

# OPEN TO ALL



## MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

### The 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

October 27, 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**

“Centering”

Carolina Social Music Club  
Frank Kimbrough

**Call to Worship and Invocation**

Rev. Carrie Veal

**\*Opening Hymn**

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

see page 6.  
NETTLETON

**Welcome of Our Guests**

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

*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**

Sara, Mandela, and Simone Merlo

**Psalm 14 (NRSV)**

Fools say in their hearts, “There is no God.” They are corrupt; they do abominable deeds; there is no one who does good. The Lord looks down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God. They have all gone astray; they are all alike perverse; there is no one who does good, no, not one. Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the Lord? There they shall be in great terror, for God is with the company of the righteous. You would confound the plans of the poor, but the Lord is their refuge. O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion! When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad.

**Psalm 112 (NRSV)**

Praise the Lord! Happy are those who fear the Lord, who greatly delight in God’s commandments. Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever. They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous. It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever. They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord. Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes. They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor. The wicked see it and are angry; they gnash their teeth and melt away; the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

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.*

**Musical Reflection**  
"Peace"

Carolina Social Music Club  
Ornette Coleman

**Sermon**  
"Good Company"

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

**Musical Reflection**  
"Restoration"

Hazel McKinley, pianist

**Church at Prayer**

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

**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**

Cindy Clemens

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



**Offertory**  
"After the Rain"

Carolina Social Music Club  
John Coltrane

**\*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**

Marcy McClanahan

**\*Closing Hymn**

“God of Justice, God of Mercy” verses 1, 3 and 4

See page 7.  
HYFRYDOL

**Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Ben Boswell

**Postlude**

“Falling Grace”

Carolina Social Music Club  
Steve Swallow

*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.



Janice Bradner, piano  
David Young, vocalist

Carolina Social Music Club:  
Greg Jarrell, saxophone  
Hazel McKinley, piano  
Ron Brendle, bass  
Geoff Clapp, drums



We are affiliated with  
[allianceofbaptists.org](http://allianceofbaptists.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**

**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).



**JOIN US AFTER WORSHIP**

**Spiritual Growth**  
FAITH FORMATION AT MPBC

Educational opportunities that transform the whole person spiritually, culturally, & theologically

**ADULT, YOUTH, & CHILDREN**  
(also Childcare & Youth Block)

**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

**CHILDREN'S FELLOWSHIP**

Led by Ms. Janice Davin | Room 212

# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;  
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.

Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;  
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;

praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!  
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.  
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

# God Of Justice, God Of Mercy

Jane Parker Huber, 1983

HYFRYDOL 8 7 8 7 D

Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831



1. God of jus - tice, God of mer - cy, Make us mer - ci - ful and just!  
 2. How can we, as peo - ple chos - en By your grace for serv - ice here—  
 3. You have formed us, God of rain - bows, In your im - age for your will.  
 4. Grant all peo - ple work with mean - ing, Strength to care for those they love.  
 5. So the vi - sion you have plant - ed In each hu - man mind and heart



Help us see all your cre - a - tion As from you a sa - cred trust.  
 How en - dure an - oth - er's hard - ship With - out of - fering hope or cheer?  
 See - ing our di - verse re - flec - tions, Trust - ing you, we mar - vel still;  
 Food for ta - ble, truth for tell - ing, Chal - leng - es to rise a - bove.  
 Now be - comes the spark of ac - tion Call - ing us to do our part.



And when peo - ple cry in an - guish For their own or oth - er's pain,  
 God, for - give us, we be - seech you, When our love fails to em - power.  
 For our col - ors, strengths, and tal - ents Show what one a - lone would lack,  
 But re - mind us, God of jus - tice, This is now our work, our call!  
 Keep that vi - sion clear be - fore us: Men and wom - en, girls and boys,



Show us ways to make a dif - ference. O dear God, make us hu - mane!  
 Teach us how to be more faith - ful In this pres - ent cru - cial hour.  
 Call - ing us to work to - geth - er— Brown, red, gold - en, white, and black.  
 Chang - ing life's op - pres - sive sys - tems In - to ones em - pow - ering all.  
 Val - ued in re - sponse and wit - ness, Shar - ing chal - leng - es and joys.



## 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

**Eva Bender**

Chief Operating Officer

**Rev. Katie Suddeth**

Interim Associate Minister

**Rev. Marina Luckhoo**

Interim Associate Minister



**MYERS PARK  
BAPTIST  
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](mailto:lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org).*

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