

# OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

**The 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

September 1, 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**

“Song Without Words,” Op. 19 N. 1

Claudio Olivera, pianist  
*Felix Mendelssohn*

**Call to Worship and Invocation**

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

**\*Opening Hymn**

“God of Grace and God of Glory” verses 1, 4 and 5

See page 6.  
CWM RHONDDA

**Welcome of Our Guests**

Rev. Tara Gibbs

*If you are our guest today, please scan the QR code below so we may offer you our gratitude for joining us today.*



**\*Passing of the Peace**

**The Gospel Reading – Luke 15:11-32 (NRSV)**

Beth Resler Walters

Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.’ So, he divided his assets between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. So, he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to his senses he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’”

So, he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him.

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

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, 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.  
Parents can pick up children from room 210 in the education building between 11-11:15.***

**\*Sermon Hymn**

“Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” verses 1 and 2

See page 7.  
RESTORATION

**Sermon**

“The Overwhelming Scandal of Grace”

Rev. Katie Suddeth

**Musical Reflection**

J. Kevin Gray

**Church at Prayer**

Rev. Tara Gibbs

**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**

“What a Wonderful World”

I see trees of green, red roses too, I see them bloom, for me and for you,  
and I think to myself, what a wonderful world.  
I see skies of blue and clouds of white, the bright blessed days, dark sacred nights,  
and I think to myself, what a wonderful world.  
The colors of the rainbow, so pretty in the sky, are also on the faces of people going by.  
I see friends shaking hands, saying, "How do you do?"  
They're really sayin', "I love you".  
I hear babies' cry; I watch them grow.  
They'll learn much more than I'll never know,  
and I think to myself, what a wonderful world.  
Yes, I think to myself, what a wonderful world.

David Young  
Bob Thiele

**\*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 hosts.  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

**\*Closing Hymn**

CONVERSE

“God’s Great Love is So Amazing”

lyrics by Caroline Winfrey Gillette

God’s great love is so amazing! See a shepherd with his flocks!  
Ninety-nine are safely grazing: one is lost among the rocks.  
That good shepherd goes and searches till he finds the one astray.  
So, God says to fill our churches with the ones who’ve lost their way.

God keeps waiting, searching, yearning! See a father’s heartfelt joy!  
Thankful for his son’s returning, he runs out to greet his boy.  
To the angry older brother, hear the father’s patient call.  
So, God says to love each other, for in Christ, God loves us all.

**Benediction**

Rev. Katie Suddeth

**Postlude**

“Wedding Day at Troldhaugen” Lyric Piece, Op. 65, N. 6

Claudio Olivera, pianist  
Edvard Grieg


***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.***



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



We are affiliated with [allianceofbaptists.org](http://allianceofbaptists.org)  Alliance  
of Baptists

**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**

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



**WELCOME**  
*Sunday*

**2024**  
**September 8**

10a Worship  
11a Churchwide  
Lunch and  
Celebration

# God Of Grace And God Of Glory

CWM RHONDDA 8787877

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

John Hughes, 1907

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Thy peo - ple  
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn Thy Christ, as -  
 3. Cure Thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness. Bend our pride to  
 4. Set our feet on loft - y pla - ces; Gird our lives that  
 5. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils

pour Thy power; Crown Thine an - cient Church's sto - ry; Bring her bud to  
 sail His ways! From the fears that long have bound us Free our hearts to  
 Thy con - trol: Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, Rich in things and  
 they may be Ar - mored with all Christ - like gra - ces In the fight to  
 we de - plore; Let the search for Thy sal - va - tion Be our glo - ry

glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 set all free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

For the fac - ing of this hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.  
 For the liv - ing of these days, For the liv - ing of these days.  
 Lest we miss Thy King - dom's goal, Lest we miss Thy King - dom's goal.  
 That we fail not man nor Thee! That we fail not man nor Thee!  
 Serv - ing Thee whom we a - dore, Serv - ing Thee whom we a - dore.

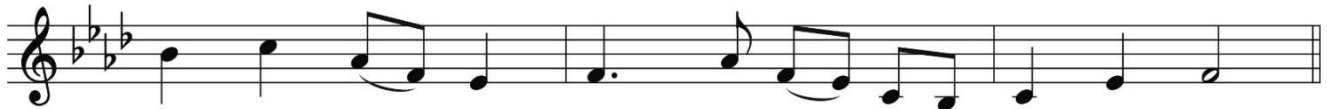
# Come, You Sinners, Poor and Needy



1. Come, you sin - ners, poor and need - y,  
2. Come, you thirst - y, come, and wel - come,  
3. Come, you wea - ry, heav - y lad - en,



Weak and wound - ed, sick and sore, Je - sus, Son of  
God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy: True be - lief and  
Lost and ru - ined by the fall; If you tar - ry



God, will save you, Full of pit - y, love, and pow'r.  
true re - pen - tance, Ev - 'ry grace that brings you nigh.  
till you're bet - ter, You will nev - er come at all.



I will a-rise and go to Je - sus, He will em-brace me



in his arms; In the arms of my dear



Sav - ior, Oh, there are ten thou - sand charms.

Text: Verses, Joseph Hart, 1712–1768, *Hymns Composed on Various Subjects*, 1759, alt.; refrain anonymous  
Tune: RESTORATION, 8 7 8 7 with refrain; *Southern Harmony*

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

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