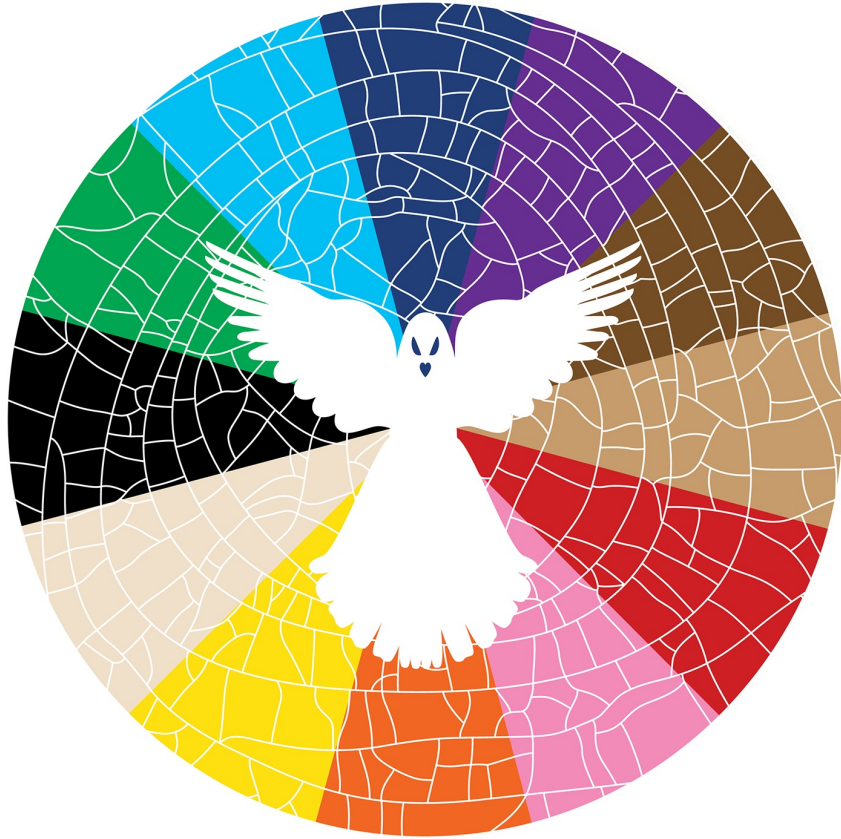


# OPEN TO ALL



## MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

### Welcome Sunday

September 11, 2022 | 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 now optional for worship and in small group settings for adults. Until notified otherwise, children and youth will be masked while indoors in their small groups, but masks will be optional for them while outside.

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

“Festive Trumpet Tune”

David German (b. 1954)

Whit Blount, trumpet; John Richardson, organ

## Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

## \*Opening Hymn

“Let Us Build a House (All Are Welcome)” (stanzas 1, 4, 5)

See page 6.

TWO OAKS

## 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

## Blessing for a New School Year

Rev. Carrie Veal and Rev. Tara Gibbs

## Gospel Reading - Luke 15:1-2; 11-32 (NRSV)

Harper Harris

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.’ So he divided his assets between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to his senses he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’

So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be

called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

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 a Children’s Worship Time. They will exit at the front of the Sanctuary by the piano and return to the Sanctuary for Communion. Children may be picked up at the pews by the piano following worship.*

### \*Sermon Hymn

“Faithful God, You Sent Your Spirit”

NETTLETON

God of Hope, you daily nurture  
those who seek to follow you.  
You’re not bound by any culture;  
you love rich and poor ones, too.  
In an ever-changing nation,  
may your churches welcome in  
every child of your creation,  
giving hope to all again.

God of love, may we in worship  
welcome our diversity.  
May we reach in trust and friendship  
to the poor and refugee.  
May we see Christ in the stranger,  
breaking bonds of hate and fear.  
By your Spirit, may we offer  
glimpses of your kingdom here.

Carolyn Gillette (contemporary)

### Sermon

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

“Possessed By a Dream of Belonging”

### Invitation to Silent Reflection/Confession

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

### Church at Prayer

## Invitation to Offering

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



## Offertory Anthem

“Jubilate Deo”

*Jubilate Deo, omnis terra;  
servite Domino in laetitia.  
Introite in conspectu ejus in exultatione.  
Quoniam suavis est Dominus: in aeternum misericordia ejus,  
et usque in generationem et generationem veritas ejus.*

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.  
Serve the Lord with gladness:  
come before God's presence with singing.  
For the Lord is good; God's mercy is everlasting;  
and God's truth endureth to all generations.

Chancel Choir  
Peter Anglea (contemporary)

## \*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. Alleluia.**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Janice Bradner, piano

## \*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

## Communion

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell and Rev. Tara Gibbs

## 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

*You are invited to come forward to receive pre-packaged  
Communion elements to consume during or after the service.*

## Music During Communion

“One Bread, One Body”

Madeline Beitel, mezzo soprano

Chancel Choir  
ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

## \*Closing Hymn

“We Are a People On a Journey” (stanzas 1, 3, 4)

See page 7.  
FOREVER FORWARD

## Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

## Postlude

“Royal Fireworks: The Rejoicing”

George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)

Whit Blount, trumpet; John Richardson, organ

Leading worship today with Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell, Senior Minister,  
are Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan, Church Administrator,  
Rev. Tara Gibbs, Minister of Youth and College,  
and Harper Harris, Member of the Youth Ministry.

