

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday

February 1, 2026

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

“Chant de paix” (Song of Peace)

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist
Jean Langlais

Call to Worship

Layne Smith

Leader: Jesus calls to us, “Come, follow me.”

People: We hear his voice and leave behind what holds us back.

Leader: He leads us in love, truth, and new life.

People: We joyfully follow, trusting him with our whole hearts.

Invocation

***Opening Hymn**

“Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken”

Number 216
AUSTRIA

Welcome of Our Guests

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

Isaiah 40:31

But those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Take a few moments to breathe and still the mind.



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

Gospel Reading – Matthew 4:12-23 (NRSV)

Elaine Price-Hudson, Deacon

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James, son of Zebedee, and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

*Sermon Hymn

Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

IN BABILONE

“Jesus, You Once Called Disciples”

Jesus, you once called disciples, choosing twelve to follow you:
Simon (also known as Peter), Andrew, and Bartholomew,
Philip, Thomas, James, and Matthew, Simon, Thaddaeus, John, and James —
then there was the one called Judas. These were your disciples' names.

Lord, so many heard and followed, like the woman at the well.
Meeting you, the living water, she sought others she could tell.
Like the boy with loaves and fishes, like Zacchaeus in the tree,
many gladly heard your message; many shared your ministry.

Jesus, still you call your people, "Come and follow me today!"
Some, like Paul, feel sudden wonder; some are brought up in your way.
Lord, no matter how we meet you, by your Spirit, make us new.
May we know your living presence; may we daily follow you.

Sermon

“Always on a Journey”

Layne Smith

A Moment to Reflect

Musical Reflection

“Give us a Vision”

Chancel Choir

Pepper Choplin

Come, O Lord, look on your people; wand’ring and lost with no shepherd but you.
Without your light your people will perish, lift us again and make our hearts new.
Give us a vision, a vision of you; mold us and make us a people of truth.
Come Spirit, feed us and lead us to do your holy mission, O give us a vision of you.
We bring thankfulness for yesterday's blessings; we have hopes and dreams of days yet to be.
So, God of Light, come lift all our blindness, make your way plain until we can see.
Lord, come and give us a vision, a vision of you; mold us and make us a people of truth.
Come Spirit, feed us and lead us to do your holy mission, O give us a vision of you.

Church at Prayer

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.

Invitation to Offering

Anna-Catherine Fowler, Deacon

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



Offertory

“Blowing in the Wind”

How many roads must a man walk down,
before they call him a man?

How many seas must a white dove sail,
before she sleeps in the sand?

How many times must the cannonballs fly,
before they're forever banned?

The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind.
The answer is blowing in the wind.

How many years must a mountain exist,
before it is washed to the sea?

How many years can some people exist,
before they're allowed to be free?

How many times can a man turn his head,
and pretend that he just doesn't see?

The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind.
The answer is blowing in the wind.

How many times must a man look up,
before he can see the sky?

How many ears must one man have,
before he can hear people cry?

How many deaths will it take till he knows,
that too many people have died?
The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind.
The answer is blowing in the wind.

Amelia Meena, David Young, and J. Kevin Gray
Bob Dylan

*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

Anna-Catherine Fowler, Deacon

*Closing Hymn

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

See page 7

ASSAM

Responding to the Word

Layne Smith

Pastoral Blessing

Postlude

“Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken”

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist
arr. Donald Hustad

Immediately following worship, members are invited to remain in the sanctuary for a brief congregational meeting and vote.



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 (on sabbatical), 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.

