

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday

June 22, 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.**

Prelude

“He Leadeth Me”

Lee Northcutt, Organ
Arr. R. M. Stults

Call to Worship

Rev. Dr Layne Smith

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

“God of Grace and God of Glory” verses 1, 4 and 5

See page 281 in the hymnal
CWM RHONDDA

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

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.

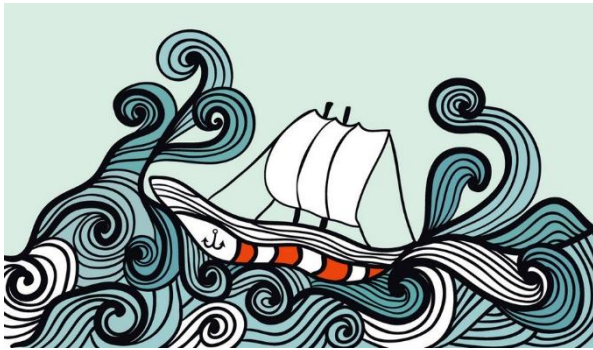


*Please rise in body or in spirit.

People: 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 – Mark 4:35-41 (NRSV)



Carol Short Pearsall, Life Deacon
On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion, and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” And waking up, he rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Be silent! Be still!” Then the wind

ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

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**

“O Sing a Song of Bethlehem”

See page 209 in the hymnal
KINGSFOLD

Sermon

“Fear and Those Who Follow Jesus”

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

Musical Reflection

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

Jack Murray, Saxophone
Traditional Spiritual

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.

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



Offertory Anthem

Chancel Choir
arr. Moses Hogan

“God’s Gonna Set This World on Fire”

God's gonna set dis world on fire,
God's gonna set dis world on fire one of these days hallelujah,
God's gonna set dis world on fire,
God's gonna set dis world on fire, one of these days.

I’m gonna sit at the welcome table,
I’m gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days hallelujah,
I’m gonna sit at the welcome table,
I’m gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.

I’m gonna eat and never get hungry,
I’m gonna eat and never get hungry one of these days, hallelujah
I’m gonna eat and never get hungry,
I’m gonna eat and never get hungry one of these days.

I’m gonna drink and never get thirsty,
I’m gonna drink and never get thirsty one of these days, hallelujah
I’m gonna drink and never get thirsty,
I’m gonna drink and never get thirsty one of these days.

God's gonna set dis world on fire,
God's gonna set dis world on fire one of these days’ hallelujah
God's gonna set dis world on fire,
God's gonna set dis world on fire, one of these days.

Worship notes:

"God’s Gonna Set This World on Fire"—also known by titles such as *I’m Gonna Sit at the Welcome Table*, *River of Jordan* and *I’m A-Gonna Climb Up Jacob’s Ladder*—is a traditional American gospel and African American folk song. Its author remains unknown, though it is widely believed to have originated among enslaved people.

The song was first published in 1874 as part of a collection compiled by the Hampton Institute. Its first known recording came in 1922 by the Florida Normal Quartet, and it later became an anthem of the civil rights movement.

***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

Ray Owens, Life Deacon

*Song of Sending

Jack Murray, Saxophone and Ron Brendle, Bass

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

David Kidwell

Verse one will be sung as a solo, then it will be repeated by the congregation.

The remaining verses will be sung by the congregation.

1. I'm gon-na live so, God can use me a-ny - time Lord,
2. work
3. pray
an - y where. I'm gon-na live so, God can
2. work
3. pray
use me. an - y time, and an - y where

Responding to the Word

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

Benediction

Postlude

"Marche Romaine"

Lee Northcutt, Organ

Charles Gounod

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.

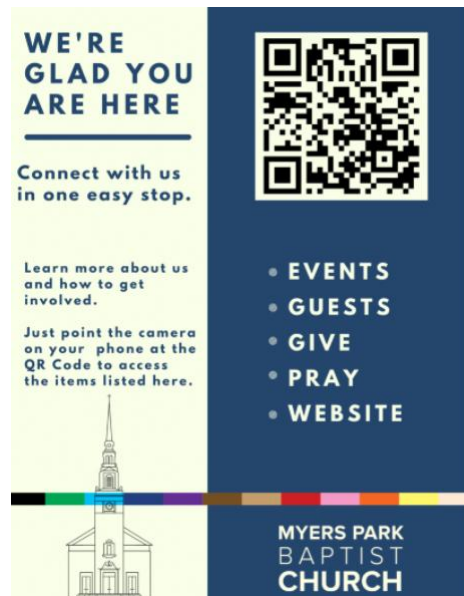


At Myers Park Baptist Church, we strive for inclusive language. However, there are times due to the historical nature or context of the text that we choose to leave language unchanged as initially presented. Be assured that MPBC holds God as non-gender-specific; God's essence encompasses all.

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. Layne Smith at
lsmith@myersparkbaptist.org.



This past Thursday, MPBC, along with the nation, observed Juneteenth.



What is Juneteenth?

The holiday's origin story begins in Galveston, Texas, which was the western-most area of the Union in 1865. When enslaved people there were told of their emancipation on June 19, 1865, they had technically already been freed two-and-a-half years prior, when President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Slaveholders in Texas, had kept the information to themselves, extending the period of violent exploitation of enslaved African Americans. The following year, in 1866, a celebration was had in Texas, the first Juneteenth observance to recognize freedom from slavery in the U.S.

When is Juneteenth?

Juneteenth is celebrated annually on June 19th. The holiday's name is a combination of the words "June" and "nineteenth." It commemorates the day news of the Emancipation Proclamation (and their subsequent freedom from chattel slavery) reached enslaved people in Galveston, Texas on June 19, 1865, three years after President Abraham Lincoln had issued the proclamation. It is considered the longest-running holiday in African American and Black communities and was often observed with community celebrations on the third Saturday in June. Juneteenth became a federal holiday in 2021 after the U.S. Congress passed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act.

Source: PBS, 2023

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

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We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday June 22nd
4p-5p American Guild of Organists Concert

Monday June 23rd
4:30p-6:30p Ministry of Facilities Meeting

Tuesday June 24th
10:30a-12p Staff Meeting
7p-9:30p Carolina Voices

Sunday June 29th
11a-12:30p Transition Team Meeting

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.