

The Service of Consecration
for
The Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher
as a
Bishop of the Worldwide Moravian Church



Officiating:
Rt. Rev. Tom Shelton
Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Johnson
Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley Lewis
Rt. Rev. Sam Gray

Sunday, September 20, 2026 – 3:00 pm

Prince of Peace Moravian Church
1880 N.W. 183rd St., Miami, Florida 33169



The Consecration of
Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher
as a Bishop of the Moravian Church

ORDER OF SERVICE

Procession of Clergy, Officiants and Candidate (*Siyahamba*)

SINGSPIRATION

South Florida Pastorate Choirs

PRELUDE

Bro. Alvin Milligan

CALL TO WORSHIP

You Are Holy

(*Ulston P. Smith. 2004*)

WELCOME AND GREETINGS

SIS. ARLENE BLOOMFIELD

We greet you as we join with our Savior in the consecration of the Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher as a Bishop in the Moravian Church.

LITURGY FOR THE CONSECRATION OF A BISHOP

Rt. Rev. Sam Gray
Sis. Phillis Brownlee – Spanish
Sis. Maria Garcia – Miskito

We praise you, O God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer; your saving work shines through all the ages.

You have never turned away from us, even when we have turned away from you; but in your covenant of salvation, you call us through the law and the prophets to be your holy people.

Te alabamos, oh Dios, nuestro Creador, Redentor y Sostenedor; Tu trabajo de salvación brilla a lo largo de los siglos.

Nunca nos has dado la espalda, ni siquiera cuando nosotros nos hemos alejado de ti; Pero en tu pacto de salvación, nos llamas a través de la ley y los profetas a ser tu pueblo santo.

Yang nani ninam mayunisni, wan Dawan, wan Papaskra, Atki wan sakan Dawanka, wan ta-baikisma ba; man warkkam ba kan wina wan ingnika tara sa.

Man wan swiras sma, yang nani man wina aimawahkisna sakuna; pana pana pramaskam ba mita man wan paiwisma man lamka nani bak ki bara prafit nani bak ki sin, man up-likam holira nani kaia.

We thank you for fulfilling your covenant through the eternal ministry of Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Savior.

Christ freely accepted our human nature to live, teach, suffer, die, and rise again for the forgiveness of sins, that we might share in eternal life.

Te damos gracias por cumplir tu pacto a través del ministerio eterno de Jesucristo, nuestro único Señor y Salvador.

Cristo aceptó libremente nuestra naturaleza humana para vivir, enseñar, sufrir, morir y resucitar para el perdón de los pecados, para que pudiéramos compartir en la vida eterna.

Yang nani tengki mai wisni kan man pramaskamra dia aisaram kan ba daukram, wan Dawan Jisas Kraist ban kaiara warkka nani ba bak ki, witin sika wan Dawan bara wan Sasakra kumi man ba.

Kraist aitani pali lukan upla baku takaia bara raya kaia, smalkaia, pat wauhwaia, pruaia bara kli raiti wina buaia wan saurka nani swih tikaia dukiara, yang nani ban kaiara rayakaia laka ba brimna dukiara.

We thank you for the ministry committed by Christ to the whole church to proclaim the gospel.

Through the gifts of your Holy Spirit, you call each of us into the church and empower us to make the saving work of Christ visible on earth.

Te damos gracias por el ministerio que Cristo ha encomendado a toda la iglesia para proclamar el evangelio.

A través de los dones de tu Espíritu Santo, nos llamas a cada uno a la iglesia y nos capacitas para hacer visible la obra salvadora de Cristo en la tierra.

Yang nani tengki mai wisni Kraist warkka, stori yamni ba tasba aiskara brih waia, man Satskam aiska mihtara swiram ba dukiara.

Spirit Holikira prisantka nani bak ki, man yang nani kumi banira wan paiwisma man Satskamra bal dimaia bara karnika sin wankisma Kraist swaki sakan laka warkka daukan ba yarka tasba aiska kaikaia sip kabia.

We thank you for calling individuals from among us to the ordained ministry of Word and Sacrament.

They serve among us to lead, strengthen, challenge, and nourish our ministry together in Christ.

Te agradecemos por llamar a personas de entre nosotros al ministerio ordenado de la Palabra y el Sacramento.

Sirven entre nosotros para liderar, fortalecer, desafiar y nutrir nuestro ministerio juntos en Cristo.

Yang nani tengki mai wisni kan man uplikam nani bak sakisma Pasin warkka daukaia - man bilam smalkaia bara sakrament nani ta briaia.

Witin nani yang nani tilira man warkkam dauki bangwisa, ta briaia, karnika yabaia, kupia kraukaia, bara asla Kraist lakara pawai.

