

OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 7th Sunday of Eastertide | Children's Sunday

May 21, 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

“Welcome Into This Place”

Dr. Tony McNeill, piano
Orlando Juarez

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

***Opening Hymn**

“This is the Day”

MERLE’S TUNE

Leader: This is the day,

All: This the day,

Leader: that the Lord has made.

All: that the Lord has made.

Leader: We will rejoice,

All: We will rejoice,

Leader: and be glad in it.

All: and be glad in it.

All: This is the day that the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Leader: This is the day,

All: This is the day that the Lord has made!

Litany of Family Dedication

Rev. Carrie Veal and Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

Leader: By God’s grace we are given children through the miracle of birth.
May we greet each new child with joy,
and surround them with faith,
so they may experience God’s presence and want to serve God.

**People: Never let us neglect children,
but help us to delight in them,
showing them the welcome God has shown us all.**

Leader: Parents, in presenting your children to God,
do you promise in dependence upon God’s grace
and with the help of the Church
to teach them the gifts and claims of the Christian faith,
and by prayer, word and example to bring them up
in the nurture, discipline, and instruction of the Lord?

Parents: We do.

Leader: Friends in the household of faith,
I commend to you these families.
Will you covenant to stand with them
in the nurture of these children?
Will you stay constant in their joys and struggles?

Will you do all in your power to make this Church
a true spiritual home for them,
lending them the support of your prayers and your example?

People: **With God's help we will so seek to follow Christ ourselves
that these families will be strengthened and confirmed in their resolve,
and that these children, surrounded by steadfast love,
may be nurtured in the faith and strengthened
in the way that leads to life.**

Presentation and Blessing

Rev. Carrie Veal

*Heather and David Carson, along with big sister Kennedy, bringing **Tanner David Carson.***

*Caroline and Eddie Dalton, along with big sister Rogers, bringing **Mary "Millie" Liles Dalton.***

*Laura and Jeff Handler, along with big brother Casey, bringing **Max Forrest Handler.***

*Brittany and Miller Yoho, along with big brother Asher, bringing **Levi Miller Yoho.***

Prayer of Family Dedication

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

God of grace, we pray for these parents,
and for all parents, and for all who parent in the Lord.
Help them to know you, to love with your love,
to teach your truth, and to tell the story
of Jesus to their children
so that your word may be heard.
Bless these children.
Guard them safely through struggles and challenges
that they may live the promises you give.
And keep us with these children
and with all children, ready to listen and to love,
even as in Jesus Christ you have loved us.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Welcome of Our Guests

Candace Williamson

*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

Moment for Creation Justice

Lucy Pearsall

Gospel Reading – Acts 1:6-14 (*Shine On Story Bible*)

Kenisha Griffin

The disciples asked, "Teacher, are you going to make Israel a kingdom again?"

Jesus answered, "This is not something you need to know. What is important is that soon the Holy Spirit will come to you and give you power. Then you will take my message to all of Judea and Samaria, and even to the very ends of the earth."

Then Jesus lifted up his hands and blessed his friends. As they were watching, he was lifted up into a cloud and they could not see him any longer.

Suddenly, two men in white robes stood by them. They said "Why do you stand looking up toward heaven? Jesus has been taken up into heaven. Someday he will return the same way."

The disciples went joyfully back to Jerusalem. They waited for the gift of God's spirit to come to them, and they went often to the temple to praise God.

Gospel Reading – John 17:6-11 (CEV)

Cece and Clyde Largen

You have given me some followers from this world, and I have shown them what you are like. They were yours, but you gave them to me, and they have obeyed you. They know that you gave me everything I have. I told my followers what you told me, and they accepted it. They know I came from you, and they believe you are the one who sent me. I am praying for them, but not for those who belong to this world. My followers belong to you, and I am praying for them. All I have is yours, and all you have is mine, and they will bring glory to me.

Holy God, I am no longer in the world. I am coming to you, but my followers are still in the world. So keep them safe by the power of the name you have given me. Then they will be one with each other, just as you and I are one. While I was with them, I kept them safe by the power you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost, except the one who had to be lost. This happened so that what the Scriptures say would come true.

I am on my way to you. But I say these things while I am still in the world, so my followers will have the same complete joy that I do. I have told them your message. But the people of this world hate them, because they don't belong to this world, just as I don't.

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.

