of you, and of the family of Jesus Christ.

Holy Spirit, hear us. Amen.

The congregation shall pray together:

O Lord, help us to think more deeply on the true significance of this holy sacrament. Forgive us for the times when we have come short of the grace of our own baptism, by wandering from your ways: and bring us back with a perfect repentance. Renew us in this moment.....By the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to be loving, teach us to be humble and strengthen us to live godly lives, as those who have been baptized by the same Spirit into one body; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The service continues with hymn, sermon (if not previously given), hymn and benediction.



Closing Hymn: 546 –

A charge to keep I have,
A God to glorify,
A never-dying soul to save,
A rest to gain on high:

To serve the present age,
My calling to fulfil:
O may it all my powers engage
To do my Master's will!

Arm me with watchful care,
As in thy sight to live;
And O thy servant, Lord, prepare
A strict account to give.

Help me to watch and pray,
And still on thee rely,
And let me not my trust betray,
But press to realms on high.



The Benediction



Organ Postlude



Welcome, Celebrations & Notices

Welcome to all on this, another day that the Lord has made; we must rejoice and be glad in it. We welcome you as you join us in worship by way of our livestream on YouTube and FaceBook, and today, we give special welcome in the sanctuary, those who are here for the sacrament of Baptism. Welcome.



Today: Makayla Codrington

Advanced: Ruth Bishop & Jason Worrell (27th), Christopher Barker (30th), Carmen Gill & Ismay Nowell (Oct. 1st), Leslie Roberts (2nd)



Congratulations to Bro. Naphtali & Sis. Yvonne Burrell who are celebrating their 51st Wedding Anniversary today; Bro. Alfred Beckles & Sis. Patsy Turton-Beckles who will celebrate their 9th Wedding Anniversary on September 27, 2021.

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 & Infant Baptism at 9:30 a.m.

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: Training on the Steelpan – 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

✠ Wednesday: Bible Study – 6:00 p.m. online via Zoom

‡ Thursday: Training on the Steelpan – 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
NEXT SUNDAY – Divine Worship at 9:30 a.m.

NEWS, INFORMATION & REMINDERS

- 1. The number we have been permitted for in-sanctuary worship at Sharon has been increased to only forty-two (42). Which means that, deducting those who support the livestreaming of our services, only twenty-two (22) more can be accommodated. Those who desire to attend should register by calling the Church Office (425-4011) on Tuesdays and Fridays. The first twenty-two (22) will be accepted. To avoid confusion, registration will only be by direct conversation with the Office Assistant by telephone, for the coming Sunday. Please seek to attend at the most every-other week, to give others an opportunity.**
 - 2. Repairs to the church Organ are in progress and the work is expected to take 6 – 8 weeks. During that time the Organ will not be usable. The estimated cost of repairs is \$11,440 and donations can be made to the Organ Fund to cover this cost.**
 - 3. On August 14, a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake hit southwestern Haiti. On August 18, 2021 Tropical Storm, Grace moved over the ruins and the already traumatized brothers and sisters of Northern Haiti. Two of the dozen congregations in Haiti were directly affected by the earthquake and the storm. The Moravian Board of World Mission has begun relief work and will continue to work through the local pastors.**
- ‡ **The need of the moment is for cash to help the rebuilding process. As the Lord lays it on your heart, please consider giving to our brothers and sisters in Haiti as we show evidence of being our brothers' and sisters' keeper. Congregations are asked to receive an offering in September towards the rebuilding process for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. . . . Let us also join the prayer for covering over Haiti, that the peace of God and the provision of God be upon the first free Black nation.**
- ‡ **Here at Sharon and Dunscombe, you can make use of the established channels for giving offerings or contributions, to make your donation by Sunday, September 26, 2021.**
- 4. 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.
5. Remember to listen to the Moravian Radio Programme: “Moravian Voice” on LIFE 97.5 FM, Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.



PRAYER NEEDS:




1. Our Shut-ins: *Daphne Bispham, Aileen Bowen, Royle Deane, Sydney Gibson, Muriel Moore, Carol St. John.*
2. The people of the region as we are in the Hurricane Season. Pray that we be spared from disaster.



AVAILABLE (Through the Church Office):

- † 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
- † 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 – 2021

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 (6) 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 six (6) 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 six (6) 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, and rites involving the 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.

