

“Ruth the Gleaner,” Suzanne Moore, Copyright 2010, The Saint John’s Bible

The Worship of God

**The Second Sunday of Lent  
Women’s History Month**

March 16, 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**

“Intermezzo Op. 118 N.2”

Claudio Olivera, Pianist  
Johannes Brahms

**Call to Worship**

Leader: We have come from different backgrounds  
on various roads to get here.

**People: But we are all here seeking an experience of the holy.**

Leader: Listen for the promise of God’s  
steadfast love and God’s faithfulness.

**People: We are listening for God’s call in our lives.**

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

**Invocation**

**\*Opening Hymn**

“When, in Awe of God’s Creation”

See page 6.  
HYFRYDOL

**Welcome of Our Guests**

*If you are our guest today, please scan the QR code below  
so we may offer you our gratitude for joining us today.*

Rev. Carrie Veal



**\*Passing of the Peace**

**Invitation to Confession**

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

**A Time for Silent Confession**

**Corporate Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, you know us better than we know ourselves.  
As we come before you now, believers and doubters alike,  
we all share a deep need, for we are all lost without your grace.

Search us, O God.

You know our hearts and know our troubled thoughts.  
Give us true repentance. Forgive us our wrongs.  
Transform us to live for you each day, learning to serve each other,  
and to discover how to love our neighbors with grace and compassion.

Amen.

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\*Please rise in body or in spirit.

## Song of Prayer

“Hear Our Prayer O Lord”

AFTER PRAYER

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef staff with notes and a bass clef staff with chords. Chord symbols D, A, A7, and D are placed above the treble staff. The lyrics are: "Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; in -". The second system also has a treble clef staff with notes and a bass clef staff with chords. Chord symbols D, D7, G, Em, D, A, and D are placed above the treble staff. The lyrics are: "cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace."

## Words of Assurance

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

Leader: Be assured that God is merciful.  
Be assured that God's everlasting arms embrace you.  
Be assured that you are beloved and forgiven.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading – Luke 13:31-35 (NRSV)

Deborah Steiner, Choir Member

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

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 Shaina Bailey,**

**Director of Children's Ministries, and leaders.**

**Parents can pick up children from room 212 in the education building between 11-11:15.**

**For those staying through Spiritual Growth, please pick up children in the childcare room at noon.**

**\*Sermon Hymn**

NETTLETON

“Since the Lord is My Salvation”

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Even when I hear the warning, “Find a safer, easier way,”  
I'll be faithful in the morning and at noon and close of day.  
As a citizen of heaven, I have nothing I should fear;  
for in Christ, I am forgiven, and I'm called to service here.

You, O Lord, are my salvation; make me strong to live for you.  
May I care for your creation, love the stranger, speak what's true.  
May I share what you have given; may I see each person's worth.  
As a citizen of heaven, make me useful here on earth.

**Sermon**

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

“Rejected Love”

**Musical Reflection**

J. Kevin Gray

“Love Runs In”

TAIZÉ

*\*The soloist will sing through verse one, repeat after that and continue with the song.*



When there is strife, when there is hurt, when there is loss love comes run - ning in.  
When there is hate, when there is pain, when there is need love comes run - ning in.

**Church at Prayer**

Rev. Carrie Veal

**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**

Fran Morrison, Deacon

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



**Offertory Anthem**

Chancel Choir

“O Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me”

Eugene Butler

O Lord, thou hast searched and known me.  
Thou knowest when I sitteth down, and when I rise up,  
thou searchest out my path, and my lying down,  
and are acquainted in all my ways.

O Lord, thou hast searched and known me.  
Thou layest thy hand upon me.

Wonderful are thy works, O Lord! Wonderful are thy works!

If I ascend into heav'n, thou art there!  
If I take the wings of the morning, thou art there!  
I praise thee for thou art wonderful.

O Lord, thou hast searched and known me,  
and I praise thy name.

**\*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology**  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OLD HUNDREDTH

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Fran Morrison, Deacon

**\*Closing Hymn**

“They’ll Know We are Christians by Our Love” verses 1, 2 and 3

See page 7.  
ST. BRENDAN’S

**Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

**Postlude**

“Liebestraum N.3”

Claudio Olivera, Pianist  
Franz Liszt

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



*We are delighted to welcome special guest musician,  
Claudio Olivera to this morning’s service.*



### 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 Today**  
**Spiritual Growth Opportunities**  
Educational opportunities that transform the whole person  
spiritually, culturally, & theologically

- **BIBLE BASICS 2.0**  
Led by Rev. Carrie Veal | Room 254 (upstairs above the Church Office)
- **FAITH & COMMUNITY CLASS**  
Guest Speaker, Sofia Bartholomew | Heaton Hall  
Topic | Braiding Sweetgrass: Learning Nature's Ways

## When, in Awe of God's Creation



When, in awe of God's cre - a - tion, we view earth from out - er space,  
 Liv - ing now, this is the pic - ture we no long - er can de - ny,  
 Now we face the un-known fu - ture, chal-lenged by the work at hand.

9



this mys - te - ri-ous float - ing mar - ble, strewn with clouds and bathed in grace,  
 for we see no an - gry bound-aries when our view is from the sky:  
 Still the God of all cre - a - tion sum - mons us with one com - mand:

17



how can we not pause in won - der, see - ing earth as one and whole?  
 ri - vers, de - serts, for - est, snow-fields, o - ceans, lakes and moun-tains too,  
 "Love each o - ther!" Will we do it? "Love each o - ther!" Wars might cease!

25



As we heal our proud di - vi - sions, may earth's heal - ing be our goal.  
 but no fenc - es built for bar - ring you from me or me from you.  
 "Love each oth - er!" Ju - stice fol - lows, Love each oth - er!" There is peace!

# They'll Know We Are Christians



1. We are one in the Spir - it, we are  
 2. We will walk with each oth - er, we will  
 3. We will work with each oth - er, we will  
 4. All praise to the Fa - ther, from



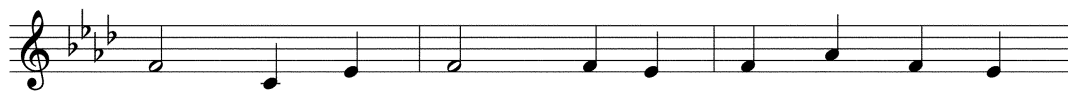
one in the Lord, We are one in the  
 walk hand in hand, We will walk with each  
 work side by side, We will work with each  
 whom all things come, And all praise to Christ



Spir - it, we are one in the Lord, And we  
 oth - er, we will walk hand in hand, And to -  
 oth - er, we will work side by side, And we'll  
 Je - sus, his on - ly Son, And all



pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re -  
 geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our  
 guard hu - man's dig - ni - ty and save hu - man's  
 praise to the Spir - it, who makes us



stored:  
 land: And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our  
 pride:  
 one:



love, by our love, Yes, they'll know we are



Chris - tians by our love.

## 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. Layne Smith**  
Interim Senior Minister

**Rev. Carrie Veal**  
Associate Minister

**Rev. Marina Luckhoo**  
Interim Associate Minister

**J. Kevin Gray**  
Minister of Music & Worship

### OUR AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM

**Wes Cobb**

**Joe Kuhlmann**

**Hannah Combs**

**Eric Roberts**

**Volunteers**



704.334.7232

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We are affiliated with  
[allianceofbaptists.org](http://allianceofbaptists.org)  Alliance  
of Baptists

*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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