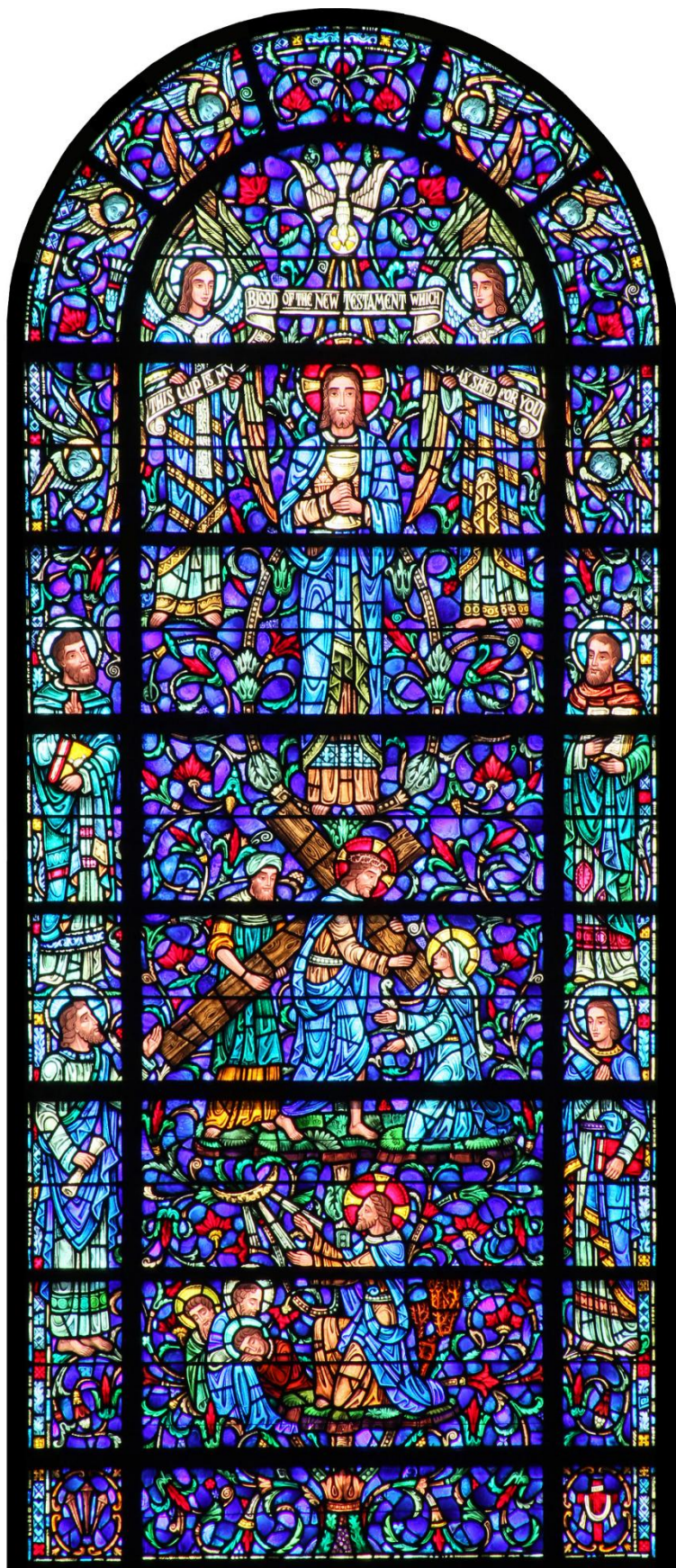




THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 23, 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

Nearer My God to Thee

BETHANY

Bluegrass Ensemble

Call to Worship

Marina Luckhoo

Leader: I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before all creation I sing your praise.

People: **We gather in this place to worship and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness.**

Leader: On the day I called, you answered me; you increased my strength of soul.

People: **All of the earth shall praise you, O LORD; they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is your glory.**

Leader: And when I walk in the midst of trouble, you stretch out your hand and guide me.

