

OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 13th Sunday of Pentecost

August 27, 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

“Precious Lord, Take my Hand”

Linda McKechnie, piano
Thomas A. Dorsey, arr. Linda McKechnie

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Tara Gibbs

***Opening Hymn**

“We Are Called to Be God’s People”

BEECHER

We are called to be God's people showing by our lives God's grace.
One in heart and one in spirit, sign of hope for all the race.
Let us show how God has changed us and remade us as God's own.
Let us share our life together as we build another home.

We are called to be God's servants working in the world today.
Taking God's own task upon us all God's sacred words obey.
Let us rise then to the summons dedicate to God our all.
That we may be faithful servants quick to answer now God's call.

We are called to be God's prophets speaking for the truth and right
standing firm for godly justice bringing evil into light.
Let us seek the courage needed our high calling to fulfill
that we all may know the blessing of the doing of God's will.

Welcome of Our Guests

Dr. John Blackshire

*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 – Exodus 4:10-17

Dr. John Blackshire

But Moses said to the Lord, “O my Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor even now that you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.” Then the Lord said to him, “Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the Lord? Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak.” But he said, “O my Lord, please send someone else.” Then the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and he said, “What of your brother Aaron, the Levite? I know that he can speak well; even now he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you his heart will be glad. You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you what you shall do. He indeed shall speak for you to the people; he shall serve as a mouth for you, and you shall serve as God for him. Take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs.”

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**

“Go Down Moses”

When Israel was in Egypt's land,
let my people go,
oppressed so hard they could not stand,
let my people go.

Refrain:

Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land,
tell old Pharaoh: Let my people go.

The Lord told Moses what to do,
let my people go,
to lead the Hebrew children through,
let my people go. *[Refrain]*

But Moses thought he could not lead,
let my people go,
he was not gifted in his speech,
let my people go. *[Refrain]*

When Moses finally said yes, Lord
let my people go,
he was anointed given words,
let my people go. *[Refrain]*

Like Moses, we should not be scared.
Let my people go,
as long as we are Spirit led,
let my people go. *[Refrain]*

SPIRITUAL

text for verses 3-5 by J. Kevin Gray

Sermon

“No Excuses”

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

Musical Reflection

J. Kevin Gray

J. Kevin Gray

"Time For the Waiting to End "

Everybody's talking about the world we live in;
they say that it's time for a change.
Well, I don't know about you my friend,
but it's time for the waiting to end.

People living in the streets and kids with no shoes,
in a country where the wealthy can live as they choose.
How much more do you need to let go of your excuse?
It's time for the waiting to end.

Chorus:

Don't wait for your mother, your sisters or brothers,
your father or slow to change friends,
cause it starts with your actions, your heart, and your hands,
it's time for the waiting to end.

We blame the government, we blame the man,
we blame each other as fast as we can.
We wait for action from those we think can,
but it's time for the waiting to end. [chorus]

We pray to the Lord each day that we live,
we ask God to bring the world peace,
but aren't we Christ's hands and part of God's plan,
it's time for the waiting to cease.

I've heard it said many times what can be done,
this world is so big I'm so small,
but when you lean into love, and you follow the call
the biggest of empires will fall. [chorus]

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

Dr. John Blackshire

*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

Linda McKechnie, piano

“As the Deer” with “The Swan”

Camille Saint-Saens and Martin Nystrom, arr. Linda McKechnie

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

*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. Tara Gibbs

*Closing Hymn

“Come, O Come, Eternal Prophet” stanzas 1, 2, and 4

See page 7.
IN BABILONE

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

Postlude

“Hymn to Joy”

Linda McKechnie, organ
Gordon Young

***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. Dr. Ben Boswell
are Rev. Tara Gibbs, Associate Minister of Spiritual Growth,
Rev. Dr. JJ Flag, Associate Minister of Pastoral Care and Justice,
and Dr. John Blackshire, Pastoral Resident.

Leading worship through music are
J. Kevin Gray, Minister of Music and Worship,
and Linda McKechnie, organist.



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.

