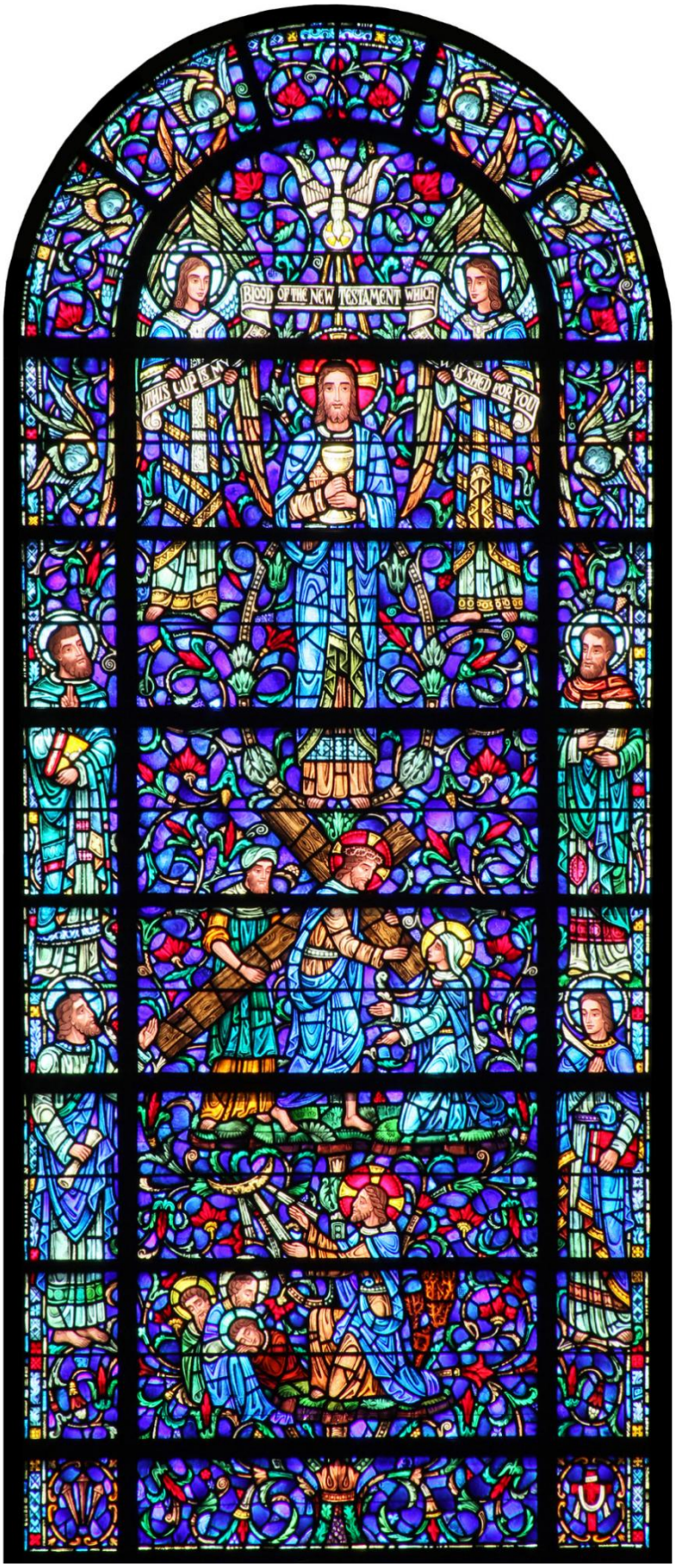


THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Sixth Sunday of Eastertide

May 10, 2026

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.

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

Prélude

"Rhosymedre" *Ralph Vaughan Williams*

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

Call to Worship *adapted from a poem by Maya Angelou* Layne Smith

Leader: Lying last night thinking how to find my soul a home.

People: Created in God's image, we all need a "home."

Leader: Where water is not thirsty and bread is not stone.

People: We are *grateful* that our thirst is met by living water and our hunger is met by bread that is not stone.

Leader: God created us for relationship with both God and each other.

People: We are *grateful* for the community we share with God and each other.

Leader: Welcome HOME! We worship God together!

Invocation

***Opening Hymn No. 226 "Christ for the World We Sing"** *Wolcott*; ITALIAN HYMN

Welcome Mary Miller, Deacon

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 Marina Luckhoo

Psalm 46:10a, 11

Be still and know that I am God!
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

Take a few moments to breathe and still the mind.

Sing: "Come Away from Rush and Hurry" *Dawn*; NETTLETON

Come away from rush and hurry
to the stillness of God's peace;
from our vain ambition's worry,
come to Christ and find release.
Come away from noise and clamor,
life's demands and frenzied pace;
come to join the people gathered
here to seek and find God's face.