Leading worship through music are  
Frances Morrison, Interim Minister of Music and Worship,  
Members of the Chancel Choir,  
and John Richardson, Organist.




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



All scriptures, unless otherwise noted, are from  
Rev. Wil Gafney, Ph.D, “A Women’s Lectionary for the Whole Church, Year W.”



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 occasionally take photographs during our worship service.  
If you would prefer not to be included, please contact  
Laura Geer, Director of Communications, at [lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org](mailto:lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org).



# ALL ARE WELCOME

(stanzas 1, 4, 5)



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and  
 2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and  
 3. Let us build a house where love is found in  
 4. Let us build a house where hands will reach be-  
 5. Let us build a house where all are named, their



all can safe - ly live. A place where saints and  
 words are strong and true. Where all God's chil - dren  
 wa - ter, wine and wheat; A ban - quet hall on  
 yond the wood and stone, To heal and strength - en,  
 songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for-  
 dare to seek to dream God's reign a-  
 ho - ly ground, where peace and jus - tice  
 serve and teach, and live the Word they've  
 taught and claimed as words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of  
 new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as  
 meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus, is re-  
 known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger bears the  
 Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of



faith and vault of grace, Here the love of Christ shall  
 sym - bol of God's grace; Here as one we claim the  
 vealed in time and space, As we share in Christ the  
 im - age of God's face, Let us bring an end to  
 faith and songs of grace. Let this house pro - claim from



end di - vi - sions:  
 faith of Je - sus;  
 feast that frees us;  
 fear and dan - ger:  
 floor to raft - er: } All are wel - come, all are wel - come

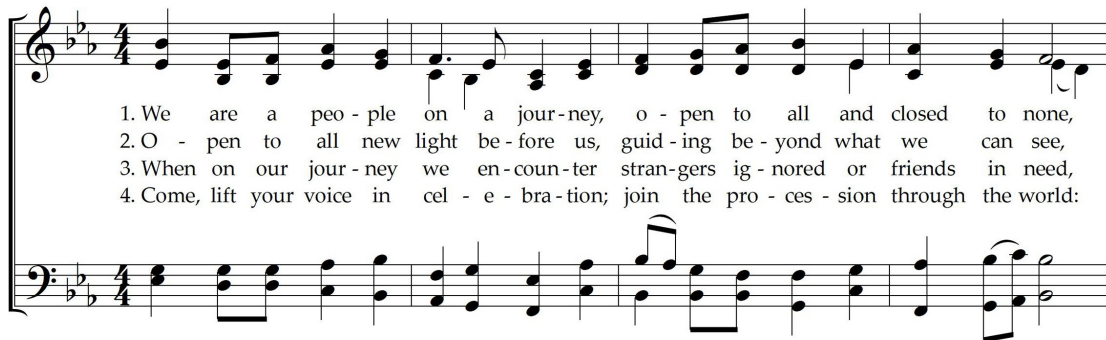


all are wel - come in this place.

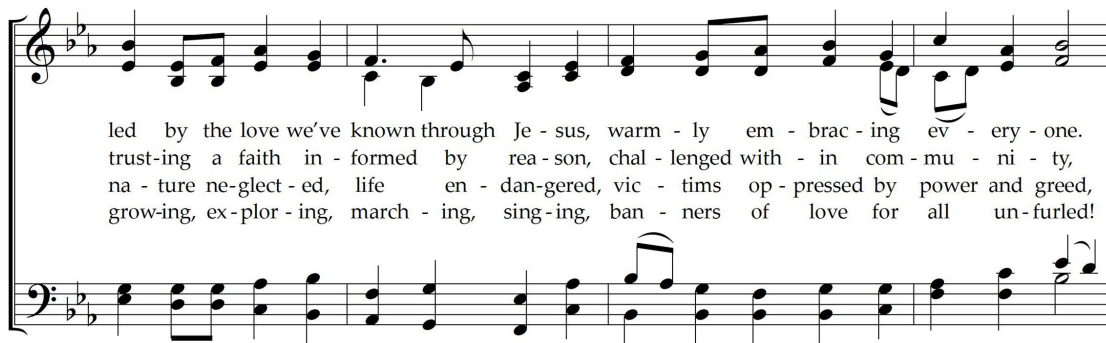


# We Are a People on a Journey

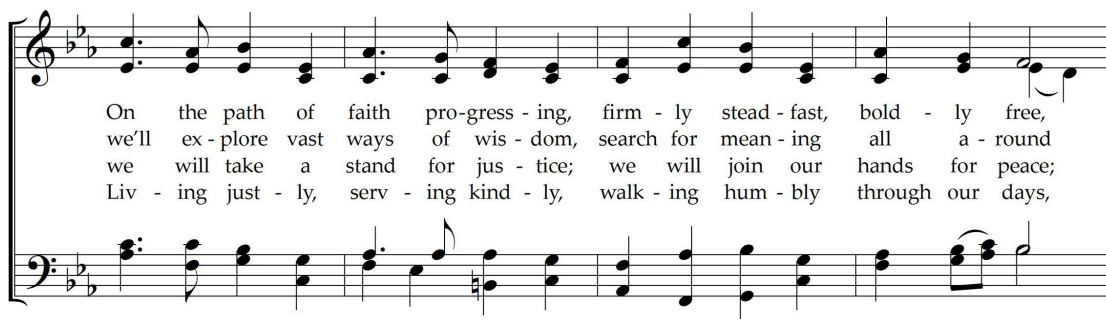
(stanzas 1, 3, 4)



