



Jesus Loves Me, Varnette Honeywood, 1983

The Worship of God
The Eighth Sunday of Epiphany
Black History Month

February 23, 2025 | 10:00a



MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH

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

“Choral, Op. 37, No.4”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist
Joseph Jongen

Call to Worship and Invocation

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

***Opening Hymn**

“When Morning Gilds the Sky”

See page 7.
LAUDES DOMINI

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**

A Moment of Centering

Take a few moments to breathe and still the mind.



**All: Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.**

BEACH SPRING

Gospel Reading – John 13:34–35 (NRSV)

Carla Hines, Congregant

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Epistle Reading – Galatians 6:2 (NRSV)

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ.

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.

*Sermon Hymn

"Live in Charity"

TAIZÉ

This song will be sung in English and in the tradition of Taizé will be sung multiple times.

Ubi Caritas
(Live in Charity)

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 2/4 time signature. The bass staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor, Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,". The second system also has a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 2/4 time signature. The bass staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est. live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.".

Chords: F, C, Dm, Bb, D, G, C, F, C, Dm, Gm, C, F.

Lyrics:
U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love,
u - bi ca - ri - tas De - us i - bi est.
live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you.

Sermon

Rev. Carrie Veal

"Burden Bearing Love: Living as Christ's Community"

Musical Reflection

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist

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

Nancy Culp, Deacon

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



Offertory Anthem

Chancel Choir
arr. Avis Graves

“Guide My Feet”

Guide my feet while I run this race, [x3]
for I don’t want to run this race in vain!
Hold my hand while I run this race, [x3]
for I don’t want to run this race in vain!

Refrain:

Lord, guide my feet and keep my way,
can’t take a step without you.
I don’t want to run this race in vain.

Be my friend while I run this race, [x3]
for I don’t want to run this race in vain! [Refrain]

Stand by me while I run this race, [x3]
for I don’t want to run this race in vain. [Refrain]

*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Nancy Culp, Deacon

Presentation of Newly Elected Deacon

Scott Crowder, Board of Deacons Chair

Deacon Class of 2027

Mary Miller

Litany of Ordination

Leader: To our newly elected Deacon — do you solemnly pledge to uphold the Deacon Covenant in all you do, by promoting and protecting the freedom of the pulpit; by protecting and supporting the spiritual, emotional, mental, and physical well-being of our ministers; and by making decisions that are congruent with the goals of our Church, our consciences and our Christian faith?

Deacon: I do, trusting in the grace of God.

Leader: Will you pledge to uphold our Church Covenant, by helping our congregation fulfill our responsibilities to be faithful stewards of our lives and of this world; by nurturing the Church as a community of God's new creation that is open to all and closed to none; and by embracing your role as priests to all, helping to guide our members and our neighbors in our lives as participants in God's kingdom on earth?

Deacon: I will, trusting in the grace of God.

Leader: To the congregation — will you pledge to join with and support this new leader as they help us embrace the possibilities and opportunities of innovation and change, encouraging patience, conversation and grace for all; will you work with them in a spirit of cooperation and community to lead this Church boldly toward the new light and life to which God is calling us?

Congregation: We will, trusting in the grace of God.

Leader: Then let us, with joy and thankfulness in our hearts, embrace and celebrate the ordination of this new Deacon as they seek to help lead this community of the faithful.

All: Amen.

Invitation to the Laying on of Hands

Rev. Carrie Veal

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

*Closing Hymn

"God, We Love This Congregation"

HYMN TO JOY

God, we love this congregation! On this day, we're glad to see
friends and neighbors gathered, praying, as a church community.
Young and old, we join in worship —some in-person, some online.
We are drawn by faith and friendship to this blessed place and time.

In this year with all its trials, there are things that we have missed.
Still, in Christ, you've walked beside us; by your Spirit, we've been blessed.
Love's our history, love's our vision, love's the work we're called to do.
Bless us as our congregation moves together, serving you.

Benediction

Rev. Carrie Veal

Postlude

"Hymn to Joy"

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist
arr. Janet Whitcomb Pummill

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



Join Us After Worship Today

Spiritual Growth Opportunities

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

- **FORUM WITH GUEST SPEAKER JENNIFER ROBERTS**
Presented by the Faith & Community class | Heaton Hall
- **SPIRITUAL PRACTICES**
Led by Rev. Marina Luckhoo | Library (off of Heaton Hall Foyer)
- **STUDY OF THE BROKEN GROUND PODCAST**
Led by Members of the MOJO Environmental Justice Group
Room 250 (upstairs above the Church Offices)

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



NOTES AND REFLECTIONS

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Joseph Barnby, 1868



1. When morn - ing gilds the skies, — My
 2. Does sad - ness fill my mind? — A
 3. Let all the earth a - round — ring
 4. Be this, while life is mine, — My



heart a - wak - ing cries May Je - sus Christ be
 sol - ace here I find, May Je - sus Christ be
 joy - ous with the sound; May Je - sus Christ be
 can - ti - cle di - vine, May Je - sus Christ be



praised: A - like at work and prayer To
 praised: Or fades my earth - ly bliss? My
 praised: In heaven's e - ter - nal bliss the
 praised: Be this the e - ter - nal song, Through



Je - sus I re - pair; May Je - sus
 com - fort still is this, May Je - sus
 love - liest strain is this: May Je - sus
 all the a - ges long, May Je - sus



Christ be praised!
 Christ be praised!
 Christ be praised!
 Christ be praised!

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

J. Kevin Gray

Minister of Music & Worship

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

Interim Associate Minister

Rev. Carrie Veal

Associate Minister

OUR AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM

Wes Cobb

Joe Kuhlmann

Hannah Combs

Eric Roberts

Volunteers



704.334.7232

mpbc@myersparkbaptist.org

We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org



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.

One License A-729324 | WorshipCast License CCS # WC-12779 | CVLI Video License #504 239 870