**WE'RE
GLAD YOU
ARE HERE**

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

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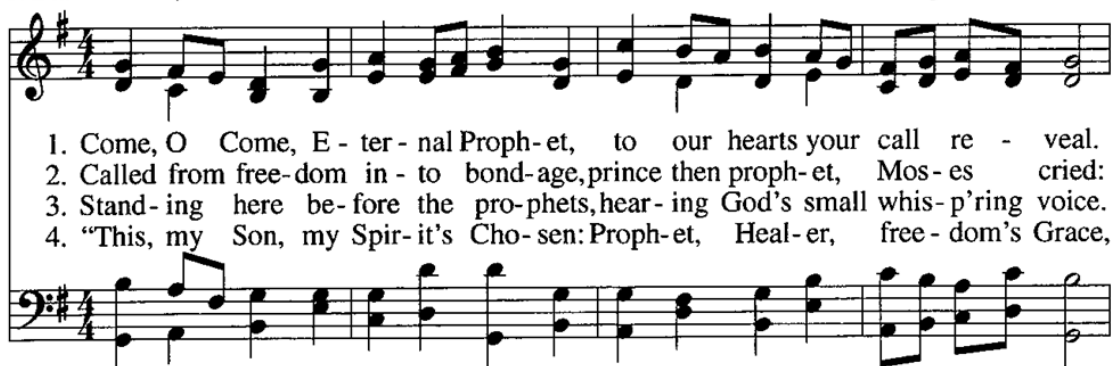
Come, O Come, Eternal Prophet

IN BABILONE 8 7 8 7 D

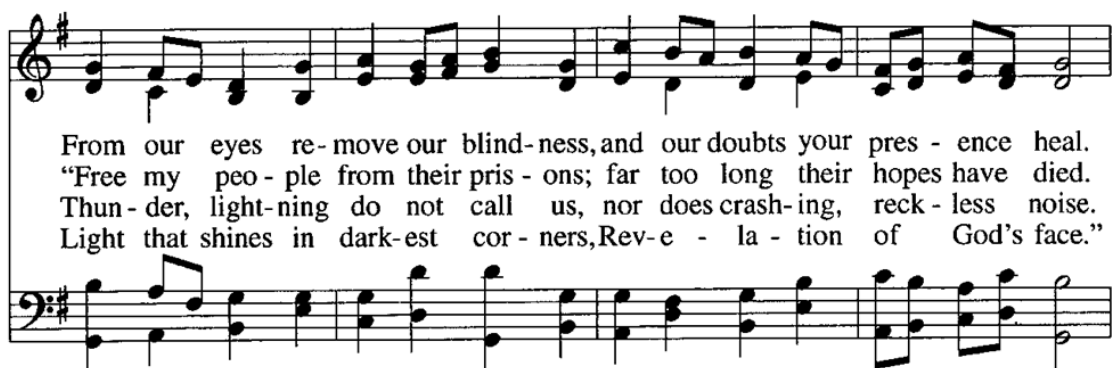
Dutch melody

J. Daniel White, 1994

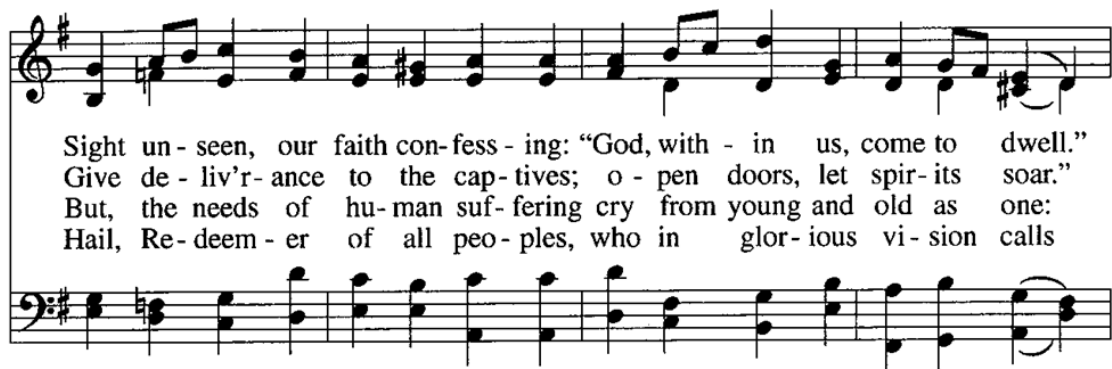
Arr. Julius Röntgen (1855–1933)