Especially on this day, we thank you for your call to the **Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher** and for his dedication to serve in your name.

To you be glory, praise, adoration, and thanksgiving, both now and forever. Amen.

Especialmente en este día, le agradecemos su llamada al **Reverendo Dr. Dion Christopher** y su dedicación a servir en su nombre.

A ti sea gloria, alabanza, adoración y acción de gracias, tanto ahora como para siempre. Amén.

Naiwa yua palira, yang nani tengki lukisna kan man naha paiwanka **Pasin Doktor Dion Christopher** ra yaram sa, bara witin sin aitani kulkan ai kupia aiska ni man ninamra man warkkam daukaia.

Manra prana, mayunra, tara kulkanka laka bara tengki wiaia laka ba sut maikan kabia, nanara bara ban kaiara sin. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Praise To The Lord The Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
Come, ye who hear; brothers and sisters draw near,
Praise Him in glad Adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth;
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:
Hast thou not seen all that is needful hath been
Granted in what he ordaineth.

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and befriend thee;
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew all the Almighty can do,
He who with love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again;
Gladly for aye we adore Him.

GREETINGS:

THE REV. ELROY CHRISTOPHER
Southern Shores District

THE REV. BARRINGTON DALEY
Moravian Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands

THE REV. ALGERNON LEWIS
Moravian Church in Eastern West Indies Province

THE UNITY

MINISTRY IN DANCE

Prince of Peace Dance Ministry

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 6:1-8

Sis Cecile Rossington

SELECTION

Bro. Emile Henderson III

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 Timothy 3:1-7

Sis Janaé Christopher-Baptiste

John 21:15-17

Bro Jaleel Christopher

MINISTRY IN SONG

"Brother James' Air"

South Florida Pastorate Joint Choir

SONG

Into My Heart - Ven Salvador - Kupira Dims

*Into my heart, Into my heart
Come into my heart Lord Jesus
Come in today, come in to stay
Come into my heart Lord Jesus.*

*Ven Salvador, Ven Salvador
Oh ven Salvador a mi alma
Ven sin tardar, ven a morar
Oh ven Salvador a mi alma*

*Kupira dims, Kupira dims
Yang Kupira dimram
Dawan, Bal naiwa dims
Bal takaskram, yang
Kupira dimran Dawan.*

SERMON

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael E. Johnson

*Sis. Andrea (Andi) Williams, President of the Provincial Elders' Conference,
The Rev. Dr. Eulencine Christopher (representing the clergy),
and Sis. Violet Hooker (representing the laity),
escort the candidate to the Chancel as the following hymn is sung.
According to tradition, this text was written for the ordination
of the first Moravian ministers in 1467.*

Come, let us all with gladness raise
a joyous song of thanks and praise
to God who rules the heav'nly host,
God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

God gave us faithful ones to lead
and help us in our time of need;
But, Lord, all pow'r is yours alone,
and you the work must carry on.

Father in heaven, fulfill your word;
grant us the Spirit of our Lord,
that through your truth, which cannot fail,
we may o'er ev'ry ill prevail.

*(Sis. Andrea (Andi) Williams, President of the Provincial Elders' Conference
addresses the consecrating Bishop Tom Shelton.)*

Bishop Shelton, on behalf of the Southern Province of the Moravian Church in America, we request that the Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher be consecrated as bishop. Our Synod has elected this presbyter to be a bishop, and his acceptance of this office reaffirms his sincere intention to serve Christ and the church through the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Bishop Tom Shelton responds)

In response to your request, it is my joy to carry out this ministry of consecration on behalf of the whole church.

(The representatives return to their seats.)

*(The bishops kneel with the candidate as the "Veni, Creator Spiritus" is sung.
This hymn has been used at ordinations in the Christian church since the ninth century.)*

Come, Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire;
let us Thine influence prove;
source of the old prophetic fire;
fountain of life and love.

Thy blessed unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love.
Enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight.

Anoint each heart and cheer each face
With the abundance of thy grace.
Keep far our foes, keep peace at home;
Where thou guide, no ill can come.

Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And thee, with both, to be but One;
that through the ages all along,
Thy praise may be our endless song.

(The bishop offers the prayer of consecration.)

Eternal God, in wisdom you govern all things, and from the beginning you have chosen faithful people to serve you in ministry, calling some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip all your people for the work of ministry and for the building up of the Body of Christ. Now bless and sanctify by your Holy Spirit your servant Dion Christopher, whom we, in your name and in obedience to your will, by prayer and with the laying on of hands, consecrate for the ministry of the church.

