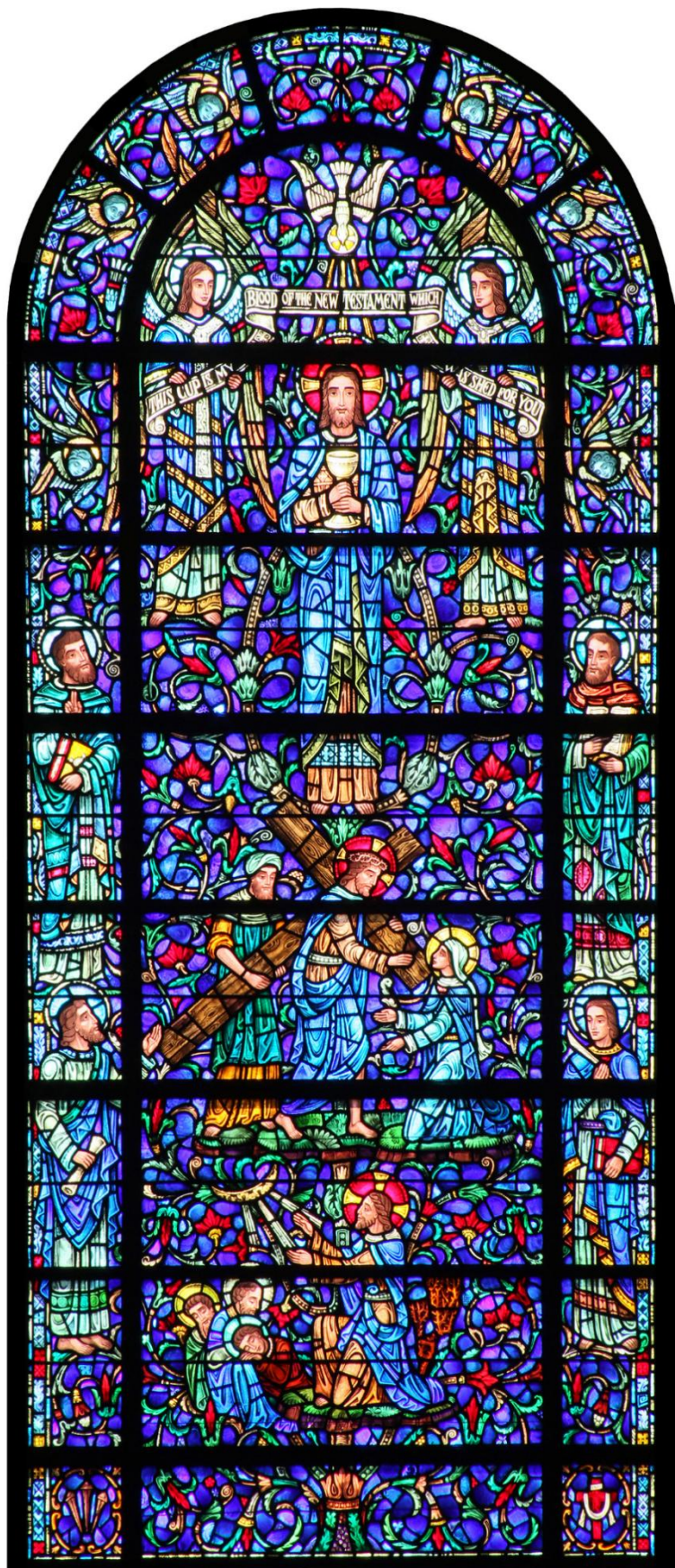




THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Commitment Sunday

November 23, 2025

10:00am



**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.**

We invite you to prepare for worship in silence while listening to the prelude.

Prelude

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist
setting by Robert Hobby

Call to Worship

Rev. Dane Jordan

Leader: Come, beloved community, called not to possess, but to share.

People: We gather in gratitude for all we’ve received, and in hope for all we can return.

Leader: Let us worship

People: the God of abundance, who invites us to be stewards of grace,
givers of justice, and sowers of love.