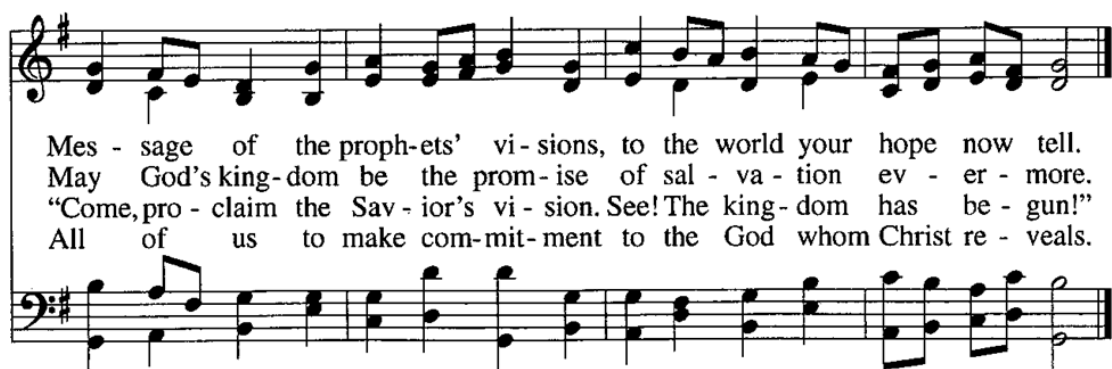
1. Come, O Come, E - ter - nal Proph-et, to our hearts your call re - veal.
 2. Called from free-dom in - to bond-age, prince then proph-et, Mos-es cried:
 3. Stand-ing here be-fore the pro-phets, hear-ing God's small whis-p'ring voice.
 4. "This, my Son, my Spir-it's Cho-sen: Proph-et, Heal-er, free-dom's Grace,



From our eyes re-move our blind-ness, and our doubts your pres - ence heal.
 "Free my peo - ple from their pris - ons; far too long their hopes have died.
 Thun-der, light-ning do not call us, nor does crash-ing, reck - less noise.
 Light that shines in dark-est cor - ners, Rev-e - la - tion of God's face."



Sight un - seen, our faith con-fess - ing: "God, with - in us, come to dwell."
 Give de - liv'r - ance to the cap-tives; o - pen doors, let spir-its soar."
 But, the needs of hu-man suf-fering cry from young and old as one:
 Hail, Re-deem - er of all peo - ples, who in glor-ious vi-sion calls



Mes - sage of the proph-ets' vi-sions, to the world your hope now tell.
 May God's king-dom be the prom-ise of sal - va - tion ev - er - more.
 "Come, pro - claim the Sav - ior's vi - sion. See! The king - dom has be - gun!"
 All of us to make com-mit-ment to the God whom Christ re - veals.

A Transfiguration hymn dedicated to Noël C. Lovelace, fourth Minister of Music, Myers Park Baptist Church, 1987 to present.

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

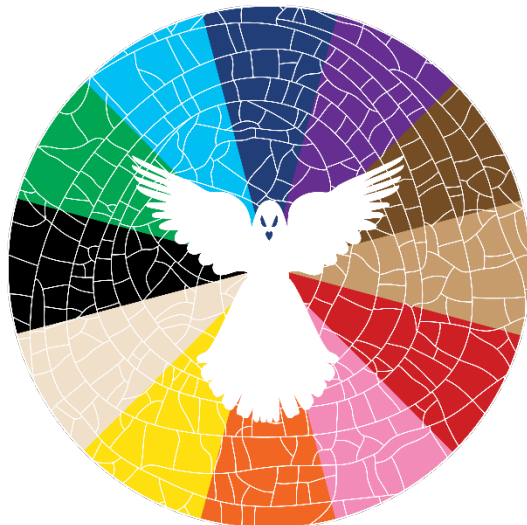
Rev. Carrie Veal
Executive Minister

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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