

OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 4th Sunday after Epiphany

January 28, 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
“Aria”

Jane Cain, organist
Craig Phillips

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Tara Gibbs

***Opening Hymn**

“All Are Welcome” verses 1, 2, and 5

See page 6.
TWO OAKS

Welcome of Our Guests

Rev. Carrie Veal

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.

***Passing of the Peace**

Moment for Confronting Whiteness

Laura Marti



New Testament Reading – Mark 1:29-45 NRSV

Bethany Johnson

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do.” And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

A man with a skin disease came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, “If you are willing, you can make me clean.” Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, “I am willing. Be made clean!” Immediately the skin disease left him, and he was made clean. After sternly

warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded as a testimony to them.” But he went out and began to proclaim it freely and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly but stayed out in the country, and people came to him from every quarter.

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

“Lead With Love”

Melanie DeMore
verses by J. K. Gray

Chorus:

**You gotta put one foot in front of the other and lead with love, put
one foot in front of the other and lead with love. [Repeat]**

Love is the way, **[All] love is the way,**
that leads to life, **[All] that leads to life,**
show all the world, **[All] show all the world,**
the face of Christ **[All] the face of Christ! [Chorus]**

Actions speak loud, **[All] actions speak loud,**
louder than words. **[All] louder than words.**
Let’s get out there, **[All] let’s get out there,**
and start to serve **[All] and start to serve! [Chorus]**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

“Expansive Community”

Musical Reflection

J. Kevin Gray, Dan Wielunski, Dr. Robert Edgerton
Paul McCartney

“Let ‘Em In”

Chorus:

Someone’s knocking at the door,
somebody’s ringing the bell, someone’s knocking at the door,
somebody’s ringing the bell, do me a favor,
open the door and let ‘em in, ooh, yeah.

Sister Suzie, Brother John
Martin Luther, Phil and Don
Brother Michael, Auntie Gin
open the door, let ‘em in, oh, yeah. **[Chorus]**

Those who struggle, the left behind,
the ones we pray for, like you and I.
Our friends and neighbors, the ones unknown,
the little faces on our phones. **[Chorus]**

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. Tara Gibbs

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



Offertory

Chancel Choir & Dan Wielunski
Alfred Fedak

“Spirit, Open My Heart”

Refrain:

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and forgiving.
Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender. *[Refrain]*

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought and word and deed, may my living bring you glory. *[Refrain]*

May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another. *[Refrain]*

*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. Carrie Veal

*Closing Hymn

“Christ Has Called Us to New Visions” verses 1, 2, and 4

See page 7.
IN BABILONE

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

Postlude

“In Thee Is Gladness”

Jane Cain, organist
J.S.Bach


Congregational Meeting

Richard Harris

***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.



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

All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Christ Has Called Us To New Visions

IN BABILONE 8787D

Dutch melody

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

Arr. Julius Röntgen, 1906

1. Christ has called us to new vi - sions Here to cel - e - brate and praise,
 2. As we lis - ten to each oth - er, As we speak in joy and pain,
 3. All cre - a - tion strug - gles, yearn - ing For a time of true sha - lom.
 4. Christ still calls us, young and ag - ing, Men and wom - en, bound and free,

Here con - fess our old di - vi - sions, Here our peace pe - ti - tions raise.
 We be - come as sis - ter, bro - ther, Rec - on - ciled, at one a - gain.
 Are we try - ing, Are we learn - ing Now to make the earth our home?
 Col - ors, tal - ents, thoughts en - gag - ing, Joined in one com - mu - ni - ty.

Come re - pen - tant, come for - giv - ing, Come in joy and hope and prayer.
 On - ly thus in work and feel - ing For our neigh - bor far or near
 For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing, For the poor of all the earth,
 Christ re - mold - ing, heal - ing, lead - ing, Sins for - giv - en! Life re - stored!

Christ, once cru - ci - fied, now liv - ing, Bids us faith and love to share.
 Can we wor - ship God re - veal - ing Gifts of grace a - mong us here.
 Make us part - ners bur - dens shar - ing, Bring - ing all a sense of worth.
 Let us live, God's jus - tice heed - ing, Strength - ened by our ris - en Lord.

Words from "A Singing Faith" by Jane Parker Huber.

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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. Carrie Veal

Executive Minister

Rev. Tara Gibbs

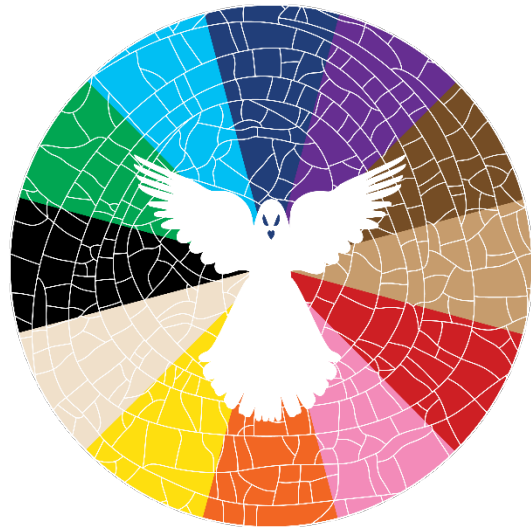
Associate Minister of Spiritual Growth

Rev. Dr. JJ Flag

Associate Minister of Pastoral Care & Justice

J. Kevin Gray

Minister of Music & Worship



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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.

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