



**MYERS PARK  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

**The Second Sunday of Eastertide**

April 27, 2025 | 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 main level). Please see a greeter for more information.**  
**Worship activities for children are available in the Narthex.**

### Prelude

“Variations on ‘Good Christians All Rejoice and Sing’”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist  
Marilyn Keiser

### Call to Worship

Rev. Dane Jordan

Leader: This is the day

**People: angels bring light into our shadows, and gardeners harvest good news.**

Leader: This is the day the Lord

**People: awakens us with unexpected grace, and the sun breaks out in song.**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made!

**People: The day when life triumphs over death, when love pushes aside fear, when hope walks with us in every moment.**

### Invocation

#### \*Opening Hymn

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

See page 7.  
MADRID

### Welcome of Our Guests

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

*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

J. Kevin Gray

Psalms 130:5 and Romans 8:6

O Lord, we wait for you, and in your word we trust. By the power of your Spirit, set our hearts and minds on the source of life and peace: Jesus Christ our Savior.

*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

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*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

### Gospel Reading – John 20: 1-2, 11-13 (NRSV)

Bob Thomason, Deacon

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So, she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**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 Ministry, and leaders.*

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

*For those staying through Spiritual Growth and for the landscaping beautification project,  
please pick up children in the childcare room at noon.*

### Musical Reflection

J. Kevin Gray

Shawn Kirchner

“Supposing Him to Be the Gardener”

Supposing him to be the gard’ner,  
Mary wept and said: Where have they laid him?  
Tell me if you know. There will I go.  
Mary, Mary, do you not know that it is I?  
Mary, Mary, do not cry.

Mary, Mary, it is I,  
Mary, Mary, it is I,  
Mary, do not cry.

### Sermon

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

“Locked in a Room with Open Doors”

### Church at Prayer

J. Kevin Gray

### 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

Craig Hopewell, Deacon

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



## Offertory Anthem

Chancel Choir  
Martin Shaw

### "With a Voice of Singing"

With a voice of singing declare ye this,  
and let it be heard, Alleluia!  
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.  
The Lord hath delivered God's people, Alleluia!  
O be joyful in God, all ye lands.  
O sing praises to the honor of God's name,  
make God's praise to be glorious.  
With a voice of singing, declare ye this,  
and let it be heard, Alleluia!

## \*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. Alleluia.

## \*Prayer of Dedication

Craig Hopewell, Deacon

## \*Closing Hymn

### "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

DUNLAP'S CREEK

1. We walk by faith, and not by sight;  
2. We may not touch his hands and side,  
3. Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief;  
4. That, when our life of faith is done,

no gra - cious words we hear  
nor fol - low where he trod;  
and may our faith a - bound  
in realms of clear - er light

from him who spoke as none e'er spoke;  
but in his prom - ise we re - jice,  
to call on you when you are near,  
we may be - hold you as you are,

but we be - lieve him near.  
and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
and seek where you are found.  
with full and end - less sight.

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*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. Dr. Layne Smith at [lsmith@myersparkbaptist.org](mailto:lsmith@myersparkbaptist.org)





**Join the MPBC AIDS Walk Team – Support RAIN’s Life-Saving Work!**

Led by Scott Crowder, our MPBC team is raising funds for RAIN’s programs that support people living with HIV in our community. While HIV is now treatable, many in the Deep South, including North Carolina, still face high rates of new diagnoses and deaths due to stigma and inequality.

RAIN provides compassionate care, helping those affected by HIV live long, healthy lives. The **AIDS Walk Charlotte** is RAIN’s signature fundraiser, and we’ve set a goal to raise **\$8,000**.

Join us on **Saturday, May 31**, for the walk, or make a donation today to help us reach our goal. Together, we can make a lasting impact.

# COME, CHRISTIANS, JOIN TO SING

MADRID



1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing  
2. Come, lift your hearts on high;  
3. Praise yet our Christ a-gain; } Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



1. Loud praise to Christ our King;  
2. Let prais-es fill the sky;  
3. Life shall not end the strain; } Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



1. Let all, with heart and voice, Be - fore his throne re-joice;  
2. He is our guide and friend; Our cry he will at-tend;  
3. On heav-en's joy - ful shore His good-ness we'll a - dore,



1. Praise is his gra-cious choice:  
2. His love shall nev - er end:  
3. Sing - ing for - ev - er - more: } Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Text: 66 66 D; Christian Henry Bateman, 1843, alt. Music: Spanish Hymn, source unknown.



## 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  
[lsmith@myersparkbaptist.org](mailto:lsmith@myersparkbaptist.org)

**Rev. Marina Luckhoo**  
Associate Minister  
[mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org](mailto:mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org)

**J. Kevin Gray**  
Minister of Music & Worship  
[kgray@myersparkbaptist.org](mailto:kgray@myersparkbaptist.org)

704.334.7232  
[mpbc@myersparkbaptist.org](mailto:mpbc@myersparkbaptist.org)

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

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### May 4: Creation Justice Sunday

**10a Worship** will be centered around our dedication to God's creation. We will welcome guest musicians Jim Brock and Rebecca Kleinmann

**11:15a Congregational Calling Event and Walk for Creation.** After the service, meet in Shalom Hall for lunch, a phone bank, and a march for those who are interested.

#### 12:30p Transition Team Retreat

#### May 6

**12:00p Sage-ing Lunch** featuring poet and member, Eddie Bell.

*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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