

OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 21st Sunday of Pentecost

October 22, 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

“Organ Hymn”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ
Raymond Haan

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Tara Gibbs & Rev. Dr. Casey Sigmon

***Opening Hymn**

“Comfort, Comfort You My People”

See page 6.
GENEVAN 42

Welcome of Our Guests

John Blackshire, Ph.D.

*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 – Isaiah 40: 3-5 NRSV

Nancy Hudson

A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

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 with Children’s Worship leaders.
Parents can pick up children from room 108 in the education building between 11 -11:15.***

***Sermon Hymn**

“Kanisa Litajengwa”

KENYA

[Choir]

Kaneesa lita-jengwa; na nee nee. na na nee
Kaneesa lita-jengwa; na nee nee. na, na nee
ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]
ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]

[All]

Kaneesa lita-jengwa; na nee nee, na na nee
Kaneesa lita-jengwa; na nee nee, na na nee
ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]
ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]

Oh, who will build the church now, we'll build it together [Repeat]

ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]

ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]

Oh, who will build the church now, we're building the future [Repeat]

ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]

ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]

Oh, who will build the church now, we're building the future [Repeat]

ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]

ee- yo, yo, yo, yo [Repeat]

Sermon

Rev. Dr. K. Monet Rice-Jalloh

"Build a Highway for God"

*Musical Celebration

"Lead With Love"

Melanie DeMore

Third verse by J. K. Gray

Chorus:

You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love, put
one foot in front of the other and lead with love. [Repeat]

Don't give up hope! [All] Don't give up hope!

You're not alone. [All] You're not alone.

Don't you give up! [All] Don't you give up!

Keep movin' on. [All] Keep movin' on. [Chorus]

Lift up your eyes! [All] Lift up your eyes!

Don't you despair. [All] Don't you despair.

Look up ahead, [All] Look up ahead,

the path is there. [All] the path is there. [Chorus]

The future's bright [All] The future's bright,

For God is here. [All] For God is here.

Let's do the work [All] Let's do the work.

Our way is clear [All] Our way is clear. [Chorus]

Church at Prayer

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

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 or drop your offering in the plate.



Offertory Anthem

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Chancel Choir

Derek Hakes

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son,
thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul’s glory, joy and crown.
Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.
Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heav’n can boast.
Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine.

*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

Congregational Meeting

Karen Taylor

Deacon Slate

Life Deacon Class of 2024

Marcy McClanahan

Janet Bynum Miller

Ray Owens

Deacon Class of 2026

Jason Blackwell

Allen Davis

Tim Emry

Anna-Catherine Fowler

Nancy W. Hudson

Elaine Price-Hudson

*Closing Hymn

“In Christ There Is No East or West” stanzas 1, 2, and 3

See page 7.

MCKEE

Benediction

Rev. Dr. K. Monet Rice-Jalloh

Postlude

“March on the Old Hundredth Psalm Tune”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

Brenda Portman


*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.



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

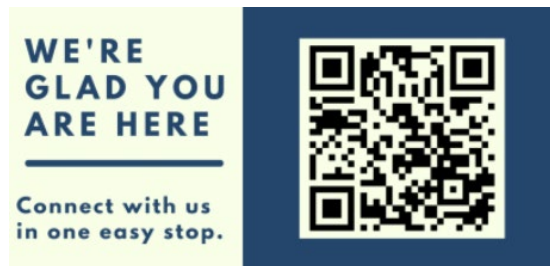


We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org  Alliance
of Baptists



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.



THIS WEEK AT MPBC

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

- 9:00a: Reading in Community | Adults | Parlor
- 10:00a: Worship | Sanctuary
- 10:15a: Children's Worship | Room 108
- 11:15a: Coffee Connections | Heaton Hall Foyer
- 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!" | Hybrid | Adults | Library
- 4:00p: Youth Block | Youth Hall

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

- 4:30p: Mosaic Sage-ing | Adults | Library
- 5:30p: Mosaic Dinner | Heaton Hall
- 6:00p: Mosaic Kids | Room 208
- 6:15p: Back to Basics Bible Study | Open to All Ages | Library
- 6:15p: Do Miracles Matter? Topical Series | Open to All Ages | Room 254
- 6:15p: Ministry Meetings



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@myersparkbaptist.org

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

1 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.

"Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.

To my peo - ple now pro - claim that my par - don waits for them!
 O, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,

Tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war - fare now is o - ver."
 Let the val - leys rise in meet - ing and the hills bow down in greet - ing.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

This 17th-century German paraphrase of Isaiah 40:1-5 was one of the texts translated as part of the 19th-century British interest in German religious poetry. It is set here to one of the most popular Genevan Psalter tunes, probably derived from an earlier French folksong.

TEXT: Johannes Olearius, 1671; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.
 MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

GENEVAN 42
 8.7.8.7.7.7.8.8

Stanzas 1, 2, 3

In Christ There Is No East or West

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com -
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet

south or north, but one great fel - low -
 mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 race may be. All chil - dren of the
 south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

This setting expands and enhances the thematic inclusiveness of an early 20th-century text by adapting the melody of a traditional spiritual to carry these words. This 1940 pairing marked the first use of African American musical material in a mainline North American hymnal.

TEXT: John Oxenham, 1908, alt.

MUSIC: African American spiritual; *Jubilee Songs*, 1884; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1940

MC KEE

CM

(alternate tune: ST. PETER, 318)

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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