

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Epiphany Sunday

January 4, 2026

10:00am



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

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.

**Childcare is available for birth – kindergarten in the childcare room located in the Cornwell Center (on main level). Please see a greeter for more information.
Worship activities for children are available in the Narthex.**

We invite you to prepare for worship in silence while listening to the prelude.

Prelude

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist
Setting by J.S. Bach

Call to Worship

Rev. Dane Jordan

Leader: In the beginning was the Word, a light no darkness can overcome.

People: **As we step into a new year, we gather to welcome that light again:**

Leader: Alive among us, still speaking,

People: **still becoming flesh. Come, let us worship.**

Invocation

***Opening Hymn**

“Praise the Lord, God’s Glories Show”

Number 42
LLANFAIR

Welcome of Our Guests

Rev. Dane Jordan

*If you are our guest today, please scan the QR code below
so we may offer you our gratitude for joining us today.*



***Passing of the Peace**

A Moment of Centering

J. Kevin Gray

Isaiah 40:31

But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;

they shall mount up with wings like eagles;

they shall run and not be weary;

they shall walk and not faint.

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Take a few moments to breathe and still the mind.



Sing: Come and find the quiet center,
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace and simply be.

BEACH SPRING

Gospel Reading: John 1:1-18 (NRSV)

Kathryn Long, Congregant

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

*Sermon Hymn

“Christ is the World’s True Light”

Number 200

ST. JOAN

Sermon

“This Lasting Glimpse of Glory”

Austin Maynor

A Moment to Reflect

Church at Prayer

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

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

*You are invited to give by scanning the QR code below or
dropping your offering in the plate.*

Tony Dick, Deacon



Offertory Anthem

“The Word Was God”

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
The same was in the beginning with God.
All things were made by him,
and without him
was not anything made that was made.

Choral Ensemble
Rosephanye Powell

*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

*Prayer of Dedication

Tony Dick, Deacon

*Closing Hymn

“This Joy that I Have”

THIS JOY

This joy that I have, the world didn't give it to me.
Oh, this joy that I have, the world didn't give it to me.
Oh, this joy that I have, the world didn't give it to me.
The world didn't give it; the world can't take it away.

This peace that I have, the world didn't give it to me.
Oh, this peace that I have, the world didn't give it to me.
Oh, this peace that I have, the world didn't give it to me.
The world didn't give it; the world can't take it away.

This word that I have, the world didn't give it to me.
Oh, this word that I have, the world didn't give it to me.
Oh, this word that I have, the world didn't give it to me.
The world didn't give it; the world can't take it away.

Pastoral Blessing

Austin Maynor

Postlude

“How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist
setting by Johann Pachelbel

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

Audio/Video Team Members are Wes Cobb (sabbatical), Joe Kuhlmann, Hannah Combs and Eric Roberts.



At Myers Park Baptist Church, we strive for inclusive language. However, there are times due to the historical nature or context of the text that we choose to leave language unchanged as initially presented. Be assured that MPBC holds God as non-gender-specific; God's essence encompasses all.



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. Marina Luckhoo at mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org.




To learn more about upcoming events, our church portal, social media pages, and weekly newsletter, simply scan the QR code below.

WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE

CONNECT WITH US IN ONE EASY STOP

- **EVENTS**
- **GUESTS**
- **GIVE**
- **PRAY**
- **WEBSITE**
- **MEMBER PORTAL**



Learn more about us and how to get involved. Just point the camera on your mobile phone at the QR Code to access the items listed above.

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

J. Kevin Gray

Minister of Music & Worship
kgray@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Dane Jordan

Interim Minister of Youth
djordan@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

Associate Minister
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Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

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We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 4

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:15am-1:00pm | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages – Multiple Locations
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship – Youth Hall

Tuesday, January 6

10:00am-11:30am | Creative Friends – Room 32
12:00pm-1:30pm | Sage-ing Lunch – Heaton Hall

Saturday, January 10

10:00am-3:00pm | Youth Meal Prep for Sunday – Kitchen
6:00pm-morning | Room in the Inn Guests-Cornwell Center

Sunday, January 11

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:15am-1:00pm | Congregational Lunch and Conversation with the Transition Team – Heaton Hall

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.