Invocation

*Opening Hymn

“Sing We All God’s Glorious Praises” stanzas 1, 3, and 4

Number 58
AUSTRIA

Welcome

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

J. Kevin Gray

Psalms 27:14 (NRSV)

Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Take a few moments to breathe and still the mind.

*Please rise in body or in spirit.



Sing: 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

Hebrew Scripture – Deuteronomy 8:12-18 (NRSV)

Marcy McClanahan, Life Deacon

When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them and when your herds and flocks have multiplied and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. God made water flow for you from flint rock. God fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, my power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth. But remember the Lord your God...

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

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

Number 254
SCHUMANN

Sermon

“To Whom Does ‘It’ Belong?”

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

A Moment to Reflect

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

Malcolm Campbell, Deacon

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



Offertory Anthem

Chancel Choir
arr. Mark Hayes

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise God, for they are thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to their temple draw near;
praise God in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under their wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e’er have been
granted in what God ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely God’s goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with God’s love they befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty One!
Lift up your voices in never-ending song!
Sing to God above!
Praise to the Lord, praise to the Lord!
Lift up your voice to God!

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore them!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before them!
Let the Amen sound from God’s people again;
gladly for aye we adore them. Amen!

***Dedication of the Stewardship Commitments**

Tucker and Jennifer Pearsall, and their son Tucker, join the procession to the Altar, presenting this community's commitment pledges in dedication for Moving Forever Forward in 2026.

***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** *(read in unison)*

Malcom Campbell, Deacon
written by Ryan LaPrade

We bring these offerings not to gain the world,
but to honor the One who gave everything for it.
May these gifts reflect our willingness to deny ourselves,
to take up the cross and to walk in the way of love, justice, and truth.
Bless what we offer today, magnify it and use it to lift the brokenhearted,
to heal the wounded, to empower the silenced,
and to proclaim the good news in every corner of creation.
Let our giving be bold, not ashamed.
Let our hearts be aligned with divine things, not fleeting ones.
Not for the purpose we see fit but by your grace.
And let our lives be a living offering – holy, surrendered, and full of grace.
In the name of Jesus, the Christ, we dedicate these gifts and ourselves.
Amen.

***Closing Hymn**

“As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought”

Number 224
FOREST GREEN

Responding to the Word

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

Pastoral Blessing

Postlude

“Now Thank We All Our God”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, Organist
setting by Sigfrid Karg-Elert

*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.



*The arrangement on the altar is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. and Mrs. William Dixon Cornwell, Sr. by their family.*



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.

After Worship, you are invited to join the Faith and Community Forum for a special presentation by Manuel Betancur Montoya, known as Manolo, the owner of Manolo's Bakery, who recently closed his shop to safeguard his employees and customers from potential harm by ICE.



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.



*To learn more about upcoming events, our church portal, social media pages,
and weekly newsletter, simply scan the QR code below.*

WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE

CONNECT WITH US IN ONE EASY STOP

- **EVENTS**
- **GUESTS**
- **GIVE**
- **PRAY**
- **WEBSITE**
- **MEMBER PORTAL**



Learn more about us and how to get involved.
Just point the camera on your mobile phone at
the QR Code to access the items listed above.

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
kgray@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Dane Jordan

Interim Minister of Youth
djordan@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Marina Luckhoo

Associate Minister
mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

Interim Senior Minister
lsmith@myersparkbaptist.org

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We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, November 23

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:15am-12:15am | Faith and Community Forum
featuring Manolo of Manolo's Bakery – Heaton Hall
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship – Youth Hall

Tuesday, November 25

6:00pm-8:00pm | Theology Pub – Hawthorne Pizza
(6215 Old Post Road)

Thursday, November 27

Happy Thanksgiving

Sunday, November 30

10:00am-11:00am | Advent 1 – Sanctuary
11:15am-12:15am | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages
– Multiple Locations
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship – Youth Hall

Tuesday, December 2

10:00am-11:30am | Creative Friends – Room 32

Wednesday, December 3

12:00pm-2:30pm | Sage-ing Lunch - Southminster

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.

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