



The Worship of God

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2026 | 10:00a

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

“Lord Jesus Christ Be Present Now”

Lord Jesus Christ, be present now,
our hearts in true devotion bow,
your Spirit send with grace divine,
and let your truth within us shine.
Unseal our lips to sing your praise,
our souls to you in worship raise,
make strong our faith, increase our light,
that we may know your name aright.
Lord, Jesus Christ, be present now.

Vocal Ensemble
words by William Byrd, arr. Hal Hopson

Call to Worship

Dane Jordan

Leader: God of light, you open our eyes to the truth that every person is beloved and whole in your sight.

People: **We come seeking the light of Christ, that we may see the world with compassion and justice.**

Leader: Christ meets us in our questioning and in our courage to speak what we know to be true.

People: **Open our hearts and our vision, O God, that we may walk together in your healing light.**

Invocation

*Opening Hymn

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

Number 281
CWM RHONDDA

Welcome

Craig Hopewell, Deacon Chair, Human Resources

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

Invitation to Confession

Marina Luckhoo

A Time for Silent Confession

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Prayer of Confession

God of living water,
you meet us in honest places and invite us into deeper truth.
We confess that we sometimes cling to comfort,
turn away from hard conversations,
or settle for habits that keep us divided.
We admit the ways we have withheld compassion,
resisted change, or doubted our own belovedness.
Gently uncover what keeps us from love.
Loosen what binds us to fear.
Renew in us the courage to cross boundaries,
to listen with humility,
and to become vessels of justice and joy.
In your mercy, keep shaping us into a community
where all are seen, all are heard, and all can draw living water.

Song of Prayer

“Hear Our Prayer, O Lord”

AFTER PRAYER

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The first system covers the lyrics: "Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; in -". The second system covers: "cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace. A - men." Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line: D, A, A7, D, D7, G, Em, D, A, D, G, D.

Words of Assurance

Marina Luckhoo

Leader: Be assured that God is merciful.
Be assured that God's everlasting arms embrace you.
Be assured that you are beloved and forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading – John 9:1-17, 28-41 (NRSV)

Elaine Price-Hudson, Deacon

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam.” Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.”

Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So, they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon Hymn

Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

“A Man Who Could Not See”

LEONI

A man who could not see received the gift of sight;
O Lord, you spoke and he believed and saw the light.
His joy was greater still than sight that was restored;
he saw, when you had made him well, that you are Lord.

Some leaders were distressed and said it was a sin,
for it was on the day of rest that you healed him.
They could not see the grace or know how much God cares;
the lack of vision in that place was truly theirs.

O Christ, you are the light to all who follow you;
you give to us the gift of sight — a new world-view.
When culture hems us in with values that destroy,
Lord, help your church to see again your kingdom's joy.

Sermon

“Knowing More, Knowing Less”

Rev. Dr. Tim Moore

A Moment to Reflect

Musical Reflection

Mark and Maggie O'Connor
Stevie Wonder

“Love’s in Need of Love Today”

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.
It's that love's in need of love today.
Don't delay send yours in right away.
Hate's goin' round breaking 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.
We all must take precautionary measures.
If love and peace you treasure,
then you'll hear me when I say,

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

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

“Appalachia Waltz”

Mark and Maggie O'Connor
Mark O'Connor

***Presentation of Gifts and the Doxology**

O Glorious God, to you we bring
praise, treasures, lives as offering;
empower each repentant heart
to follow Christ when we depart.

OLD HUNDREDTH
text by Paula Testerman

***Prayer of Dedication**

Anna-Catherine Fowler, Deacon

***Closing Hymn**

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

Number 371
THE ASH GROVE

Responding to the Word

Rev. Dr. Tim Moore

Pastoral Blessing

Postlude

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

Mark and Maggie O’Connor
19th-century spiritual, arr. O’Connor

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



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



*The flowers on the altar are given in the Glory of God and
In honor of Hilda Belle Lee Hull.*

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.



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

A dark blue rectangular graphic with a light blue header. The header contains the text "WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE". Below the header, the text "CONNECT WITH US IN ONE EASY STOP" is followed by a list of items: "EVENTS", "GUESTS", "GIVE", "PRAY", "WEBSITE", and "MEMBER PORTAL". To the right of this list is a QR code. At the bottom of the graphic, there is a white text box with the text: "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." The graphic is decorated with a horizontal bar of colorful squares at the bottom.

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
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Rev. Dane Jordan

Interim Minister of Youth
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Rev. Marina Luckhoo

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We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 15

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:00am-11:15am | Congregational Meeting - Sanctuary
11:15am-12:15am | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages – Multiple Locations
11:15am-12:15pm | Senior Minister Search Committee Meeting – Conference Room
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship – Youth Hall

Tuesday, March 17

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

Wednesday, March 18

12:00pm-12:45pm | Taizé Prayer Service– MPBC Chapel

Saturday, March 21

9:30am-3:30pm | Reclaiming Mary Magdalene Retreat with Beth Maczka – Heaton Hall

Sunday, March 22

10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:15am-12:45pm | Reclaiming Mary Magdalene Lecture with Beth Maczka – Heaton Hall
11:15am-12:15am | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages

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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