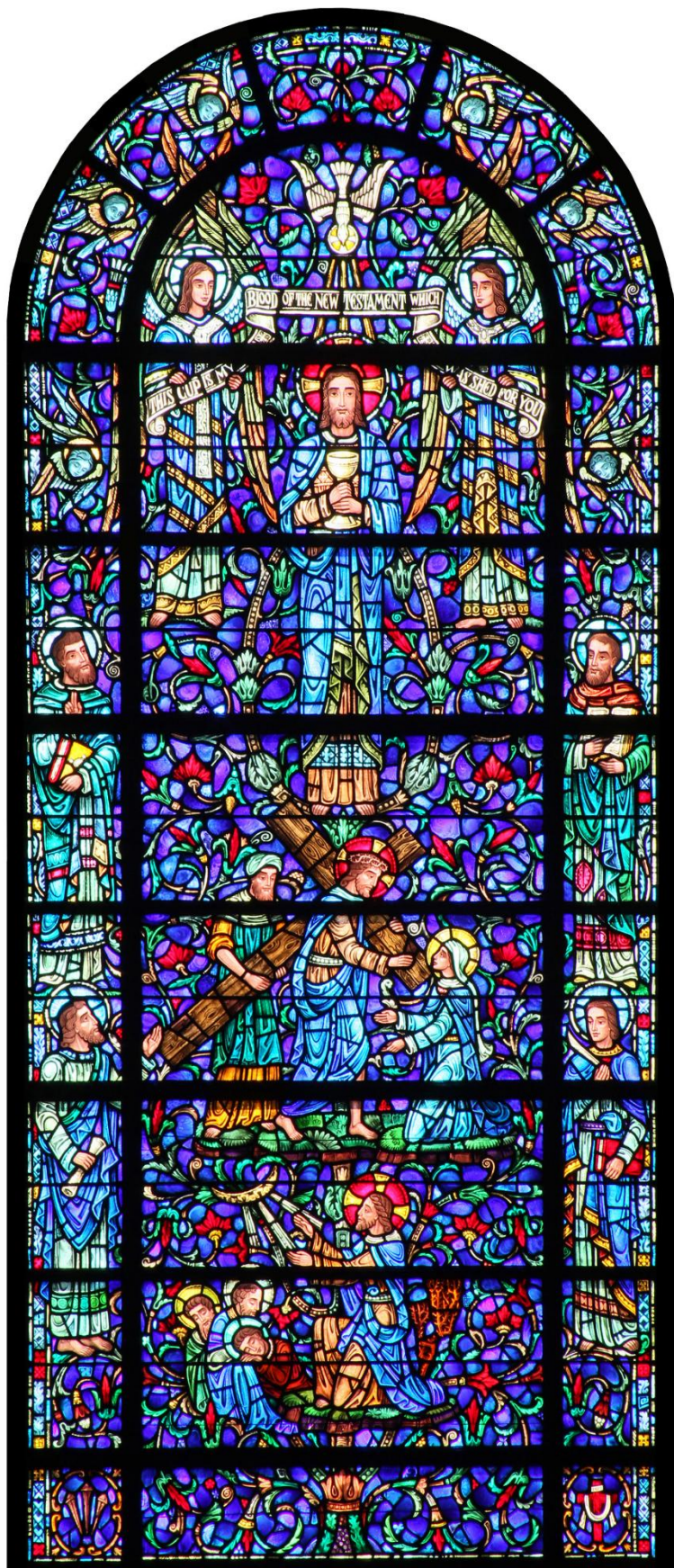




THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Pride Sunday

August 16, 2026

10:00a

MYERS PARK
COVENANT
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.

Opening Voluntary

Pastorale

Joel Martinson

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

Call to Worship

Dane Jordan

Leader: Come, beloved community—gather not in fear, but in sacred trust. For God has not given us the Spirit of timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.

People: **We come to breathe deep the love that casts out fear. We come with open hearts, ready to be transformed.**

Leader: We will not be ashamed of the witness we bear. We will speak truth with kindness and hold one another with grace.

People: **May this space be a sanctuary of radical welcome. All identities, all stories, all journeys—held in sacred worth.**

Leader : In love, we are made new. In openness, we are made whole.

People: **Let us worship the One whose mercy unites us, whose love empowers us, whose Spirit leads us into justice, peace, and boundless possibility.**

Invocation

***Opening Hymn No. 218: “In Christ There Is No East or West”**

ST. PETER
John Oxenham

Welcome

Tim Moore

*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

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

*Sing (after Passing of the Peace)

**We are one in the Spirit;
we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit;
we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity
may one day be restored:**

THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS
Peter Scholtes

REFRAIN:
**And they’ll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love,
yes they’ll know we are Christians
by our love.**

We will walk with each other;
we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other;
we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news
that God is in our land:
[Refrain]

We will work with each other;
we will work side by side;
we will work with each other;
we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity
and save each one's pride.
[Refrain]

A Moment of Centering

Isaiah 40:31

Marina Luckhoo

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.

