OPEN TO ALL



MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God with the Alliance of Baptists

The 3rd Sunday of Eastertide

April 14, 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

"Search for Peace"

Carolina Social Music Club McCoy Tyner, lyrics by Dawn Anthony

Call to Worship and Invocation

*Opening Hymn
"Siyahamba"

Rev. Elijah Zehyoue

See pages 6 and 7. SIYAHAMBA

Welcome of Our Guests Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

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 – John 20:19-23 (NRSV)

Rev. Tara Gibbs

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Creator has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

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 song 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 210 in the education building between 11-11:15.

Musical Reflection

"Long As You're Living"

Carolina Social Music Club Abbey Lincoln

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

*Song

Carolina Social Music Club IVERSON

"Spirit of the Living God"
Spirit of the living god,
fall afresh on me,
spirit of the living god,
fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living god,
fall afresh on me.

Sermon Rev. Racquel C.N. Gill

"Easter Evening in Eastertide"

Musical Reflection

"Way Maker"

You are here moving in our midst, I worship you, I worship you. You are here working in this place, I worship you I worship you.

Chorus:

(You are) Way Maker, Miracle Worker, Promise Keeper, Light in the Darkness, my God, that is who you are.

You are here touching ev'ry heart, I worship you I worship you. You are here healing ev'ry heart, I worship you I worship you. [Chorus]

You are here turning lives around, I worship you I worship you. You are here mending ev'ry heart, I worship you I worship you, Lord. [Chorus]

Church at Prayer Rev. Lisa Dunson

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. Dr. Ben Boswell

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



Shanka Pettis Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

Offertory Anthem

Chancel Choir with Emil Foster, soloist
Keith Hampton

"Praise His Holy Name"

Refrain:

Sing till the power of the Lord come down.

Shout Hallelujah! Praise his holy name!

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me; I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see.

Jesus, Jesus, how I love thee! Shout Hallelujah!

Praise his holy name! [Refrain]

Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free? No, there's a cross for ev'ryone and there's a cross for me. Jesus, Jesus, how I love thee! Shout Hallelujah! Praise his holy name! [Refrain]

Hallelujah! Praise his name! Let us praise his name, Hallelujah, lord! Praise his holy name! Hallelujah Oh, oh-Praise his holy name! Praise him!

*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology

God made all creatures wild and free, each atom, every galaxy; praise our Maker! Alleluia! God places earth in human care, land, living beings, water, air; come now folk from every nation, help our God renew Creation! Alleluia! LASST UNS ERFREUEN lyrics by Paula W. M. Testerman

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Tara Gibbs

*Closing Hymn

"Lead With Love"

Melanie DeMore, third verse 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]

Don't give up hope! [All] Don't give up hope! You're not alone. [All] You're not alone. Don't you give up! [All] Don't you give up! Keep movin' on. [All] Keep movin' on. [Chorus]

Lift up your eyes! [All] Lift up your eyes!

Don't you despair. [All] Don't you despair.

Look up ahead, [All] Look up ahead,

the path is there. [All] the path is there. [Chorus]

The future's bright, [All] The future's bright, For God is here. [All] For God is here. Let's do the work. [All] Let's do the work. Our way is clear. [All] Our way is clear. [Chorus]

Postlude

"Long As You're Living"

Carolina Social Music Club Abbey Lincoln

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.



Carolina Social Music Club: Dawn Anthony, vocals Greg Jarrell, saxophone Phillip Howe, piano Lois Majors, bass Al Sergel, percussion



We are affiliated with allianceofbaptists.org





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.



We Are Marching in the Light of God

Siyahamba



This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song originated in a Methodist young men's group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe. Some additional stanzas are suggested, but others may be improvised as appropriate to the occasion.



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

J. Kevin Gray

Minister of Music & Worship





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