*Sermon Hymn

"This Little Light of Mine"

SPIRITUAL

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! (x3)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Even when I'm afraid, I'm gonna let it shine! (x3)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine! (x3)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! (x3)
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Sermon

Rev. Carrie Veal

"Now What?"

Solo

"Hear My Prayer"

Callie Day
Moses Hogan (1957-2003)

O Lord, please hear my prayer;
in the morning when I rise.
It's your servant bound for glory.
O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.
O Lord, please hear my prayer,
keep me safe within your arms.
It's your servant bound for glory.
O dear Lord, please hear my prayer.

When my work on earth is done,
and you come to take me home.
Just to know I'm bound for glory.
And to hear you say well done.
Done with sin and sorrow, have mercy, mercy. Amen.

Invitation to Silent Reflection/Confession

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

Church at Prayer

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

Hazel Johnson

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

"Jesus Loves Me"

J. Kevin Gray, piano
arr. Michael Hassell (b. 1952)
adapted by J. Kevin Gray (b. 1976)

*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology

God made all creatures wild and free,
each atom, every galaxy;
praise our Maker! Alleluia!
God places earth in human care,
land, living beings, water, air;
come now folk from every nation,
help our God renew Creation! Alleluia!

LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Paula W. M. Testerman (b. 1954)

*Prayer of Dedication

Marin Scott

*Closing Hymn

"Go to the World"

See page 7.
SINE NOMINE

Benediction

Rev. Carrie Veal

Postlude

"When In Our Music God is Glorified"

Dr. Tony McNeill, piano
ENGELBERG

The children of MPBC have found art exploration to be their favorite way to re-build community, explore new ideas and strengthen faith in God this year. We invite you to enjoy the wind chimes in the trees, artistic flower arrangements, and other artwork and images on display in Heaton Hall as you join us for a community lunch immediately following Worship.

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

Leading worship today with Rev. Carrie Veal
are Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell, Senior Minister,
Rev. Dr. JJ Flag, Minister of Pastoral Care and Justice,
Candace Williamson, Interim Director of Children's Music,
Lucy Pearsall,
Kenisha Griffin,
Cece Largen,
Clyde Largen,
Hazel Johnson,
and Marin Scott.

Leading worship through music are
J. Kevin Gray, Minister of Music and Worship,
Dr. Tony McNeill, Pianist,
Callie Day, Soloist,
and the Chancel Choir.



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



We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org

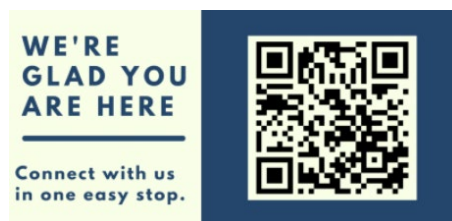


Alliance
of Baptists



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.



Go to the World



Go to the world! Go in - to ev - ery place. Go live the
 Go to the world! go strug - gle, bless, and pray; the nights of
 Go to the world! Go as the ones I send, for I am

6
 word of God's re-deem-ing grace. Go seek God's pres - ence
 tears give way to joy - ous day. As ser - vant church, you
 with you till the age shall end, when all the host of

11
 in each time__ and space. Al - le - lu -
 fol - low Christ's own__ way.
 glo - ry cry__ A - men!

14
 -ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

SINE NOMINE

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

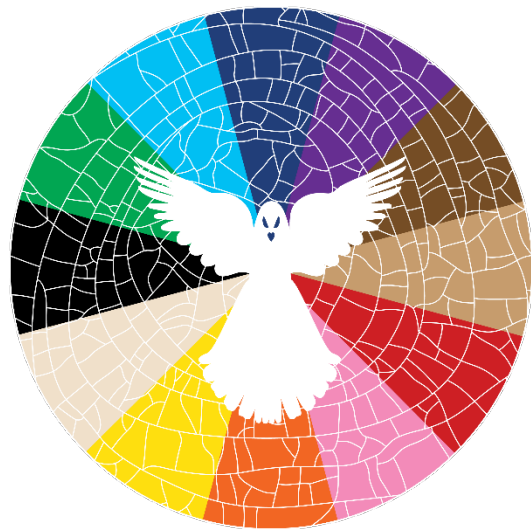
Associate Minister of Pastoral Care & Justice

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

Campus Administrator

J. Kevin Gray

Minister of Music & Worship



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We occasionally take photographs during our worship service. If you would prefer not to be included, please contact Laura Geer | Communications Director | lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org.

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