

OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 10th Sunday of Pentecost

July 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.

**Childcare is available for birth – kindergarten in room 107 located in the Education Building (behind the Sanctuary). Please see a greeter for more information.
Worship activities for children are available in the Narthex.**

Prelude

“How Deep the Father’s Love & In This Very Room”

Janice Bradner, piano
arr. Mark Hayes

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

***Opening Song**

“Come, O Come Eternal Prophet” stanzas 1, 3 and 4

see page 7.
IN BABILONE

Welcome of Our Guests

If you are our guest today, please text “guest” to 980.340.8900 so we may offer you our gratitude for joining us today.

Rev. Katie Suddeth

***Passing of the Peace**

Psalm Reading – Psalm 71:1-6 (NRSV)

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.
Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.
For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O Lord, from my youth.
From my birth I have leaned upon you,
my protector since my mother’s womb.
My praise is continually of you.

Rev. Katie Suddeth

***Song of Response**

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”
I sing the mighty power of God,
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad,
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained,
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God’s command,
and all the stars obey.

ELLACOMBE

Gospel Reading – Acts 7:51-60 and 8:1 (NRSV)

Nancy Culp

“You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it.

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died. And Saul approved of their killing him.

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.*

Sermon Hymn (please remain seated for this hymn and sing when cued)

“Saul Was a Stone’s Throw”

HERZLIEBSTER JESU

lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Saul was a stone's throw from that young man Ste - phen. Saul held the coats of

7 those who rose to kill him. Still, Lord, at times we

11 look at oth - ers suf - fering and do not ques - tion.

Sermon

“Bystanders?”

Rev. Dr. Bill Leonard

Musical Reflection

Chancel Choir with Madeline Beitel, soloist
Mark A. Miller

“God Has Work for Us to Do”

Solo:

‘Til all the jails are empty, and all the bellies filled,
‘til no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled:

Refrain:

God has work for us to do, God has work for us to do,
‘til God's will is done and all things are made new,
God has work for us, work for us to do.

‘Til all the jails are empty and all the bellies filled;
‘til no one hurts or steals or lies, and no more blood is spilled, *[Refrain]*

‘Til age and race and gender no longer separate;
‘til pulpit, press and politics are free of greed and hate: *[Refrain]*

In tenement and mansion, in fact’ry, farm and mill,
in board room and in billiard hall, in wards where time stands still,
in classroom, church and office, in shops, or on the street,
in every place where people thrive, or starve, or hide, or meet.
God has work for us.

By sitting at a bedside to hold pale, trembling hands,
by speaking for the powerless against unjust demands.
By praying through our doing, and singing though we fear,
by trusting that the seed we sow will bring God’s harvest near: *[Refrain]*

Church at Prayer

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

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. Katie Suddeth

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



Offertory Solo

“Love Ye the Lord”

Love ye the Lord.
Love ye the Lord,
for God’s great mercy,
and loving kindness to all the saints.
Love ye the Lord,
for God is gracious,
and will deliver your souls,
and give you peace.
For God’s great mercy,
love ye the Lord.
And God will deliver you from all fear,
and give you rest to your souls,
and give you rest to your souls.

J. Mason Gray
George Frideric Handel arr. Heinrich Kiehl

*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology

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

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Katie Suddeth

*Closing Hymn

“Draw the Circle Wide”

words: Gordon Light, music: J. Kevin Gray

Solo:
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.

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

All:

**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. [x3]**

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Bill Leonard

Postlude

“Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum”

Janice Bradner, piano
Claude Debussy

**Following worship, please join us for
Sermon TalkBack at 11:15a in the Sanctuary.**

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

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory and honor of Camilla and Bill Moffitt.



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



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.

The graphic is a vertical rectangle divided into two main color sections: light green on the left and dark blue on the right. At the bottom, there is a horizontal bar with a rainbow spectrum of colors. Below the bar, on the left, is a white line-art illustration of a church building. On the right, the text 'MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH' is written in white, bold, sans-serif font.

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

Come, O Come, Eternal Prophet

IN BABILONE 8 7 8 7 D

Dutch melody

J. Daniel White, 1994

Arr. Julius Röntgen (1855–1933)

1. Come, O Come, E - ter - nal Proph-et, to our hearts your call re - veal.
 2. Called from free-dom in - to bond-age, prince then proph-et, Mos-es cried:
 3. Stand-ing here be-fore the pro-phets, hear-ing God's small whis-p'ring voice.
 4. "This, my Son, my Spir-it's Cho-sen: Proph-et, Heal-er, free-dom's Grace,

From our eyes re-move our blind-ness, and our doubts your pres - ence heal.
 "Free my peo - ple from their pris - ons; far too long their hopes have died.
 Thun-der, light-ning do not call us, nor does crash-ing, reck - less noise.
 Light that shines in dark-est cor - ners, Rev-e - la - tion of God's face."

Sight un - seen, our faith con-fess - ing: "God, with - in us, come to dwell."
 Give de - liv'r - ance to the cap - tives; o - pen doors, let spir-its soar."
 But, the needs of hu-man suf-fering cry from young and old as one:
 Hail, Re-deem - er of all peo - ples, who in glor-ious vi-sion calls

Mes - sage of the proph-ets' vi-sions, to the world your hope now tell.
 May God's king-dom be the prom-ise of sal - va - tion ev - er - more.
 "Come, pro - claim the Sav - ior's vi - sion. See! The king - dom has be - gun!"
 All of us to make com-mit-ment to the God whom Christ re - veals.

A Transfiguration hymn dedicated to Noël C. Lovelace, fourth Minister of Music, Myers Park Baptist Church, 1987 to present.

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

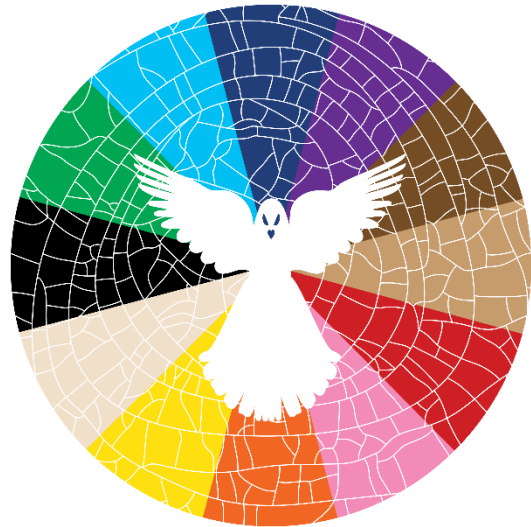
Minister of Music & Worship

Rev. Katie Suddeth

Interim Associate Minister

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

Interim Associate Minister



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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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