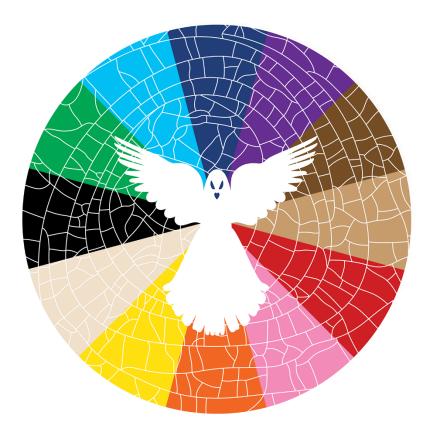
OPEN TO ALL



MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 4th Sunday of Epiphany

January 29, 2023 | 10:00a

Inspired by the bold and boundless hospitality of Jesus, we are "open to all," which means we welcome and accept all people into the life of our Church without regard to race, gender, sexual orientation, age, economic status, political affiliation, physical or mental capacity, or religious belief. We believe that God's call is given to all people, and we embrace the Spirit that continues to cross boundaries in order to unite the world.

Masks are encouraged but not required for anyone. We encourage you to make the best decision for yourself and your family.

Childcare is available for children ages birth – kindergarten. Please see a greeter for more information.

Worship activities for children are available in the Narthex.

Prelude

"Gather Us In"

Janice Bradner, piano arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

*Opening Hymn

"Sing a New World into Being"

ODE TO JOY

Sing a new world into being, sound a bold and hopeful theme.
Find a tune for silent yearnings, lend your voice and dare to dream:
dream a church where all who worship find their lives and loves belong.
Sing a new world into being, sing as Christ inspires your song!

Sing a new world into being where each gender class and race brings its rainbow gifts and colors to God's limitless embrace; where the lines that once divided form instead the ties that bind. Sing a new world into being: risk transforming heart and mind!

Sing a new world into being where the homeless find a home, Where no children ever hunger but are filled with God's shalom; where all people work for justice, where all hate and vengeance cease. Sing a new world into being: raise the harmonies of peace.

Sing a new world into being, join the ancient prophet's cry for a time of health and plenty when all tears have been wiped dry: when compassion flows like waters, pouring balm for all who grieve. Sing a new world into being, live the promise you believe!

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, 2006 copyright GIA Publications

Welcome of Our Guests Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

If you are our guest today, please text "guest" to 980.340.8900 so we may offer you our gratitude for joining us today.

*Passing of the Peace

^{*}Please rise in body or in spirit.

Epistle Reading - 1 Samuel 10:1-6 (NRSV)

Rev. Starlette Thomas

Samuel took a vial of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him; he said, "The LORD has anointed you ruler over his people Israel. You shall reign over the people of the LORD and you will save them from the hand of their enemies all around. Now this shall be the sign to you that the LORD has anointed you ruler over his heritage: When you depart from me today you will meet two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah; they will say to you, 'The donkeys that you went to seek are found, and now your father has stopped worrying about them and is worrying about you, saying: What shall I do about my son?' Then you shall go on from there further and come to the oak of Tabor; three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you there, one carrying three kids, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine. They will greet you and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall accept from them. After that you shall come to Gibeath-elohim, at the place where the Philistine garrison is; there, as you come to the town, you will meet a band of prophets coming down from the shrine with harp, tambourine, flute, and lyre playing in front of them; they will be in a prophetic frenzy. Then the spirit of the LORD will possess you, and you will be in a prophetic frenzy along with them and be turned into a different person.

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture,

for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

People: Thanks be to God.

As the hymn begins, 1st – 5th graders are invited to leave for a Children's Worship Time. They will exit at the front of the Sanctuary by the piano and return there where parents may pick them up at the end of worship.

*Sermon Hymn

"God of Freedom, God of Justice"

REGENT SQUARE

God of freedom, God of justice, you whose love is strong as death, You who saw the dark of prison, you who knew the price of faith: touch our world of sad oppression with your Spirit's healing breath.

Rid the earth of torture's terror, you whose hands were nailed to wood; hear the cries of pain and protest, you who shed the tears and blood: move in us the power of pity restless for the common good.