Gospel Reading – John 14:1-12 *(adapted)* Carol Pearsall, Life Deacon

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In God's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to God except through me. If you know me, you will know my God also. From this point on, you know God and have seen God."

Philip said to Jesus, "Lord, show us God, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen God. How can you say, 'Show us God?' The words that I speak are not spoken of myself; it is God, living in me. Believe me that I am in God and God is in me, or else believe because of the works I do. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to God."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

***Sermon Hymn No. 217 "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"** *Dwight*; ST. THOMAS

Sermon

"Getting 'Home' From Here" — Layne Smith

A Moment to Reflect

Musical Reflection

"Goin' Home"

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, piano

Church at Prayer — 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 — Carol Pearsall, Life Deacon

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

MUSIC NOTE

There's something odd about hearing a secular song in your head the moment you encounter a scripture or sermon theme - and then feeling the impulse to dismiss it. But then we're reminded that encounters with God don't only happen in pews on Sunday mornings. They can happen in cars, bars, and Broadway theaters. May we experience today's anthem with that in mind.

Offertory

"There's No Place Like Home" from *Wicked for Good* — *Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz; Adapted Tang, Luckhoo*

Why should we love this church, this sanctuary?
A place that seems to be evolving, but do we want it to?
But this is more than just a place. It's a promise, an idea.
And I want to help make it come true.

Why should a church have so much meaning, when dark times befall it?
It's only bricks and grass and dirt and stone.
It's just a place that's familiar. And home's just what we call it.
But there's no place like home, where all can come in.
There's no place like home.

When you feel you can't hope anymore, just tell yourself there's no place like home.
When your heart is down and troubled, remind yourself there's no place like home
When you find yourself discouraged and resigned, that's what they want you to do.
But think how you will grieve for all you leave behind. Home belongs to you too.

Those who would take it from you, tell you leave and shut the doors. You go their way or go.
It's Christ who is revealing, if we keep on repeating: There's no place like home. (3x).

If we just keep fighting for it, we will build back and restore it.
There's no place like home.

Amelia Meena, soloist; Dr. Matthew Manwarren, piano

***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!

***Prayer of Dedication** Carol Pearsall, Life Deacon

***Closing Hymn No. 278 "Community of Christ"** *Murray;* LEONI, *adapt. Olivers and Lyon*

Responding to the Word Layne Smith

Pastoral Blessing

Postlude

"Postlude on ITALIAN HYMN" *Albert Travis*

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

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

The flowers on the altar are placed in memory of Skip Gribble (1944-2015) and his brother, 1st Lt. Robert M. Gribble of the 14th Engineer Battalion, U.S. Army, who died in Vietnam on March 29, 1971. They are donated by Don Thompson (U.S. Air Force).

❖

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.

Myers Park Baptist Church is a faith community on a journey seeking a welcoming, loving, and just world.

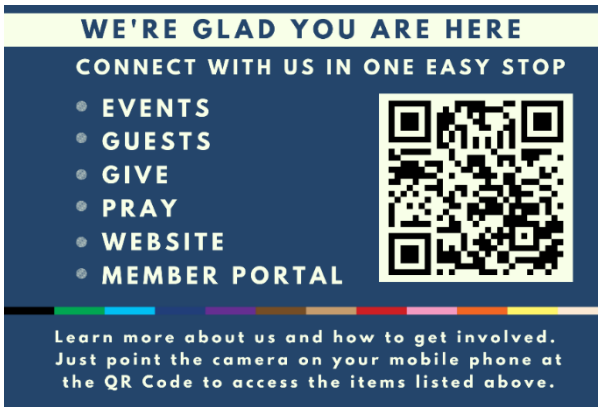
❖

HOW TO JOIN MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Becoming a member of Myers Park Baptist begins by 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.



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. 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

David Tang
Interim Music and Worship Minister
dtang@myersparkbaptist.org

704.334.7232
mpbc@myersparkbaptist.org

We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org

Alliance of Baptists

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Monday, May 11
9:45am-11:30am | Roundtable Meeting – Parlor
11:30am-12:30pm | Roundtable Staff Appreciation Lunch – Heaton Hall foyer

Tuesday, May 12
8:00am-3:30pm | Roof Above Meal Prep - Kitchen

Wednesday, May 13
11:30am-12:30pm | Meditation – Zoom

Thursday, May 14
7:00pm-9:00pm | Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, May 17
10:00am-11:00am | Worship – Sanctuary
11:15am-12:15pm | Senior Minister Search Committee Meeting – Conference Room
11:15am-12:00pm | Spiritual Growth Classes for all ages – Multiple Locations
12:00pm-1:30pm | Celebration of Gratitude for Layne and Dianne Smith – Heaton Hall
4:00pm-6:00pm | The Youth Journey Fellowship

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.

One License A-729324 | WorshipCast License CCS # WC-12779 | CVLI Video License #504 239 870