People: **The LORD will fulfill God’s purpose for me; your steadfast love, LORD, endures forever. Alleluia!**

[adapted from Psalm 138]

Invocation

*Opening Hymn No. 55: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

LOBE DEN HERREN

Joachim Neander, Trans. Catherine Winkworth

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:**

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]

Epistle Lesson – Romans 8:26-28 (NRSV)

Elaine Price-Hudson, Deacon

Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that in all things God works for good for those who love, who are called according to [God's] purpose.

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

“Everything Happens....”

Tim Moore

A Moment to Reflect

Sermon Response

Hard Times Come Again No More

Stephen Foster

Let us pause in life's pleasures and count its many tears
While we all sup sorrow with the poor
There's a song that will linger forever in our ears
Oh! Hard Times, come again no more

CHORUS:

'Tis the song, the sigh of the weary
Hard times, hard times, come again no more
Many days you have lingered around my cabin door
Oh! Hard Times, come again no more

While we seek mirth and beauty and music light and gay
There are frail forms fainting at the door
Though their voices are silent, their pleading looks will say
Oh! Hard Times, come again no more

[Instrumental]

'Tis a sigh that is wafted across the troubled wave,
'Tis a wall that is heard upon the shore,
'Tis a dirge that is murmured around the lowly grave,
Oh! Hard Times, come again no more.

[Chorus]

Bluegrass Ensemble

Ministry Moment

Paula Fricke, Ministry of Justice and Outreach

Invitation to Offering

Janet Miller, Life Deacon

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



Offertory

Music Note

The text of ***I Believe When He Is Silent*** was scratched into the wall of an underground bunker system that had been used as a hiding place for fugitives from the Nazi regime. The bunker system was part of a network of safe havens in Cologne, Germany, created and operated by the equivalent of our Boy Scouts. It is said that one of nine Jewish fugitives, who hid in the bunkers for four months, scratched the words on the wall. Kim André Arnesen set to music an English mistranslation of the original poem, which significantly changes the poet's words. The original is printed below.

Even When He Is Silent

Anonymous, Kim André Arnesen

I believe in the sun even when it's not shining.
 I believe in love even when I feel it not.
 I believe in God even when He is silent.

Vocal Ensemble

ORIGINAL WORDS

*Ich glaube an die Sonne, sei es auch dunkel,
 I believe in the sun, even in the darkness,
 ich glaube an Gott, mag er auch schweigen,
 I believe in God, even if God is silent,
 ich glaube an Nächstenliebe, obwohl sie ich nirgends zeigen darf.
 I believe in compassion, even when it must remain hidden.*

***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**

Janet Miller, Life Deacon

***Closing Hymn: "Amazing Grace"**

NEW BRITAIN
 John Newton

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
 that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found,
 was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

[Instrumental]

Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come:
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.

***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

Voluntary Festiva in G

Martin Ellis

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

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



We welcome today's guest Bluegrass Ensemble:
Glen Alexander, fiddle; Chase Killough, guitar; Brandi Nolish, cello; Jim Brock, percussion

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.

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 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 23

9:45a-12p | Preschool Childcare | Cornwell Center
Childcare Room – Main Level

10a-11a | Worship | Sanctuary

11:15a-12:15p | Sermon Talk Back | Heaton Hall

11:15a-12p | Elementary Sunday School | Room 210

11:15a-12:15p | Senior Minister Search Committee
Meeting | Conference Room

WEDNESDAY, August 26

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

FRIDAY, August 28

Greenway Bike Group Meets-if interested contact
Paula Fricke at frickepj@aol.com

7p-9p | Ready, Set, Sing! Choir Retreat | Berry Hall

SATURDAY, August 29

9:30a-12p | Ready, Set, Sing! Choir Retreat | Berry
Hall

4p-6p | Ready, Set, Sing! Choir Retreat | Berry Hall

7:30p – 8:30p | Choir Talent Show and Open Mic
Night

*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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