

# OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God  
**Founders' Sunday**

January 21, 2024 | 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**

“Allegro from ‘Concerto in G’ BWV 592”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist  
J. S. Bach

**Call to Worship and Invocation**

Rev. Carrie Veal

**\*Opening Hymn**

“The Church’s One Foundation”

See page 8.  
AURELIA

**Welcome of Our Guests**

*If you are our guest today, please fill out the pew card or scan the QR code so we may offer you our gratitude for joining us today.*

Rev. Tara Gibbs

**\*Passing of the Peace**

**Moment for Confronting Whiteness**

Bob Thomason



**Gospel Reading – Luke 4:14-30 NRSV**

Carla Hines

Then Jesus, in the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding region. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to set free those who are oppressed,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They

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\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?” He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in his hometown. But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months and there was a severe famine over all the land, yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many with a skin disease in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

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 Children’s Worship.  
 They will exit at the front of the Sanctuary with Children’s Worship leaders.***

**\*Sermon Hymn**

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past” stanzas 1, 3, 4, and 6

See page 9.  
 ST. ANNE

**Sermon**

“Drawing the Circle Wider”

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

**\*Hymn**

“Draw the Circle Wide”

words: Gordon Light/ Music: J. Kevin Gray

\*Chorus: Draw the circle wide, my friends. Draw it wider still.

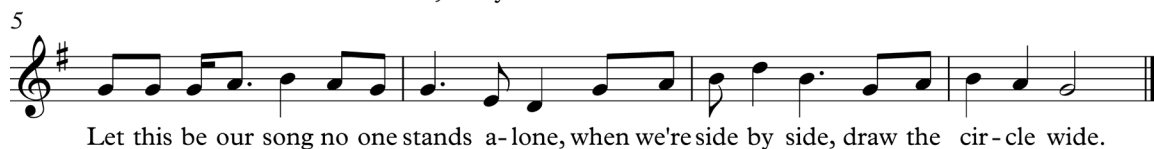
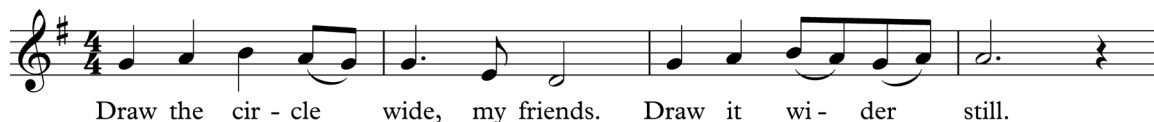
Let this be our song, no one stands alone, when we’re side by side, draw the circle wide.

Solo: God the still point of the circle, round whom all creation turns,  
 nothing lost, but held together in God’s gracious arms.

\*Chorus: Draw the circle wide, my friends. Draw it wider still.

Let this be our song, no one stands alone, when we’re side by side, draw the circle wide.

\*



**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.**

## Invitation to Offering

Rev. Carrie Veal

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



## Offertory

Chancel Choir  
J. Kevin Gray

“Behold My Servant”

Behold my servant, whom I uphold;  
mine elect in whom my soul delighted;  
I will place my spirit upon him:  
and he will bring justice to all nations.  
He will not cry out, nor cause his voice to be  
heard in the street. A bruised reed he will not breaketh,  
and a burning wick he will not snuff out.  
He will bring justice; he will be their light.  
I the Lord, have called you in righteousness,  
I will take your hand and will keep you.  
I will make you a light to all the nations.  
You shall open their blind eyes and give them sight.  
You shall lead them from darkness into light!  
You shall set them free in the name of the Lord!

## Receiving of New Members

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell and Rev. Carrie Veal

### \*Reading of the Church Covenant

[See Back Page]

### \*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### \*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Tara Gibbs

### \*Closing Hymn

“We Are a People on a Journey” stanzas 1, 3, and 4

See pages 10 and 11.  
FOREVER FORWARD

## Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

## Postlude

“The Church’s One Foundation”


Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist  
arr. Phil Lehenbauer

***Following worship, please introduce yourself to our New Members in the Narthex.***

***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, Joe Kuhlmann,  
Hannah Combs, 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](mailto:cveal@myersparkbaptist.org).

## WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE

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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

### **FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH**

Henry B. Benoit  
J. Herbert Bridges  
James R. Bryant  
Guy T. Carswell

Rush S. Dickson  
W. Carey Dowd, Jr.  
W. Frank Dowd, Jr.  
Fred B. Helms

John R. Knott  
Lex Marsh  
William Marvin Scruggs  
Charles W. Upchurch

### **THE FOUNDERS' DAY BANNER**

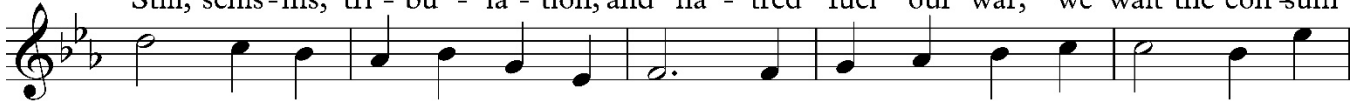
When they bravely stepped forward in 1943 to establish this community of faith called The Myers Park Baptist Church, our founders embarked on their unique journey of faith. The founding Covenant states “. . . we will seek to live to the glory of God who has called us out of darkness into God’s marvelous light.” May we continue to seek this light and truth.

This banner honors our founders and was given by Doug and Jeanne Robertson in memory of Doug’s parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Douglas Robertson, Sr., and Jeanne’s parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. (Jack) Musgrove.

# The Church's One Foundation



The chur-ch's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, our Lord; we are a new cre  
The church in ev - 'ry na - tion is one through all the earth; our char - ter of sal -  
6 Still, schis - ms, tri - bu - la - tion, and ha - tred fuel our war; we wait the con - sum



a - tion by wa - ter and by word. From heav'n he came and taught us what  
va - tion, one God, one faith, one birth; one name to - ge - ther bles - sing, one  
11 ma - tion of peace for - e - ver more. The saints their watch are keep - ing; their



per - fect love can be; through life and death he sought us, and rose to set us free.  
ho - ly food we share. to one hope e - ver pres - sing, at one in work and prayer.  
cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.



Stanzas 1, 3, 4, and 6 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

ST. ANNE  
CM

William Croft, 1708

1. O God, our Help in ag - es past, our Hope for years to come,  
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
 4. A thou - sand ag - es in Thy sight are like an eve - ning gone,  
 5. Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream bears all its sons a - way;  
 6. O God, our Help in a - ges past, our Hope for years to come,

our Shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal Home.  
 suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 from ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
 they fly for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - p'ning day.  
 be Thou our Guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal Home!

Stanzas 1, 3, and 4

*Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Myers Park Baptist Church, Charlotte, North Carolina*

# We Are a People on a Journey

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,

Words and Music: Larry E. Schultz

FOREVER FORWARD

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

Irregular

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♩ = 102

All others contact [larryeschultz@gmail.com](mailto:larryeschultz@gmail.com) for reprint permission.

# We Are a People on a Journey

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. 1, 2, 3. 4.  
 seek - ing truth wher - ev - er found.  
 bear - ing hope that fear may cease. praise!  
 rais - ing songs of joy and

## 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**

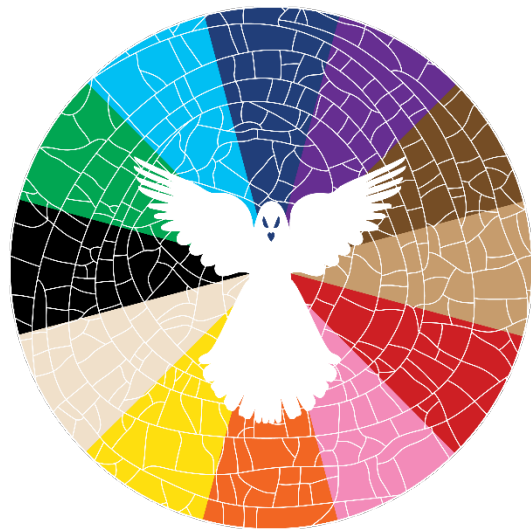
Associate Minister of Spiritual Growth

**Rev. Dr. JJ Flag**

Associate Minister of Pastoral Care & Justice

**J. Kevin Gray**

Minister of Music & Worship



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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](mailto:lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org).*

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