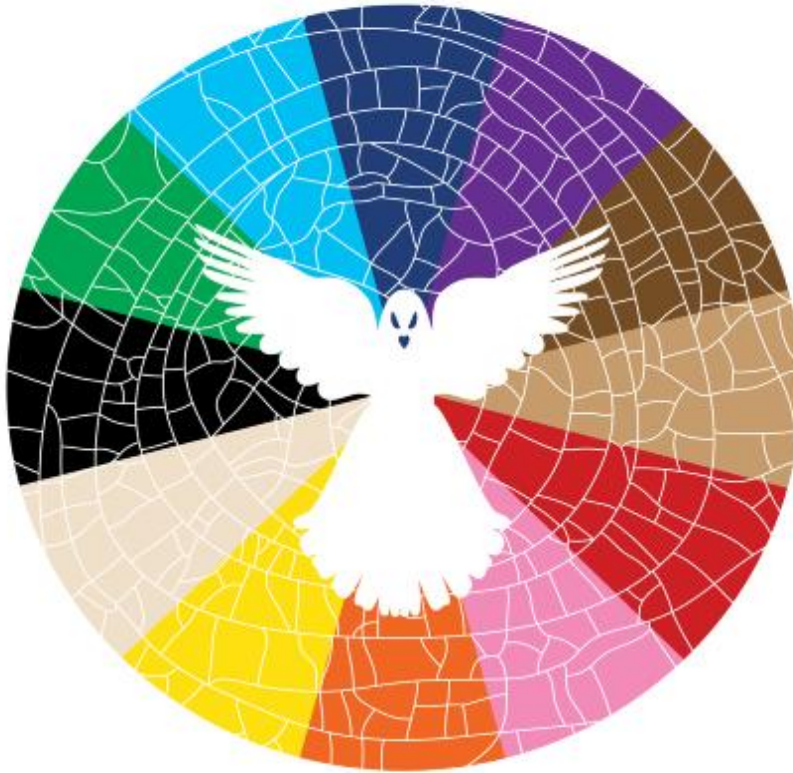


OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

The 18th Sunday of Pentecost

September 22, 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

“Peaceful, Free”

Carolina Social Music Club
Thelonious Monk, lyrics by G. Jarrell

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Katie Suddeth

***Opening Hymn**

GATHER US IN

“Gather Us In”

Here in this place new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history;
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong.
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away;
but here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bones.
Fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

*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**

Hebrew Scripture – Proverbs 8:22-36 and Wisdom of Solomon 7:26-8:1 (NRSV adapted)

Tara Harris

“I was created at the beginning of God’s work, the first acts long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths, I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth, when God had not yet made earth and fields or the world’s first bits of soil. When God established the heavens, I was there; when God drew a circle on the face of the deep, when God made firm the skies above, when God established the fountains of the deep, when God assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress God’s command, when God marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside God, like a master worker, and I was daily God’s delight, playing before God always, playing in God’s inhabited world and delighting in the human race.”

“And now, my children, listen to me: happy are those who keep my ways. Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. Happy is the one who listens to me watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors. For whoever finds me finds life and obtains favor from the Lord, but those who miss me injure themselves, all who hate me love death.”

For she is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of God’s goodness. Although she is but one, she can do all things, and while remaining in herself, she renews all things; in every generation she passes into holy souls and makes them friends of God and prophets, for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom. She is more beautiful than the sun and excels every constellation of the stars. Compared with the light she is found to be more radiant, for it is succeeded by the night, but against wisdom evil does not prevail. She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other, and she orders all things well.

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**

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons blessed trinity.

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
with songs of praise for all eternity.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only Thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed trinity.
Oh God in three persons, blessed trinity!

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

“Know Your Place”

Church at Prayer

Rev. Katie Suddeth

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

Tim Emry

You are invited to give by scanning the QR code below or dropping your offering in the plate.

**Offertory**

Carolina Social Music Club
Abbey Lincoln

“Wholly Earth”

Oh, the holy earth's a mural,
seen from way up high,
abstracted natural bas-relief
witnessed from the sky.

Clouds that cast a single shadow,
drifting, moving, on the ground,
creating an illusion, as the world goes round.

Places where the folks inhabit have a geometric grace,
circles, squares, sometimes triangles,
rules and lines in space.

Waterways and craggy mountains
seemingly reveal a plan,
just as if somebody drew it
with a great big giant hand.

Life's a repetition, it's an action of repeat
act of doing, act of saying,
something bitter, something sweet.

Acts of life that keep occurring,
ghosts appearing through the sound,
waving at us from a distance,
'cause the whole wide world is round
and round and round and round.

***Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology**

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

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***Prayer of Dedication**

Tim Emry

***Closing Hymn**

BUNESSAN

“Morning Has Broken”

Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the world!

Sweet the rains new fall sunlit from Heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
born of the one light, Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

Postlude

"Peaceful, Free"

Carolina Social Music Club
Thelonious Monk, lyrics by G. Jarrell

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
Hazel McKinley, piano
Tom Hildreth, bass
Al Sergel, drums



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

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

Associate 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



**MYERS PARK
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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.

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