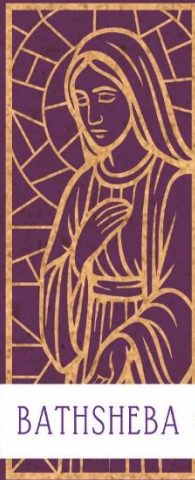


# Mothers Around the Manger



TAMAR



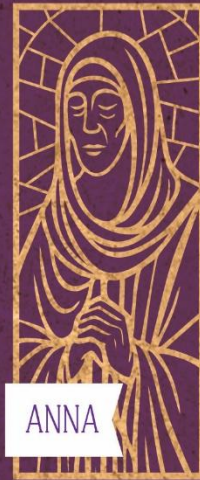
BATHSHEBA



ELIZABETH



MARY



ANNA

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## The First Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 2025 | 10 AM

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.*

**Worship activities for children are available in the Narthex.**

**Prelude**

Claudio Olivera, Piano

**Call to Worship and Invocation**

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

**Welcome**

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



**\*Opening Carol**

“The First Noel” stanzas 1 and 2

Number 120  
THE FIRST NOEL

**\* Carol**

“There’s a Song in the Air” stanzas 1 and 4

Number 121  
CHRISTMAS SONG

**Gospel Reading – Luke 2:36-38 NRSV**

Rev. Dane Jordan

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Meditation**

“Mothers Around the Manger: Anna”

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

**Church at Prayer**

Rev. Dane Jordan

**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.

**\*Carol**

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” stanzas 1 and 4

Number 109  
CAROL

**\*Carol**

“Away in a Manger” stanzas 1 and 3

Number 97  
CRADLE SONG

**Invitation to Offering**

Rev. Dane Jordan

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



**Offertory**

**\*Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Dane Jordan

**Responding to the Word**

Rev. Dr. Layne Smith

**\*Congregational Benediction**

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”

Number 103  
GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

*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.



**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](mailto:mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org).



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

**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](mailto:kgray@myersparkbaptist.org)

#### **Rev. Dane Jordan**

Interim Minister of Youth  
[djordan@myersparkbaptist.org](mailto:djordan@myersparkbaptist.org)

#### **Rev. Marina Luckhoo**

Associate Minister  
[mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org](mailto:mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org)

#### **Rev. Dr. Layne Smith**

Interim Senior Minister  
[lsmith@myersparkbaptist.org](mailto:lsmith@myersparkbaptist.org)

704.334.7232

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

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



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **Sunday, January 4**

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary  
11:15am-1:00pm | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages – Multiple Locations

#### **Tuesday, January 6**

10:00am-11:30am | Creative Friends – Room 32  
12:00pm-1:30pm | Sage-ing Lunch – Heaton Hall

#### **Saturday, January 10**

10:00am-3:00pm | Youth Meal Prep for Sunday – Kitchen  
6:00pm-morning | Room in the Inn Guests-Cornwell Center

#### **Sunday, January 11**

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary  
11:15am-1:00pm | Congregational Lunch and Conversation with the Transition Team – Heaton Hall  
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship – Youth 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](mailto:lgeer@myersparkbaptist.org).*

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