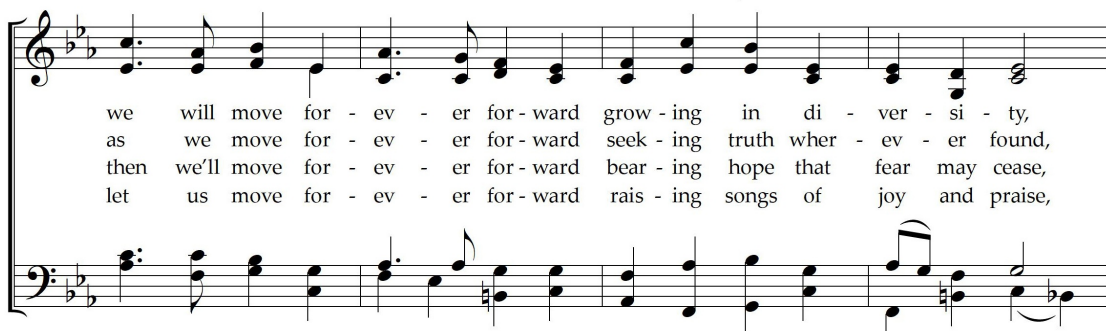
1. We are a peo - ple on a jour - ney, o - pen to all and closed to none,  
2. O - pen to all new light be - fore us, guid - ing be - yond what we can see,  
3. When on our jour - ney we en - coun - ter stran - gers ig - nored or friends in need,  
4. Come, lift your voice in cel - e - bra - tion; join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



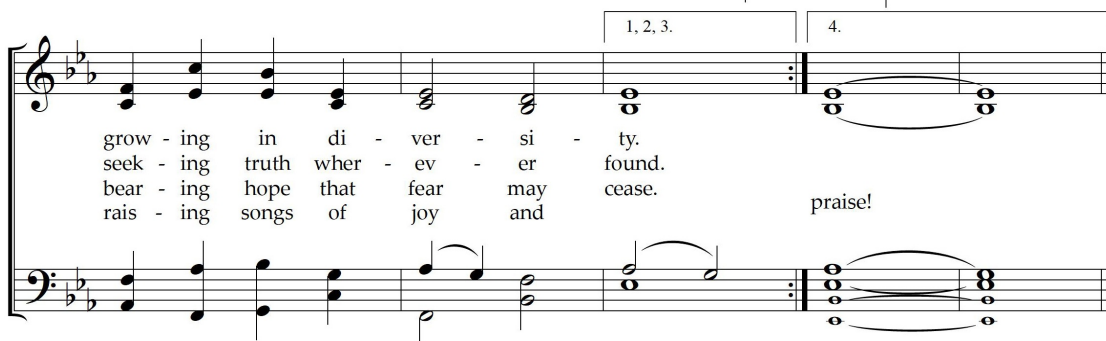
led by the love we've known through Je - sus, warm - ly em - brac - ing ev - ery - one.  
trust - ing a faith in - formed by rea - son, chal - lenged with - in com - mu - ni - ty,  
na - ture ne - glect - ed, life en - dan - gered, vic - tims op - pressed by power and greed,  
grow - ing, ex - plor -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

1, 2, 3. 4.

praise!

Words and Music: Larry E. Schultz

FOREVER FORWARD

Irregular

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

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♩ = 102

## 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. Joseph Aldrich**  
Executive Minister of Caregiving & Leadership

**Rev. Carrie Veal**  
Executive Minister of Community & Engagement

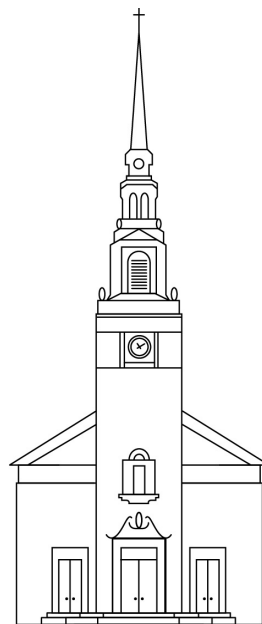
**Rev. Tara Gibbs**  
Minister of Youth and College

**Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan**  
Campus Administrator

**Frances L. Morrison**  
Interim Minister of Music & Worship

**Charlotte Judge**  
Associate Director of Music

**John Richardson**  
Organist



**MYERS PARK  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**



Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice