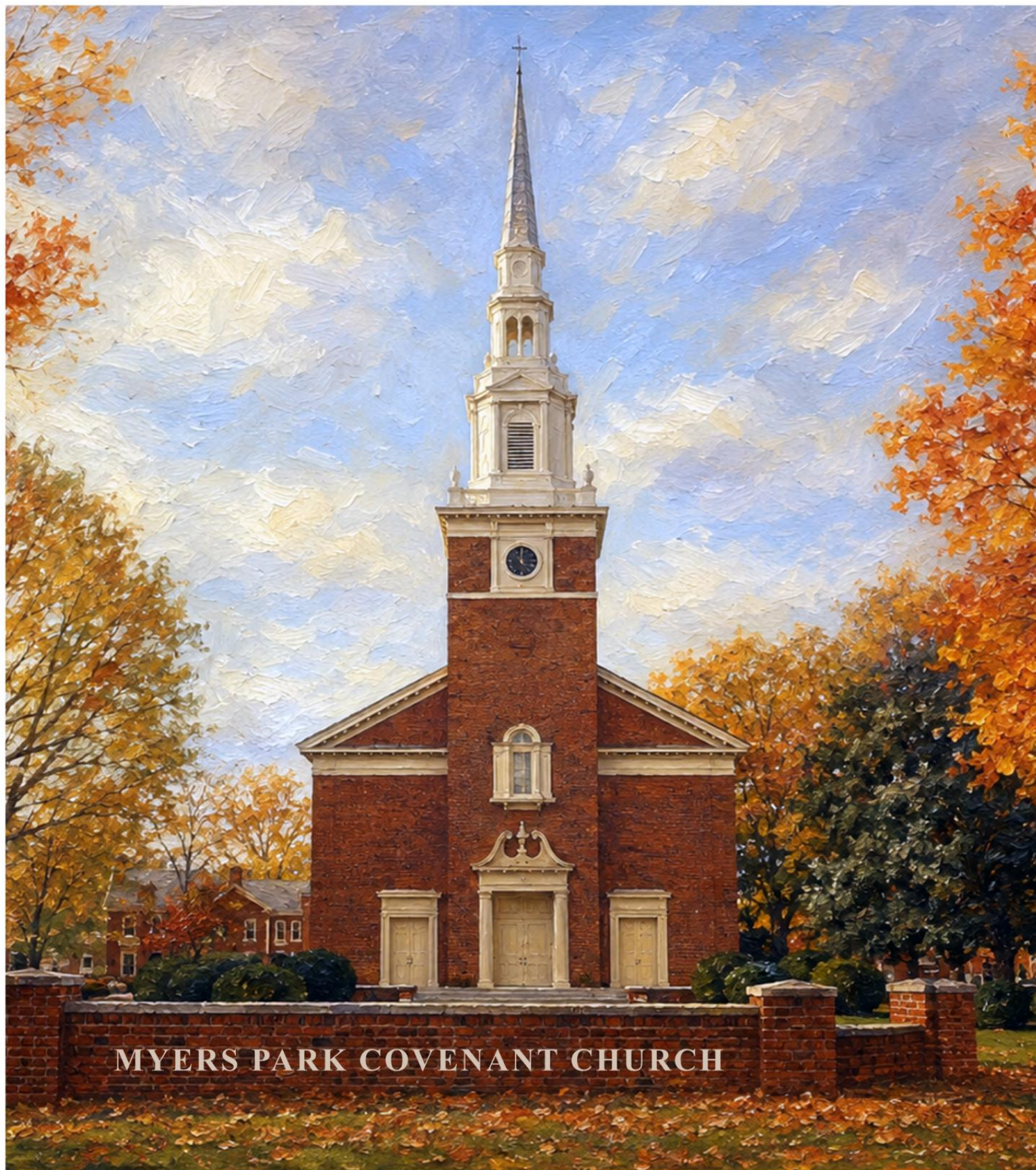




The Worship of God

The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 20, 2026 | 10:00 a.m.

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

Chapel Meditation

Phil Lehenbauer

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist

Call to Worship

Dane Jordan

Leader: If there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete.

People: **Be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.**

Leader: Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

People: **Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.**

Leader: We come to worship, gracious God, to praise you and to seek our own transformation.