(The congregation stands, and the bishops lay hands on the candidate, and the consecrating bishop continues to pray.)

Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, pour out your Holy Spirit upon Dion Christopher; fill him with grace and power, and make him a bishop in your church.

O Lord, give to this your servant the grace and power needed to serve you in this ministry. Bless his proclamation of the word and administration of your sacraments so that your church may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service. Make him a wise pastor, a patient teacher, and a faithful witness. Grant that in all things he may serve without reproach, that your people may be renewed, and that your name may be glorified in the church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. Amen.

The Lord bless you, and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace;
In the name of Jesus, Amen

(The choir sings the consecration doxology.)

Glory be to the Shepherd and Bishop of our souls,
The great Shepherd of the sheep,
through the blood of the everlasting covenant.
Glory, glory and obedience be unto God the Holy Ghost,
our Guide and Comforter.
Glory and adoration be to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who is the Father of all who are called children on earth and in heaven.
O may each pulse thanksgiving beat,
and every breath His praise repeat.
Amen, hallelujah, hallelujah,
Amen, Hallelujah!

The text of this hymn of praise is adapted from 1 Peter 2:25, Hebrews 13:20, John 16:13, Romans 15:6, and 1 John 3:1, and a hymn by Frederick William Foster (760-1835). It has been used in Moravian consecrations since at least the late eighteenth century.

(Arranged by Ulston P. Smith. 2024)

(The newly consecrated bishop stands)

CHARGE TO THE NEWLY CONSECRATED BISHOP

Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley O'R Lewis

(Bishop Lewis gives a charge to the newly consecrated Bishop, ending with the following)

Jesus said: 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. Take courage, I have conquered the world. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.' I, your fellow elder, charge you to tend the flock of Christ which is around you. Watch over them and care for them, even as God watches over you and cares for you. Support the weak. Comfort the dying. Seek the lost. Bring in the outcast. Above all, proclaim the gospel. And I pray that you may grow in the knowledge of God, strengthened with the power according to the might of His glory. And when the chief shepherd is made manifest, you shall receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my words to them. Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will send the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, 'Til their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*(A Bible is delivered to the newly consecrated Bishop by Bro. Jeffrey Mason
and Sis. Doreen Ellis with the words)*

Bishop Christopher, the Moravian Church receives you as a shepherd of Christ's flock and entrusts the word of God to your hands. Receive this Bible, which contains the words of eternal life. Take them as your guide and declare them to the world.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Draw Me Nearer

I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice,
and it told Thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith,
and be closer drawn to Thee.

*Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to the cross where Thou hast died;
draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to Thy precious, bleeding side.*

Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord,
by the pow'r of grace divine;
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,
and my will be lost in Thine.

O, the pure delight of a single hour
that before Thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend!

There are depths of love that I cannot know
till I cross the narrow sea;
there are heights of joy that I may not reach
till I rest in peace with Thee.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Pastor Alfred Yorks (*Dutch*)

(Addressing the Consecrating bishop, the newly consecrated bishop says)

Bishop Shelton, in humility, I share my testimony...

TESTIMONY

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher

(After the testimony, the Consecrating bishop says)

In the presence of God and this congregation, I acknowledge your testimony with gratitude and praise to our Savior.

Unto the Lamb that was slain,
and has redeemed us out of all nations of the earth;
 unto the Lord who purchased our souls for himself,
unto that Friend who loved us,
and loosed us from our sins by his own blood;
 who died for us once,
that we might die unto sin;
 who rose for us,
that we also might rise;
 who ascended for us into heaven,
to prepare a place for us;
 and to whom are subjected the angels, and powers,
 and dominions; to him be glory at all times,
in the church which waits for him,
and in that which is around him,
 from everlasting to everlasting.
Amen.

HYMN

Lead Me Guide Me

*Lead me, guide me along the way;
 For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
 Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.*

I am weak, and I need Thy strength and power
 To help me over my weakest hour;
 Let me through the darkness Thy face to see,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Lead me, guide me along the way;
 For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
 Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness;
 Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
 I am putting all my trust in Thee,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

I am lost if you take your hand from me;
 I am blind, without Thy Light to see;
 Lord, just always let me Thy servant be,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

BENEDICTION

Rt. Rev. Dr. Dion Christopher

Seven-Fold Amen

POSTLUDE

Bro. Alvin Milligan

Ordained - June 16, 1991 by Bishop Neville Neil



*A Reception follows immediately on the church grounds
to greet the new Bishop. All are welcome.*

Appreciation

The Boards and Members of the South Florida Pastorate
(Prince of Peace, Margate, Agape, New Hope, Surinam,
King of Kings, Palm Beach.)

