

The Worship of God

The 1st Sunday of Advent

December 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 the childcare room located in the Cornwell Center (on upstairs level). Please see a greeter for more information.

Worship activities for children are available in the Narthex.

Prelude

"Sleepers, Wake!"

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist

J.S. Bach

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Carrie Veal

*Opening Hymn

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" verses 1, 6 and 7

See page 7. VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL

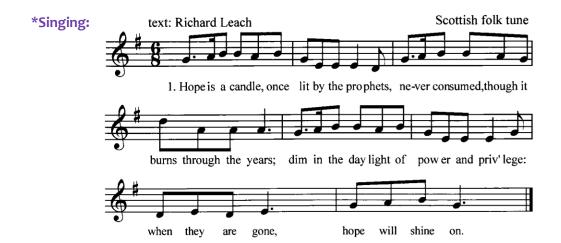
*Lighting the Candle of Hope

Gary and Nancy Hudson

Leader: Christ shall come, God's gift to the world: that the desperate should find hope—that the persecuted should find peace—that the dejected should find joy—that the lonely should find love.

All: O Christ of the world, your time is now! We wait, we watch, we wonder! Come!

(Lighting the Candle of Hope.)



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.



^{*}Please rise in body or in spirit.

*Passing of the Peace

Hebrew Reading - Jeremiah 29:1-14 (NRSV)

Kathleen Rackley

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. This was after King Jeconiah and the queen mother, the court officials, the leaders of Judah and Jerusalem, the artisans, and the smiths had departed from Jerusalem. The letter was sent by the hand of Elasah son of Shaphan and Gemariah son of Hilkiah, whom King Zedekiah of Judah sent to Babylon to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. It said: Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to your dreams that you dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the Lord. For thus, says the Lord: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

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

"Like a Child" verses 1 and 3

See page 9. LIKE A CHILD

Sermon Rev. Carrie Veal

"Hope in the Darkness"

Musical Reflection Chancel Choir

"Walk in the Light"

arr. Andre Thomas

Refrain: We'll walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dew drops of mercy shine bright. Shine all around us by day and by night. Jesus the light of the world! [Repeat Refrain]

Hark the herald angels sing, Jesus, the light of the world. Glory to the newborn king, Jesus the light of the world! [Refrain]

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Jesus, the light of the world! Christ the everlasting Lord!
Jesus the light of the world! [Refrain]

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

Bob Thomason

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



Offertory

"Meditation on VENI EMMANUEL"

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist

Phillip Moore

*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

Carla Hines

*Closing Hymn
"Canticle of the Turning" verses 1, 2 and 3

See pages 10 and 11.
STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

Benediction Rev. Carrie Veal

Postlude

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist

Jacob Weber

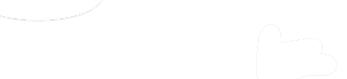
If you are our guest today, please connect with a minister after worship and receive a Welcome bag.

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



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





O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

Verses 1, 6 and 7

VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL



Text: LM with refrain; Latin, 9th cent.; verses 1, 3–6, para. in *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Cologne, 1710; tr. by John Mason Neale, 1818–1866; verses 2, 7 tr. fr. *The Hymnal 1940*, alt. Music: *Processionale*, 15th cent. French; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811–1890; Chant, Mode I.



Words and Music: Daniel Charles Damon, 1955— Words and Music © 1993 Hope Publishing Company U.S.A. LIKE A CHILD

Verses 1, 2 and 3

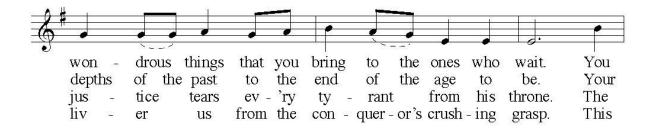
3. From

Canticle of the Turning

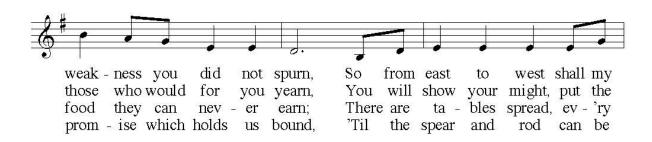


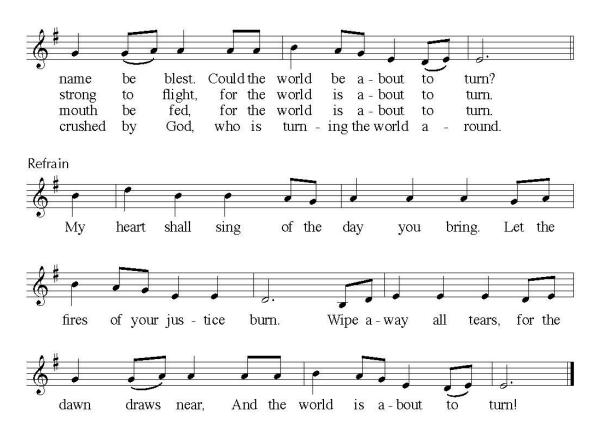
the halls power to the of for tress tower, not a 4. Though the na - tions from age rage to we re age,











Text: Luke 1:46–58; Rory Cooney, b.1952
Tune: STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN, Irregular with refrain; Irish melody, arr. by Rory Cooney, b.1952
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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. Carrie Veal

Associate Minister

Rev. Tara Gibbs

Associate Minister of Spiritual Growth

J. Kevin Gray

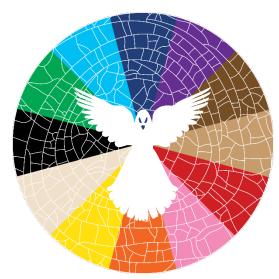
Minister of Music & Worship

Eva Bender

Chief Operating Officer

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

Interim Associate Minister





Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice