

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Sixth Sunday of Eastertide

May 25, 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 main level). Please see a greeter for more information.
Worship activities for children are available in the Narthex.**

Musical Introit

Mark and Maggie O’Connor, Guest Musicians
Stevie Wonder

“Love’s In Need of Love”

Good morn' or evening friends, here's your friendly announcer.
I have serious news to pass on to everybody.

What I'm about to say could mean the world's disaster,
could change your joy and laughter, to tears and pain.

Refrain:

It's that love's in need of love today.
Don't delay, send yours in right away.
Hate's goin' 'round, breakin' many hearts.
Stop it, please, before it's gone too far.

The force of evil plans to make you its possession.
And it will, if we let it, destroy everybody. *[Refrain]*

We all must take precautionary measures
if love and peace you treasure.
Then you'll hear me when I say. *[Refrain]*

Call to Worship

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

Leader: We come now to worship rooted in our faith in God,
People: with thankful hearts open to being made new.
Leader: We come now in prayer to the place of grace and mercy,
People: where forgiveness, healing, and love are boundless.
Leader: We come now in gratitude knocking on the door,
People: growing in unity and grace and held together by God.

Invocation

*Opening Hymn

“Christians, We Have Met to Worship”

See page 7.
HOLY MANNA

Welcome of Our Guests

J. Kevin Gray

*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

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

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.

Musical Reflection

Chancel Choir

“Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”

William Byrd, Arr. Hal Hopson

Lord Jesus Christ, be present now.
Our hearts in true devotion bow.
Thy spirit send with grace divine.
O may thy truth within us shine.
Unseal our lips to sing thy praise.
Our souls to thee in worship raise.
Make strong our faith, increase our light.
O may we know thy name aright.
O Lord, be present now.

Hebrew Scripture Reading – Genesis 22:1-14 (NRSV)

Deborah Steiner, Choir Member

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.” So, Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him.

On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.” Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, “Father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So, Abraham called that place “The Lord will provide,” as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided.”

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.

Musical Reflection

“Butterfly’s Day Out”

Mark and Maggie O’Connor, Guest Musicians
Mark O’Connor

Sermon

“The God of Abraham and Isaac”

Rev. Dr. Josh Hunt

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

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

Ryan LaPrade, Deacon



Offertory

“Appalachia Waltz”

Mark and Maggie O’Connor, Guest Musicians
Mark O’Connor

*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

Ryan LaPrade, Deacon

*Closing Hymn

“When Abraham Went Up”

When Abraham went up to offer you his son
O God, we grieve to think of what he might have done.
And yet we know it's true: to follow has a price.
To do what we are called to do means sacrifice.

LEONI
Lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

The sacrifice that day was not a father's boy,
But being willing to obey and bring you joy.
O Lord, what you desire won't rise to you above
In violent act or smoke or fire; it's found in love.

The way to worship you is with an open hand —
With willingness to gladly do what you have planned.
You call us to let go, to let you be our guide,
For when we do we'll surely know that you provide.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Josh Hunt

Postlude

“Festive Trumpet Tune”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist
David German

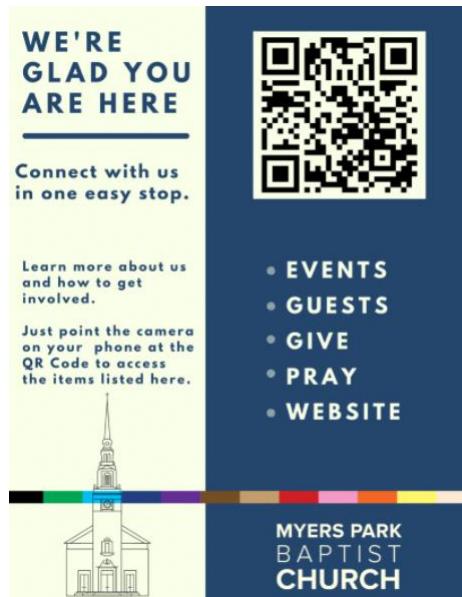
***If you are our guest today, please connect with a
minister after worship and receive a Welcome bag.***



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



At Myers Park Baptist Church, we strive for inclusive language. However, there are times due to the historical nature or context of the text that we choose to leave language unchanged as initially presented. Be assured that MPBC holds God as non-gender-specific; God's essence encompasses all.



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. Marina Luckhoo at mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org.

FAITH AND COMMUNITY



MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

06.08.25 | 11:15 AM

Heaton Hall

Guest Speaker:
Beth Maczka

“Discovering the Real Mary Magdalene: Her Importance Now”

Christians, We Have Met to Worship

HOLY MANNA

4

Chris-tians we have met to__ wor - ship and a - dore the
Is there here a trem-bling jail - er, seek-ing grace and
Let us__ love our God su- preme-ly,__ let us love each

7

liv - ing God; will you__ pray with all your po - wer ,
filled with fears? Is there here a weep - ing__ Ma - ry
o - ther too; let us__ pray for all earth's__ peo - ple

10

while we__ try to preach the word? All is vain un -
pour - ing__ forth a flood of tears? Tell them all a -
till our__ God makes all things new. Christ has called us

13

less the__ Spi - rit of the Ho - ly One comes down;
bout the__ Sav - ior, how in Christ the lost are__ found.
to God's King-dom, at the ta - ble, we sit__ down;

15

Chris - tians__ pray, and ho - ly__ man - na__
Pray, oh,__ pray, and ho - ly__ man - na__
Christ has__ wel - comed us and__ served us__

will be show - ered all a - round.
will be scat - tered all a - round.
liv - ing man - na all a - round.

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

Rev. Marina Luckhoo
Associate Minister
mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org

J. Kevin Gray
Minister of Music & Worship
kgray@myersparkbaptist.org

704.334.7232
mpbc@myersparkbaptist.org

We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 31

RAIN Walk 11:00a-12:30p
Truist Field (325 S. Mint Street)

June 3

Sage-ing Lunch 12:00p-1:30p
With Speaker Chris Hudson

Heaton Hall

June 8

Faith and Community Forum 11:15a-12:15p
With Speaker Beth Maczka

Shalom Hall

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.