OPEN TO ALL



MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 10th Sunday of Pentecost

August 6, 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 Jane Cain, organ Niels Gade

"Tone Poem No.1"

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

*Opening Hymn

"We Gather Together"

KRFMSFR

We gather to ask for God's blessing, to turn to a wisdom surpassing our own; the pow'rs that oppress us now cease to distress us. O God, be present with us, and make your will known.

Beside us to guide us, O God, we perceive you ordaining, maintaining the power of life. Yes, yours be the glory; let us all tell the story. Our God, be ever with us, in gladness and strife.

May all sing your praises, Redeemer triumphant, defend us, befriend us, whatever may be. May your congregation live through tribulation. Your name be praised forever, O God, make us free!

Welcome of Our Guests Rev. Carrie Veal

> 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

Hebrew Scripture Reading – Joshua 1:1-9 NRSV

Ted Phillips

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses's assistant, saying, "My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses. From the wilderness and the Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, to the Great Sea in the west shall be your territory. No one shall be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you. Be strong and courageous, for you shall lead this people to possess the land that I swore to their ancestors to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be successful wherever you go. This book of the law shall

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

not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful. I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

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 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 108 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

"How Firm a Foundation"

FOUNDATION

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in God's excellent word! What more can be said than to you God has said to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

Sermon Rev. Tara Gibbs

"Where is God?"

Anthem "Guide My Feet"

Chancel Choir arr. Avis Graves

Guide my feet while I run this race, [x3] for I don't want to run this race in vain! Hold my hand...
Be my friend...

Refrain:

Lord, guide my feet and keep my way, can't take a step without you.

I don't want to run this race in vain.

Stand by me... [Refrain]

Church at Prayer Rev. Carrie Veal

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. Leigh Anne Duncan

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

"My Shepherd Will Supply"

Jane Cain, organ

arr. Robert Hobby

*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology

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.

*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Hymn

"My Life Flows On" stanzas 1.2. and 4

"My Life Flows On" stanzas 1, 2, and 4

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

See page 7. HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

Benediction Rev. Tara Gibbs

Postlude

"Toccata in Seven"

Jane Cain, organ

John Ritter

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. Tara Gibbs are Rev. Carrie Veal, Executive Minister, Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan, Campus Administrator, and Ted Phillips.

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.

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of the lives and marriage of Jim and Ann Berry by their daughter, Carol Leinbach and her husband, Leon.

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We are affiliated with We are affiliated with alliance of Baptists.org



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.





My Life Flows On Stanzas 1, 2, 4 How Can I Keep from Singing? life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion. 2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing. 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav-ior liv - eth. peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing! hear the clear, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion. finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing? What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth. things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing? Refrain No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing. Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

In the New York Observer of August 7, 1868, this text was titled "Always Rejoicing," and was attributed to "Pauline T." This may well be where the Baptist pastor and musician to whom it is usually credited encountered the words that he later published with his tune.

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 Grav

Minister of Music & Worship



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