

OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 22nd Sunday of Pentecost

October 29, 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

“Sleepers Wake, A Voice is Calling”

Lee Northcutt, organ
J. S. Bach

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

*Opening Hymn

“There’s A Spirit in the Air” stanzas 1, 4, and 5

See page 8.
ORIENTIS PARTIBUS

Welcome of Our Guests

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

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 – Matthew 25:1-13 NRSV

Deborah Steiner

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

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

“Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us” stanza 1

See pages 10 and 11.
WACHET AUF

Sermon

“Midnight for the Church”

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

Musical Reflection

“All Things Are Possible”

J. K. Gray

Now is the time to dream,
of today and tomorrow and the things we could be,
if we only believe that the best is ahead,
not a date long ago like some naysayer said.

When we look to the Church of Christ,
not the church of empire but to the God who brings life,
then all things are possible. Yes, all things are possible.
Yes, all things are possible when we give...
All things are possible. All things are possible,
all things are possible when we give, when we give, to God’s dream.

Church at Prayer

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

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.

Moment for Stewardship

Joni Adams

Invitation to Offering

Rev. Leigh Anne Duncan

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



Offertory Anthem

“Keep Your Lamps”

Chancel Choir
arr. Andre Thomas

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children don’t get weary till your work is done.
Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

*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. Leigh Anne Duncan

*Closing Hymn

“Be The Change”

See page 9.
Mark Kaplan & Colin Britt

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

Postlude
“Fanfare”

Lee Northcutt, organ
Gordon Jacob


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.



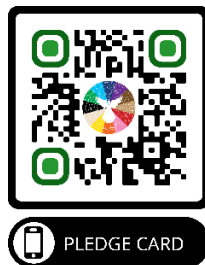
OUR THEOLOGY OF GENEROSITY

Jesus assumed his followers would be giving generously and believed that giving is the most important and fundamental spiritual practice. The more closely we follow Jesus the more generous we become as individuals and as a community of faith. We expect our members to make the church the priority in their giving. Our covenant states, “We covenant together to nurture this church... 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.” As an inclusive community for spirituality and social justice, we are changing lives at MPBC, and we can’t do it without you. We are depending on the financial engagement of every person to increase our impact and create sustainability.

Here’s how you can start your journey of generosity:

1. **Prayerfully reflect on what the church means to you and examine your capacity for generosity.**
2. **Start by giving something and try to make it a regular practice. Every dollar matters and each person can give something. Consistency is what matters.**
3. **Commit to increase your gift each year by a dollar amount or percentage.**
4. **Give above and beyond when you are able to help us reach our yearly goals.**
5. **Be faithful and commit to continue practicing generosity even in the difficult times in our lives, our church, and our society.**

Without generosity there is no community. Without generosity there is no church. We give because generosity is the glue that holds us together. Thank you for your gifts!



**WE'RE
GLAD YOU
ARE HERE**

**Connect with us
in one easy step.**

Learn more about us
and how to get
involved.

Just point the camera
on your phone at the
QR Code to access
the items listed here.



- **EVENTS**
- **GUESTS**
- **GIVE**
- **PRAY**
- **WEBSITE**

**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

THIS WEEK AT MPBC

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

- 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: Trunk or Treat | Roswell Lot

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

- 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

There's A Spirit In The Air

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS 7777

Medieval French melody
Harm. Richard Redhead, 1853

Brian Wren, 1969; rev. 1989

1. There's a Spir - it in the air, Tell - ing
 2. Lose your shy - ness, find your tongue; Tell the
 3. When be - liev - ers break the bread, When a
 4. Still the Spir - it gives us light, See - ing
 5. When a stran - ger's not a - lone, Where the

Chris - tians ev - ery - where: "Praise the love that
 world what God has done. God in Christ has
 hun - gry child is fed, Praise the love that
 wrong and set - ting right; God in Christ has
 home - less find a home, Praise the love that

Christ re - vealed, Liv - ing, work - ing, in our world."
 come to stay. Live to - mor - row's life to - day!
 Christ re - vealed, Liv - ing, work - ing, in our world.
 come to stay. Live to - mor - row's life to - day!
 Christ re - vealed, Liv - ing, work - ing, in our world.

6. May the Spirit fill our praise,
 Guide our thoughts and change our ways:
 God in Christ has come to stay.
 Live tomorrow's life today!

7. There's a Spirit in the air,
 Calling Christians everywhere:
 "Praise the love that Christ revealed,
 Living, working, in our world."

Be the Change

Words adapted from Gandhi (attr.)

Music by Marc Kaplan and Colin Britt

Jersey City, NJ | 2010

Steady (♩ = 88)

Melody

1. Be the change _____ you want to see in the world, be the change
 2. Be the voice _____ you want to hear in the world, be the voice
 3. Be the light _____ you want to shine in the world, be the light

Harmony

C/G

G

Cadd9

Am7

_____ you want to see in the world, be the change _____ you want to
 _____ you want to hear in the world, be the voice _____ you want to
 _____ you want to shine in the world, be the light _____ you want to

B7

Em

Am7

C/D

G

see in the world,
 hear in the world,
 shine in the world, } and change will come _____ to you. _____

Stanza 1

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice Astounds Us

1 “Sleep-ers, wake!” A voice as - tounds us; the shout of ram-part
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her heart with joy - ful
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let saints and an - gels

guards sur - rounds us: “A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!”
 hope is spring - ing; she wakes and hur - ries through the night.
 sing be - fore you, as harps and cym-bals swell the sound.

Mid - night’s peace their cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum-mons
 Forth he comes, her Bride-groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in
 Twelve great pearls, the cit - y’s por - tals: through them we stream to

This text is based on the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids (Matthew 25:1–13), but contains allusions to many other New Testament passages. Because one person created both text and tune, they combine majestically to form what is often called “the king of chorales.”

TEXT: Philipp Nicolai, 1599; trans. Carl P. Daw Jr., 1982
 MUSIC: Attr. Philipp Nicolai, 1599; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1731
 Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

WACHET AUF
 Irregular

clear-ly spo - ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 truth vic - to - rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 join the im - mor - tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride-groom is in
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, in - car - nate
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and has - ten there,
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and heed your call
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to greet our King;

that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

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



MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

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.

One License A-729324 | WorshipCast License CCS # WC-12779 | CVLI Video License #504 239 870