Take a few moments to breathe and still the mind.



New Testament Scripture – Acts 8:26-40 (NRSV)

Marcy McClanahan

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” [The eunuch] replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

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 No. 234, stanzas 1, 3, and 5: “Jesus Calls Us: O’er the Tumult”

GALILEE
Cecil Frances Alexander

Sermon

“The First Non-Jewish Christian”

Tim Moore

A Moment to Reflect

Sermon Response

“Him”

Sam Smith, Brendan Grieve, Reuben James

Holy God, we need to talk
I have a secret that I can't keep
I'm not the boy that you thought you wanted
Please don't get angry, have faith in me

CHORUS:

Say I shouldn't be here but I can't give up his touch
It is him I love, it is him
Don't you try and tell me that God doesn't care for us
It is him I love, it is him I love

I walk the streets of Mississippi
I hold my lover by the hand
I feel you staring when he is with me
How can I make you understand?

[Chorus]

Holy God, judge my sins
I'm not afraid of what they will bring
I'm not the boy that you thought you wanted
I love him

Adrian Fullerwinder, soloist

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

Scott Crowder

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



Offertory

In Christ There is No East or West

arr. Dale Wood

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

*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

Scott Crowder

*Closing Hymn, see page 7, stanzas 1 and 4: "O God of Every Nation"

LLANGLOFFAN
William W. Reid Jr.

*Responding to the Word

Tim Moore

*Benediction

*We invite you to remain in the Sanctuary following the service, reflecting in quiet prayer or contemplation
as you listen to the closing Voluntary.*

Closing Voluntary

Music for a Festival

Calvin Hampton

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist

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.



On Friday, June 26, 2026, Myers Park Baptist Church officially announced the results of the congregational election to change our name to **Myers Park Covenant Church**.

As we begin this exciting new chapter, you may notice a mix of our old and new names across our website, printed materials, signage, and other communications over the next few months. We are working diligently to update everything as quickly as possible.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and continued support during this transition. We are excited for all that lies ahead and look forward to embracing this new season together.



At Myers Park Covenant 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 Myers Park Covenant Church holds God as non-gender-specific; God's essence encompasses all.



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



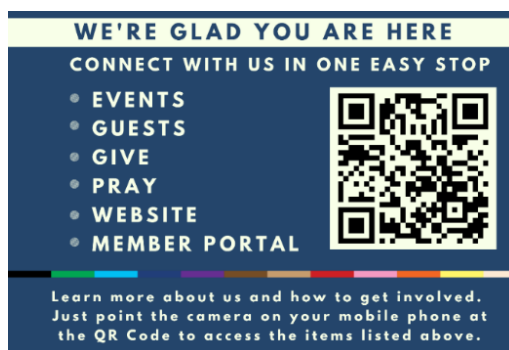
HOW TO JOIN MYERS PARK COVENANT CHURCH

Becoming a member of Myers Park Covenant Church 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.



O God of Every Nation

1 O God of ev - ery na - tion, of ev - ery race and land,
 2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
 3 Lord, strength-en those who la - bor that all may find re - lease
 4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,

re - deem the whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand.
 from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
 from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
 when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,

Where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
 from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
 when hope and cour - age fal - ter, your still small voice be heard;
 till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and jus - tice reign

in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
 de - liv - er ev - ery na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
 with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
 and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

If we truly believe that God cares for all people, we cannot limit our prayers and songs for peace to the welfare of our own nation, no matter how much we may love it. This challenging text is set to a stirring Welsh tune, named for a hamlet with a prominent Baptist chapel.

TEXT: William W. Reid Jr., 1958, alt.

MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; *Uwybrau Mollant*, 1872; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

Text © 1958, ren. 1986 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

LLANGLOFFAN

7.6.7.6.D

Our Covenant

We, the members of the Myers Park Covenant 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. Dr. Marina Luckhoo

Associate Minister
mluckhoo@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Dr. Tim Moore

Interim Senior Minister
tmoore@myersparkbaptist.org

David Tang

Interim Minister of Music and Worship
dtang@myersparkbaptist.org

704.334.7232

mpbc@myersparkbaptist.org

We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, August 16 Pride Sunday

9:45a-11:15a | Preschool Childcare | Cornwell Center
Childcare Room – Main Level

10a-11a | Worship | Sanctuary

12p-6p | Pride Booth | Charlotte Pride

1p-4p | Pride Parade | Meet in VAPA Center Parking
Lot (College & 11th Streets)

TUESDAY, August 18

10a-12p | Mahjong Open Play | Room 255

10a-12p | Creative Friends | Room 32

WEDNESDAY, August 19

11:30a-12:30p | Meditation | Zoom

5:30p-7p | Summer Hangout | Suffolk Punch
Southpark

THURSDAY, August 20

10a-12p | Cuppa Community | Amelie's at Park Rd

2p-4p | Mahjong Open Play | Room 255

7p-9p | Choir Rehearsal | Berry 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.

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