

# OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

**Welcome Sunday**

September 10, 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**

“Variations on LASST UNS ERFREUEN”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ  
Denis Bédard

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

Rev. Carrie Veal

### **\*Opening Hymn**

“We Are a People on a Journey”

see page 6.  
FOREVER FORWARD

### **Welcome of Our Guests**

Rev. Tara Gibbs

*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 of Recognition**

Tripp Caldwell

### **Hebrew Scripture Reading – Exodus 14:10-18 NRSV**

Maxwell Nelson

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, “Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, ‘Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” But Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.”

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 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

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

CWM RHONDDA

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim though this barren land;  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand;  
bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through;  
strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction. Land me safe on Canaan's side;  
songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee,  
I will ever give to Thee.

### Sermon

“Do Not Be Afraid”

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

### Choral Anthem

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Chancel Choir  
*arr. Mark Hayes*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise God, for they are thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to their temple draw near;  
praise God in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under their wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been  
granted in what God ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
surely God's goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
if with God's love they befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty One!  
Lift up your voices in never-ending song!  
Sing to God above!  
Praise to the Lord, praise to the Lord!  
Lift up your voice to God!

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore them!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before them!  
Let the Amen sound from God's people again;  
gladly for aye we adore them. Amen!

### Church at Prayer

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

### Invitation to Offering

Rev. Tara Gibbs

*There are several ways to give: scan the QR code below  
or drop your offering in the plate.*



## Offertory

“All Belong Here”

Bethany Wherry  
Lenora and Hannah Rand

When you're not sure who you really are,  
when all you feel is the shape of your scars,  
and you have more wounds than you can count;  
open your eyes, look all around you aren't alone, this is your home.

Chorus:

Come and remember who you are here. Do this to remember who I am.  
Come and remember you belong here, all belong here.

When you don't know how to forgive.  
When locked doors seem like the only way to live,  
and you've got more questions than you can count;  
Open your eyes, look all around,  
You aren't alone, this is your home. [Chorus]

At this table come as you are, broken and bleeding's ok.  
At this table eat and be filled, come and drink in this grace. [Chorus]

## \*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. Carrie Veal

## Communion

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell and Rev. Carrie Veal

## Invitation to the Table

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and 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.

## Words of Institution

*All are invited to participate in Communion. You may come forward to the front of the  
Sanctuary to receive bread and juice or pre-packaged, gluten-free elements.  
If you prefer to be served at your seat, please raise your hand and a Minister will assist you.*

## Music During Communion

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

## \*Closing Hymn

“I Come with Joy”

see page 7.  
LAND OF REST

## Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

## Postlude

“Postlude on LASST UNS ERFREUEN”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ  
Denis Bédard

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

*Children should be picked up by their families on their way to lunch.*

Audio/Video Team Members are Wes Cobb, Joe Kuhlmann, Hannah Combs, Alicia Dunn, Eric Roberts, 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

Connect with us  
in one easy step.



### THIS WEEK AT MPBC

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 – WELCOME SUNDAY

- 10:00a: Worship | Sanctuary
- 10:15a: Children's Worship | Room 108
- 11:15a: Welcome Sunday Lunch | Heaton Hall

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 – MOSAIC WEDNESDAYS KICKOFF

- 4:30p: Mosaic Sage-ing | Adults | Library
- 5:30p: Mosaic Dinner | Heaton Hall
- 6:00p: Mosaic Kids | Room 208
- 6:30p: Back to Basics Bible Study | Open to All Ages | Library
- 6:30p: Do Miracles Matter? Topical Series | Open to All Ages | Room 254
- 6:30p: Ministry Meetings

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 9:00a: Reading in Community | Adults | Parlor
- 10:00a: Worship | Sanctuary
- 10:15a: Children's Worship | Room 108
- 11:15a: Spiritual Growth for Children | Room 108
- 11:15a: Spiritual Growth for Youth | Conference Room
- 11:15a: Exploring Spiritual Togetherness | Adults | Parlor
- 11:15a: Faith & Community | Adults | Shalom Hall
- 11:15a: "Help My Unbelief!" | Adults | Library
- 4:00p: Youth Block | Youth Hall