People: **May we worship you in this sanctuary and by the way we live our lives this week.**

[adapted from Philippians 2]

Invocation

*Opening Hymn No. 42: “Praise The Lord, God’s Glories Show”

LLANFAIR

Henry Francis Lyte

Welcome

Marina Luckhoo

*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]

A Responsive Affirmation of Faith

Dane Jordan

This we know, the earth does not belong to us,

We belong to the earth.

This we know, all things are connected,

Like the genes that unite one family.

This we know, we did not weave the web of life,

We are merely a strand in it.

This we know, whatever we do to the web,

We do to ourselves.

Let us give thanks for the gift of creation,

Let us give thanks that all things hold together in Christ.

O God, bless us with...

The moon that is above us,

the earth that is beneath us,

the friends who are around us,

your image deep within us.

Amen

* The Affirmation of Faith was adapted from *Iona Abbey Worship Book*.

Epistle Lesson – Romans 13:8-10 (NRSV)

Jesmark Garcia

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

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.**

Music

Shalom

John 14:27; Dan Forrest

Peace. Peace. Shalom. Shalom.

Peace I leave with you, peace I give to you:

Peace. Peace. Shalom. (repeat)

Shalom, my peace I give to you, shalom, shalom;

Shalom, my peace I give to you,

Peace. Peace. Shalom.

Peace I leave with you, peace I give to you:

Peace. Peace. Shalom. (repeat)

Not as this world gives, I give to you,
Do not be afraid.
Shalom, Shalom, my peace I give to you,
Shalom, shalom;

Shalom, shalom, I give to you, Peace,
(Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you, Peace, Peace.)

Shalom. Shalom. Shalom, shalom,
My peace I give you,
Peace. Peace. Peace. Shalom.

McKenzie Coleman-Hailey, soprano; Jarret Ward, baritone;
Dr. Matthew Manwarren, piano

Sermon

“Being Neighbors in an Age of Division”

Rev. Dr. LeDayne Polaski

A Moment to Reflect

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

Nancy Hudson, Deacon Chair

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



Offertory

Flute Solo

Thomas Arne

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**

Nancy Hudson, Deacon Chair

***Closing Hymn No. 226: "Christ for the World We Sing"**

ITALIAN HYMN
Samuel Wolcott

***Responding to the Word**

Marina Luckhoo

Benediction

Rev. Dr. LeDayne Polaski

Postlude

Festival Fanfare on Italian Hymn

Phil Lehenbauer

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organist

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



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



Audio/Video Team Members are Wes Cobb, Joe Kuhlmann,
Hannah Combs, and Eric Roberts.

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 new logo is made up of a “mark,” the new church name and a tag line.

The mark is inspired by the compass star in Heaton Hall. The entwined compass rose and circle represent directional points that evoke guidance and vision. The four points play two roles: creating an abstract cross and calling out the four pillars of Myers Park Covenant Church: spirituality, inclusivity, community and justice.

The design is symmetrical and looping, always connected, much as Myers Park Covenant Church is connected to the community and its journey of faith. The tagline’s role is to quickly show MPCOV’s identity and ties to the Covenant. PROGRESSIVE FAITH. WORKING FOR JUSTICE.



Our Name Change to Myers Park Covenant Church

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.



We are affiliated with
allianceofbaptists.org

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

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.

GET INVOLVED AT MPCOVENANT

NEXT WEEK

WED, Sept 23	12pm Fall Taizé Prayer Service Chapel
THU, Sept 24	2pm Mahjong Open Play Room 255 (Education Bldg Upstairs) 7pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal Berry Hall
FRI, Sept 25	9am Greenway Biking Group Contact Paula Fricke for Location

COMING SOON

SUN, Sept 27	9am – 12pm Childcare (Birth – 5 years) Cornwell Center Childcare Room 10am Worship Sanctuary 11:15am Spiritual Growth for all ages Adults: Unlikely Saints – Room 250 Queeries – Room 254 The Journey Begins – Parlor Youth (Grades 6-12) Youth Hall Children (Grades K-5) Godly Play Room 211 4:00 pm Youth Fellowship Youth Hall
---------------------	--

SAVE THESE DATES

SAT, Oct 3	9:30am Sister Act Sage-ing Trip Flat Rock Theater
TUES, Oct 6	12pm Sage-ing Lunch Heaton Hall
SAT, Oct 10	9:30am Sage-ing Retreat Heaton Hall
SAT, Oct 17	3-8pm Community Fall Festival Front Lawn of the Cornwell Center