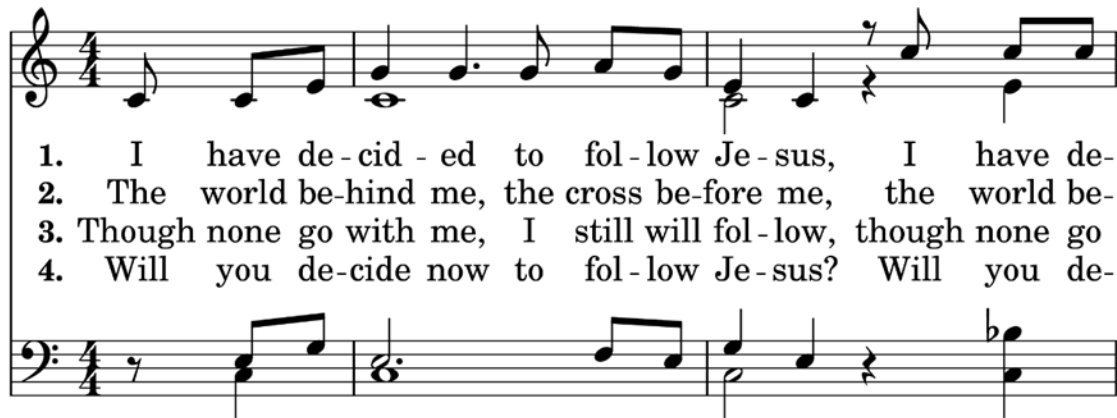
To receive a card or learn more, contact Rev. Marina Luckhoo at
mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org.



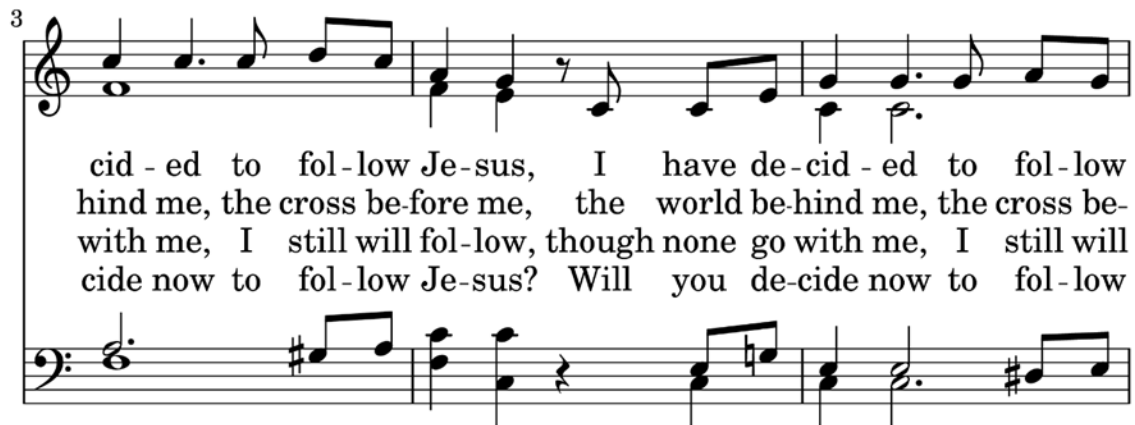
To learn more about upcoming events, our church portal, social media pages, and weekly newsletter, simply scan the QR code below.



I Have Decided to Follow Jesus



1. I have de-cid-ed to fol-low Je-sus, I have de-
 2. The world be-hind me, the cross be-fore me, the world be-
 3. Though none go with me, I still will fol-low, though none go
 4. Will you de-cide now to fol-low Je-sus? Will you de-



cid-ed to fol-low Je-sus, I have de-cid-ed to fol-low
 hind me, the cross be-fore me, the world be-hind me, the cross be-
 with me, I still will fol-low, though none go with me, I still will
 cide now to fol-low Je-sus? Will you de-cide now to fol-low



Je - sus— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.
 fore me— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.
 fol - low— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.
 Je - sus?— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.

The Worshiping Church 576
 WORDS: Anonymous
 MUSIC (ASSAM, Irregular): Anonymous

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

704.334.7232

mpbc@myersparkbaptist.org

We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 25

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:00am | Congregational Meeting & Vote
11:15am-12:15am | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages – Multiple Locations
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship – Youth Hall

Sunday, February 1

9:15am-9:45am | Appreciation Reception for Barry Metzger – Heaton Hall Foyer
10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:15am-12:15am | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages – Multiple Locations
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship – Youth Hall

Tuesday, February 3

12:00pm-1:30pm | Sage-ing Lunch – Heaton Hall

Wednesday, February 4

5:30pm-7:00pm | Suffolk Punch Hangout – Suffolk Punch SouthPark

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.