For more information about MPBC events, activities, and the latest updates, scan the code above and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Please reach out to our Executive Minister Carrie Veal, with any questions regarding programming: [cveal@myersparkbaptistchurch.org](mailto:cveal@myersparkbaptistchurch.org)



# We Are a People on a Journey

1. We are a peo - ple on a jour - ney, o - pen to all and closed to none,  
2. O - pen to all new light be - fore us, guid - ing be - yond what we can see,  
3. When on our jour - ney we en - coun - ter stran - gers ig - nored or friends in need,  
4. Come, lift your voice in cel - e - bra - tion; join the pro - ces - sion through the world:

led by the love we've known through Je - sus, warm - ly em - brac - ing ev - ery - one.  
trust - ing a faith in - formed by rea - son, chal - lenged with - in com - mu - ni - ty,  
na - ture ne - glect - ed, life en - dan - gered, vic - tims op - pressed by power and greed,  
grow - ing, ex - plor - ing, march - ing, sing - ing, ban - ners of love for all un - furled!

On the path of faith pro - gress - ing, firm - ly stead - fast, bold - ly free,  
we'll ex - plore vast ways of wis - dom, search for mean - ing all a - round  
we will take a stand for jus - tice; we will join our hands for peace;  
Liv - ing just - ly, serv - ing kind - ly, walk - ing hum - bly through our days,

we will move for - ev - er for - ward grow - ing in di - ver - si - ty,  
as we move for - ev - er for - ward seek - ing truth wher - ev - er found,  
then we'll move for - ev - er for - ward bear - ing hope that fear may cease,  
let us move for - ev - er for - ward rais - ing songs of joy and praise,

grow - ing in di - ver - si - ty.  
seek - ing truth wher - ev - er found.  
bear - ing hope that fear may cease.  
rais - ing songs of joy and praise!

1, 2, 3. 4.

Words and Music: Larry E. Schultz

FOREVER FORWARD

Irregular

Commissioned by Myers Park Baptist Church, Charlotte, North Carolina.

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♩ = 102

# I Come with Joy



1. I come with joy, a child of God, For -  
 2. I come with Chris - tians far and near To  
 3. As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, Each  
 4. The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, Un -  
 5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound By



giv - en, loved, and free, The life of Je - sus  
 find, as all are fed, The new com - mu - ni -  
 proud di - vi - sion ends. The love that made us,  
 seen, but ev - er near, Is in such friend - ship  
 all that God has done, We'll go with joy, to



to re - call, In love laid down for me.  
 ty of love In Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
 makes us one, And stran - gers now are friends.  
 bet - ter known, A - live a - mong us here.  
 give the world The love that makes us one.

Text: Brian Wren, b.1936, © 1971, rev. 1995, Hope Publishing Company  
 Tune: LAND OF REST, CM; American

## 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

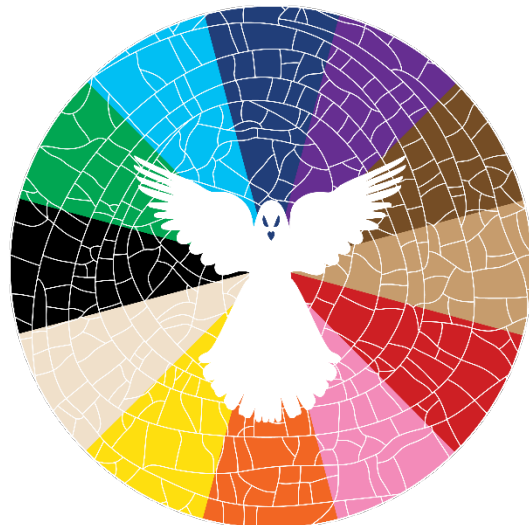
**Rev. Carrie Veal**  
Executive Minister

**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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