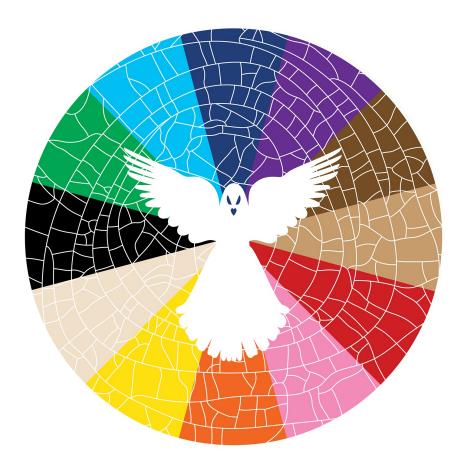
OPEN TO ALL



MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 16, 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 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

"Rhosymedre"

John Richardson, organ Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

*Opening Hymn

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

See page 6. AUSTRIAN HYMN

Welcome of Our Guests Rev. Joe Aldrich

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

Gospel Reading - Luke 18:1-8 (Gafney)

Marielle Baysden

Jesus told the disciples a parable about the need to pray continually and not be discouraged. He said, "There was a judge in a certain city who neither feared God nor respected people. There was a widow in that city and she came to him continually and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' And he was not willing for some time; but later he said to himself, 'Though I do not fear God or respect anyone else, yet because this widow persists in troubling me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not ultimately come to violence against me."

And the Messiah said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to the elect of God who cry to God day and night? Will God forbear in helping them? I tell you all, God will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Woman comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

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 a Children's Worship Time. They will exit at the front of the Sanctuary by the piano and return there where parents may pick them up at the end of worship.

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

*Sermon Hymn

"God, You Hear Our Weary Praying"

Carolyn Gillette (b. 1961)

God, we cannot help but wonder: Do our prayers do any good?

Do they change the nations' leaders? Do they change our neighborhood?

Why do loved ones keep on suffering when they're in our constant prayer?

Do you hear the cries we're offering? Are you listening? Are you there?

Then you teach us of this woman: She was widowed; she was poor. "Grant me justice!" she kept calling at an unjust judge's door. Though that judge respected no one, he was no match for her cries. He responded to her pleading, granting justice, changing lives.

How much more is your compassion! God, you're just and good and fair. May we lift to you our sorrows and the burdens that we bear. May we pray, for you reign o'er us! May we ask — for you are kind! May we trust that you will help us in your goodness, in your time.

Sermon Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

"Praying With Our Feet"

Invitation to Silent Reflection/Confession

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

Church at Prayer

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. Joe Aldrich

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



Offertory Anthem

"God Has Work for Us to Do"

Chancel Choir Mark A. Miller (b. 1956)

'Til all the jails are empty and all the bellies filled; Till no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled: God has work for us to do, till God's will is done and all things are made new. God has work for us to do.

'Til age and race and gender no longer separate; 'til pulpit, press, and politics are free of greed and hate: God has work for us to do 'til God's will is done and all things are made new, God has work for us to do.

In tenement and mansion, in factory, farm and mill, In board room and in billiard hall, in wards where time stands still, In classroom, church, and office, in shops, or on the street, in every place where people thrive, or starve, or hide, or meet. By sitting at a bedside to hold pale, trembling hands, by speaking for the powerless against unjust demands. By praying through our doing, and singing through our fear, By trusting that the seed we sow will bring God's harvest near: God has work for us to do!

Text by Carl P. Daw, Jr.

*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.

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Joe Aldrich

*Closing Hymn
"Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak" (stanzas 1, 2, 3)

See page 7.

Benediction Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

Postlude

John Richardson, organ Gordon Young (1919-1998)

"Trumpet Voluntary"

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, Senior Minister, are Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan, Campus Administrator, Rev. Joe Aldrich, Executive Minister of Caregiving and Leadership, and Marielle Baysden, Member of the Children's Ministry.

Leading worship through music are
Frances L. 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 give God thanks for the work and ministry of Wes Cobb, Audio/Visual Director, who joined our staff on October 20, 2020.







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.





Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20–21 with allusions to several other passages.

(stanzas 1, 2, 3) Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak



Two great truths inform this text: first, that the testimony of experience is powerful and persuasive; and second, that no one should venture to minister on one's own strength rather than God's. The tune reflects a 19th-century practice of adapting piano pieces as hymn tunes.

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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
Associate Minister of Spiritual Growth

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan Campus Administrator

Frances L. Morrison
Interim Minister of Music & Worship

John Richardson Organist

Dr. Caleb Hopkins Artist-in-Residence



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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 | Igeer@myersparkbaptist.org.