

# OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

**The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

June 25, 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**

“The Peace May Be Exchanged”

Jane Cain, organist  
Dan Locklair (b. 1949)

### **Call to Worship and Invocation**

Rev. Ben Boswell

### **\*Opening Hymn**

“God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian”

HYFRYDOL

God the Spirit, guide and guardian, wind-spiced flame and hovering dove,  
breath of life and voice of prophets, sign of blessing, power of love:  
give to all who are your people, fresh anointing of your grace;  
send them forth as bold apostles to your Church in every place.

Great Creator, life-bestower, truth beyond all thought's recall,  
fount of wisdom, womb of mercy, giving and forgiving all:  
as you know our strength and weakness, so may those the Church exalts  
oversee her life steadfastly yet not overlook her faults.

Triune God, mysterious Being, undivided and diverse,  
deeper than our minds can fathom, greater than our creeds rehearse:  
help us in our varied callings your full image to proclaim,  
that our ministries uniting may give glory to your name.

### **Welcome of Our Guests**

Zach Mason

*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**

### **Gospel Reading – Romans 12:1-8 (NRSV adapted)**

Dr. John Blackshire

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body, we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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, 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to leave for Children's Worship.  
They will exit at the front of the Sanctuary by the piano with Children's Worship leaders.  
Parents can pick up children from room 209 in the education building between 11 -11:15.  
Guests are welcome! Please scan the QR code below to register if this is your first visit.***



**\*Sermon Hymn**

“There Are Many Ways of Sharing”

NETTLETON

Lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

There are many ways of sharing, but God's Spirit gives each one.  
There are different ways of caring; it's one Lord whose work is done.  
God, whose gifts are overflowing, may we hear you when you call;  
keep us serving, keep us growing, for the common good of all.

We've been baptized in the waters! We've been given work to do.  
When you call your sons and daughters, you give gifts for serving you.  
God, we join in celebration, of the talents you impart.  
Bless each baptized one's vocation; give each one a servant's heart.

All are blest by gifts you give us; some are set apart to lead.  
Give us Jesus' love within us, as we care for those in need.  
Give us faith to make decisions; give us joy to share your word.  
Give us unity and vision, as we serve your church and world.

**Sermon**

Rev. Carrie Veal

“Come As You Are”

**Solo**

J. Kevin Gray

***This song is for all those whose giftedness, talent and state of being  
have not been appreciated either by the individual, society or even the church.***

***As we move forward in life collectively and individually,  
we pray that our eyes, ears, and our very beings will be more attentive and present  
to those we see struggling, those who need to experience the peace of Christ through us.***

“Bridge Over Troubled Water”

Paul Simon (b. 1941)

When you're weary, feeling small,  
when tears are in your eyes, I'll dry them all.  
I'm on your side, oh, when times get rough,  
and friends just can't be found,  
like a bridge over troubled water,  
I will lay me down.

When you're down and out, when you're on the street,  
when evening falls so hard, I will comfort you.  
I'll take your part, oh, when darkness comes,  
and pain is all around,  
like a bridge over troubled water,  
I will lay me down.

Sail on silver girl, sail on by,  
your time has come to shine,  
all your dreams are on their way.  
See how they shine, oh, if you need a friend,  
I'm sailing right behind.  
Like a bridge over troubled water,  
I will ease your mind.

### A Moment of Silent Reflection

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

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

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



### Offertory Anthem

"If Ye Love Me"

If ye love me, keep my commandments,  
and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter.  
That he may abide with you forever; even the spirit of truth.

Chancel Choir  
Thomas Tallis (b. 1505)

### \*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. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

### \*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

### \*Closing Hymn

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

See pages 7  
ACCEPTANCE

## Benediction

Rev. Carrie Veal

## Postlude

“In Thee Is Gladness”

Jane Cain, organist  
J.S. 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.*



Leading worship today with Rev. Carrie Veal  
are Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell, Senior Minister,  
Rev. Dr. JJ Flag, Minister of Pastoral Care and Justice,  
Dr. John Blackshire, Ministerial Intern,  
and Zach Mason, Ministerial Intern.

Leading worship through music are  
J. Kevin Gray, Minister of Music and Worship,  
Jane Cain, organist,  
and the Chancel Choir.



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



We are affiliated with [allianceofbaptists.org](http://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](mailto:cveal@myersparkbaptist.org).

## WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE

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Connect with us  
in one easy step.

Learn more about us  
and how to get  
involved.

Just point the camera  
on your phone at the  
QR Code to access  
the items listed here.



- EVENTS
- GUESTS
- GIVE
- PRAY
- WEBSITE

MYERS PARK  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH



# Help Us Accept Each Other

*Unison*

1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept-ed us;  
 2. Teach us, O Lord, your les-sons, as in our dai-ly life  
 3. Let your ac - cep-tance change us, so that we may be moved  
 4. Lord, for to - day's en-coun-ters with all who are in need,

teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em-brace.  
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.  
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;  
 who hun - ger for ac - cep-tance, for righ-teous - ness and bread,

Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us, and bring us to be - lieve  
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,  
 to prac - tice your ac - cep-tance, un - til we know by heart  
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on;

we are our - selves ac - cept-ed and meant to love and live.  
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.  
 the ta - ble of for - give-ness and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.  
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1974 (Jn. 15:12)

MUSIC: John Ness Beck, 1977

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ACCEPTANCE

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## 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](mailto:lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org).*

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