The Choirs of the South Florida Pastorate
Sisters Joyce Thomas, Jacquie Gayle-Buckley,
Ethlyn Richards, Jean Jaentschke (Choir Directors)

Rt. Rev. Tom Shelton – Consecrating Bishop
Co-Consecrators: Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael E. Johnson;
Rt. Rev. Dr. Kingsley O’R Lewis; Rt. Rev. Sam Gray
Rt. Rev. Dr. Gregory Rickel – Assisting Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Southeast Florida

Rev. Adriana Craver, Sis. Arlene Bloomfield,
Acolyte Sis. Phillis Brownlee, Sis. Maria Garcia

Bro. Emile Henderson III, Sis. Cecile Rossington,
Bro. Jaleel Christopher, Sis. Janaé Christopher-Baptiste

Sis. Andrea Williams, Sis. Violet Hooker
Rev. Dr. Eulencine Christopher,
Bro. Jeffrey Mason, Sis. Doreen Ellis

Pastor Monique Richards
Organists: Bro. Alvin Milligan, Bro. Pedro Sanders
Keyboards: Bros. Yemun Lewis & Isaiah Jarvis
Percussion: Bro. Brian Chase
Guitar: Bro. Nicolai Chase

Sis. Jaymar Budier & Sis. Martha Jean Porter
Bro. Llewelyn & Sis. Celestine Joseph
Sis. Christine Ramsay

POP Dance Ministry/Sis. Bridget Christian, Director
The Consecration Planning Committee & Sub-Committees



Dion T.A. Christopher

The Reverend Doctor Dion T. A. Christopher is originally from the Spring Gardens Moravian Church in Antigua. He is married to the Rev. Dr. Eulencine Richards-Christopher (also from Antigua). Together they have two children, Jaleel and Janaé; their daughter-in-law, Jade; son-in-law, Di'Jon; and granddaughter, Jazzlyn. He was ordained a Deacon in the Moravian Church in 1991 and consecrated Presbyter in 1999.

Dr. Christopher is a graduate of the United Theological College of the West Indies, where he earned a Diploma in Ministerial Studies, and the University of the West Indies, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theology. He is also a graduate of Fuller Theological Seminary, where he earned a Master of Arts Degree and a Doctor of Ministry Degree, specializing firstly in Mission and Evangelism, and then Worship Evangelism and Renewal.

In the Eastern West Indies Province, he served as the Vice Chairman of the Provincial Elders Conference and Director of Mission and Evangelism. He served the Moravian Church in St. Kitts (1990-1998), the Moravian Church of Downey in California (1998-1999), and the Friedensberg Moravian Church in the Virgin Islands (1999-2020).

He currently serves as Co-Pastor with his wife, the Rev. Dr. Eulencine Christopher, in the South Florida Pastorate, which includes the Prince of Peace, Palm Beach, New Hope, Margate, and King of Kings Moravian Churches. He also has oversight of the Tampa, Sarasota, Jacksonville, Savannah, and Jan Hus (Texas) Moravian Fellowships.

He serves the Moravian Church in America Southern Province as a member of the Provincial Elders Conference; the Board of Trustees of Moravian Seminary; and as President of the Southern Shores District.

Dr. Christopher has also served in the United States Army as the State Chaplain and Senior Army Chaplain of the Virgin Islands National Guard. During this time, his distinguished service earned him the Army Commendation Medal, the United States Army Meritorious Service Medal, and the Virgin Islands Long and Faithful Service Medal.

Dion acknowledges the profound influence of his late mother, Hillary Christopher, on the formation of his faith. Her unwavering devotion to God and faithful service to the Lord provided a powerful example that inspired and shaped his own spiritual journey.

As an Evangelist, Dion has traveled throughout Europe, North America, Africa, and the Caribbean, spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He uses Philippians 4:13 as his personal theme, which says, "I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Gives Me the Strength."

In Sacred Fellowship

Reflection of this historic occasion:



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Consecration Planning Committee & Sub Committees

Arlene Bloomfield
Maria Garcia
Suzanne Williams
Francisco De Paz
Elma Moore
Jacqueline Gayle-Buckley
Justin Peart
Winston Peart
Justo Morales
Monique Richards
Sharon J. Atily
Celestine Joseph

Phillis Brownlee
Jeffrey Mason
Ingrid Dixon
Tracey-Ann Anthony
Christine Ramsay
Nora McField
Jaymar Budier
Claudia Wright
Hillary Robinson
Dina Fox
Eulencine Christopher

*Thank
you*