Make in us a captive conscience quick to hear, to act, to plead; Make us truly friends and neighbors of whatever race or creed: teach us to be fully human, open to each other's need.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray copyright 1992 Hope Publishing Company, adapted

Sermon Rev. Danté Stewart

"The People Who Change the World"

Invitation to Silent Reflection/Confession Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

Church at Prayer Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

The Lord's Prayer

Our God who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

There are several ways to give: scan the QR code below, go to pushpay.com/g/myersparkbaptist, or drop your offering in the plate.



*Offertory Anthem

Chancel Choir

"The Solid Rock"

Nolan Williams, Jr. (b. 1969)

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus' name. When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace. In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

On Christ the Solid Rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand. (Refrain)

His oath, his covenant, his blood, support me in over whelming floods. When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. (Refrain)

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. (Refrain)

*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures, here below. Alleluia. Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

*Closing Hymn
"Go to the World!"

See page 7. SINE NOMINE

Benediction Rev. Danté Stewart

Postlude

"Allegro in E Flat"

Janice Bradner, piano Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

If you are our guest today, please connect with a minister after worship and receive a Welcome bag.

Childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten will be provided until noon.

Spiritual Growth Classes will resume February 5th at 11:15a. Class offerings can be found on our website.

Leading worship today with Rev. Danté Stewart, Guest Proclaimer, are Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell, Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. JJ Flag, Associate Minister of Pastoral Care and Justice, and Guest Minister Rev. Starlette Thomas.

Leading worship through music are
Dr. Tony McNeill, Interim Minister of Music,
Janice Bradner, Pianist,
and The Chancel Choir.



Audio/Video Team Members are Wes Cobb, Joe Kuhlmann, Hannah Combs and volunteers.





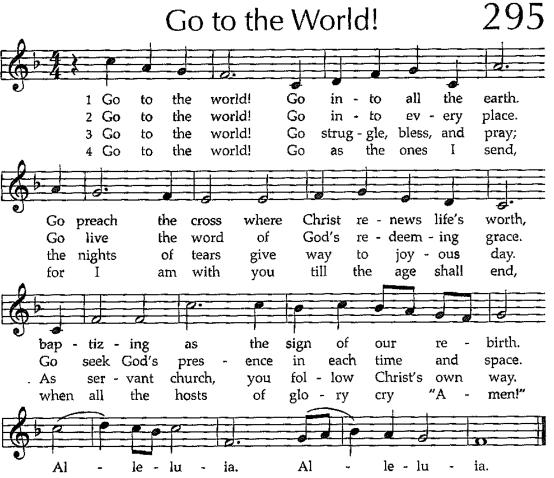


HOW TO JOIN MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Becoming a member of Myers Park Baptist is as simple as filling out a Joining Card. To receive a card or learn more, contact Rev. Carrie Veal at cveal@myersparkbaptist.org.







Based on Christ's great commission (Matthew 28:19–20), this text was written for a Convocation of Emmanuel College in Toronto, the largest theological school of the United Church of Canada, a denomination formed by the union of Methodists, Congregationalists, and Presbyterians.

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1985 MUSIC: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. SINE NOMINE 10.10.10 with allelulas

Our Covenant

We, the members of the Myers Park Baptist Church, are a people on a journey of faith. By God's grace we are experiencing love through Jesus Christ and in the community of the faithful. We are discovering in this experience our freedom to become new creatures and our responsibility to be faithful stewards of our lives and of this world.

We will be open to all new light, strengthened by God and each other in our faith. We will sustain a critical examination of Scripture, belief and ritual as interpreters of God's active presence in the world. We will accept controversy as a reality of life together and an opportunity for growth toward maturity. We covenant to be a community of God's New Creation and affirm that we are open to all and closed to none.

We covenant together to nurture this church as a community of faith and as an instrument for reconciliation in the world: by worship, by Christian education, by the dedication of our personal and material resources and by all the other ways we express the significance of our lives with God and one another.

We covenant together to be priests celebrating God's presence in community and in the world, believing we are participants in God's kingdom on Earth.

OUR MINISTERS

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Boswell

Senior Minister

Rev. Carrie Veal

Executive Minister

Rev. Tara Gibbs

Associate Minister of Spiritual Growth

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

Associate Minister of Pastoral Care & Justice

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

Campus Administrator

Dr. Tony McNeill

Interim Minister of Music & Worship





Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice