

# OPEN TO ALL



**MYERS PARK  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

**The 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

September 29, 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**

“Prelude on Thaxted”

Lee Northcutt, organist  
Charles Callahan

### **Call to Worship and Invocation**

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

### **\*Opening Hymn**

“Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise” verses 1, 3 and 4

See page 6.  
ST. DENIO

### **Welcome of Our Guests**

Rev. Katie Suddeth

*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 Reading – Proverbs 1:20-33, Proverbs 9:1 (NRSV)**

Jason Blackwell

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates, she speaks: “How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord, would have none of my counsel and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease without dread of disaster.”

Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars.

#### **Epistle Reading - James 3:13-18 (NRSV)**

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish.

For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

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

BEECHER

“Wisdom Calls Us to Her Mission”

lyrics by Jann Aldredge-Canton

Wisdom calls us to Her mission, bringing peace to all the earth:  
as we follow Wisdom's guidance, lovely works we bring to birth.  
Wisdom gives us deepest blessing, fills our lives with gentleness;  
we can join in Wisdoms actions, showing forth Her righteousness.

Wisdom leads on paths of justice, teaching people to be fair;  
when we follow Wisdom's guidance, we will show Her tender care.  
Over coming greed and envy, Wisdom gives us open hearts;  
with Her spirit living in us, loving kindness we impart.

Holy wisdom guides us daily on the journey of our lives,  
giving strength for doing justice, speaking truth and ending strife.  
Joined with Wisdom we will blossom, bearing fruits of love and peace;  
with Her pure and gentle Spirit, all our gifts we now release.

### Sermon

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

“Listen to the Streets!”

### Musical Reflection

J. Kevin Gray

### 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

Janet Miller

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



## Offertory

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

Chancel Choir  
*arr. Dale Wood*

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the Head and Cornerstone;  
chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the Church in one;  
Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.

To the temple where we call thee, come, O lord of hosts, today;  
with thy wonted loving kindness hear thy servants as they pray,  
and thy fullest benediction shed within its walls away.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,  
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One.  
One in might, and One in glory, while unending ages run.

## \*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

Nancy Culp

## \*Closing Song

“I Don't Know About You”

*J. Kevin Gray*

Solo:

Well, I don't know about you, but I've been changed for the good,  
changed for the good, changed for the good.  
I don't know about you, but I've been changed for the good,  
since I started following Jesus Christ.

All:

Well, I don't know about you, but I've been changed for the good,  
changed for the good, changed for the good.  
I don't know about you, but I've been changed for the good,  
since I started following Jesus Christ.

Well, I don't know about you, my feet are ready to move,  
ready to move, ready to move.  
I don't know about you, my feet are ready to move,  
ready to move following Jesus Christ.

Well, I don't know about you, but I see there's work left to do,  
work left to do, work left to do.  
I don't know about you, but I see there's work left to do,  
working while I'm following Jesus Christ!

## Benediction

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

## Postlude

“Allegro Vivace”


Lee Northcutt, organist  
*GF Handel*

***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



### 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](mailto:cveal@myersparkbaptist.org)



#### AFTER THE BENEDICTION

Led by Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell & Clergy | Zoom

#### BIBLE BASICS

Led by Rev. Carrie Veal | Conference Room (Church Office Wing) & on Zoom

#### CHARLOTTE'S HISTORY & RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

Led by Sara Merlo | Library and Zoom

#### FAITH & COMMUNITY

Led by Bruce Elliott | Shalom Hall

#### READING IN COMMUNITY | VEIN OF GOLD

Led by Victoria Yeghoyan | Parlor

#### CHILDREN'S FELLOWSHIP

Led by Ms. Janice Davin | Room 212

#### YOUTH BLOCK | 4-6pm

Led by Rev. Katie Suddeth | Youth Hall



verses 1, 3 and 4

# Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO (JOANNA)

11 11 11 11

Welsh folk melody

Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867; alt.

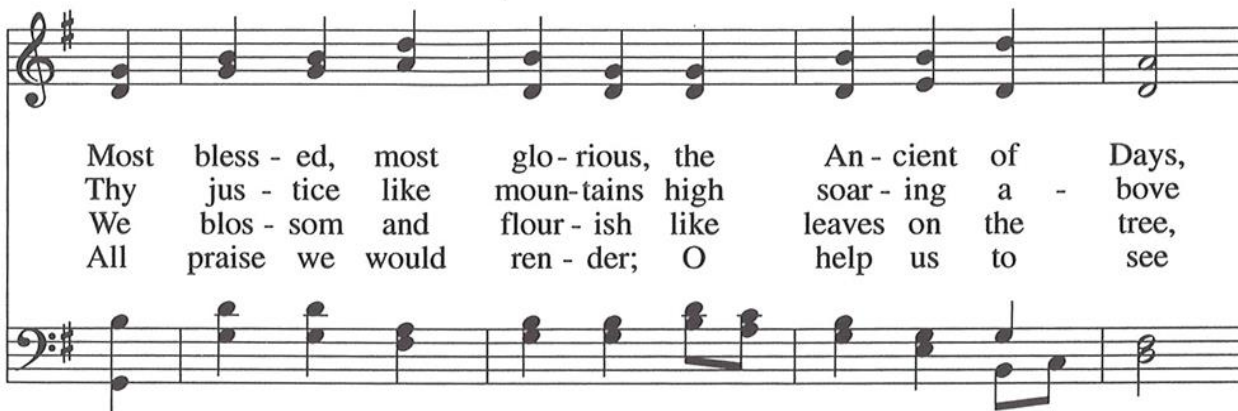
Adapted in *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839



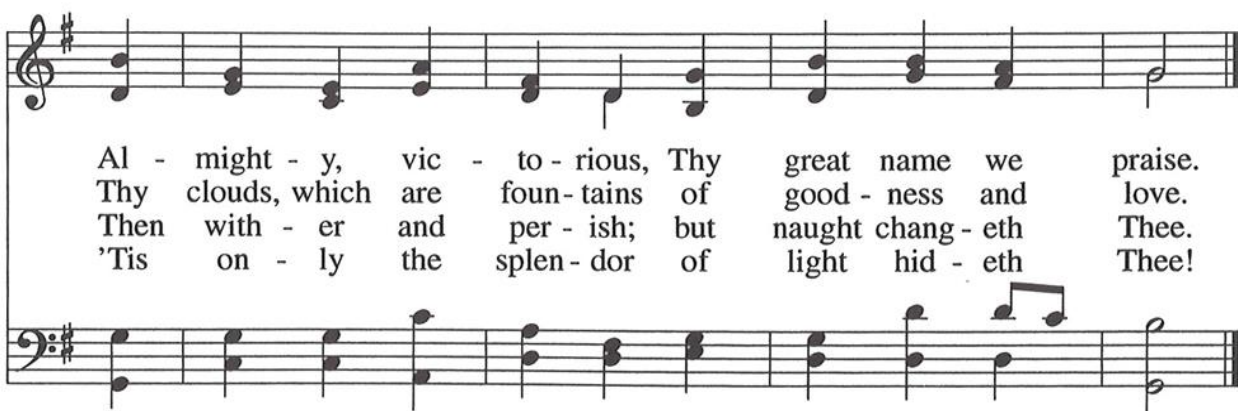
1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
 3. To all, life Thou giv - est, to both great and small;  
 4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry, Thou rul - est in light,



In light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
 Nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, Thou rul - est in might;  
 In all life Thou liv - est, the true life of all;  
 Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight;



Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
 Thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove  
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,  
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see



Al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.  
 Thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
 Then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth Thee.  
 'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth Thee!

## 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**

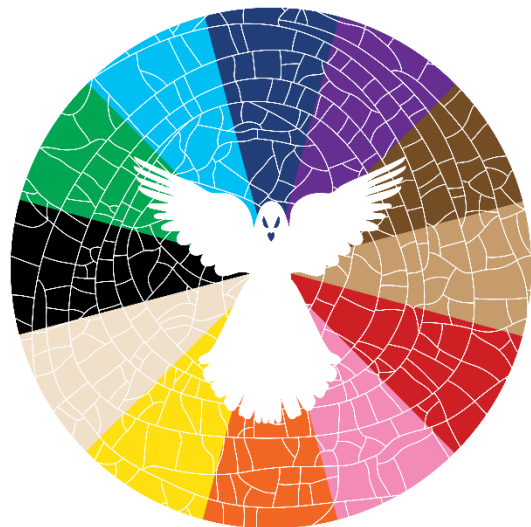
Minister of Music & Worship

**Rev. Katie Suddeth**

Interim Associate Minister

**Rev. Marina Luckhoo**

Interim Associate Minister



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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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