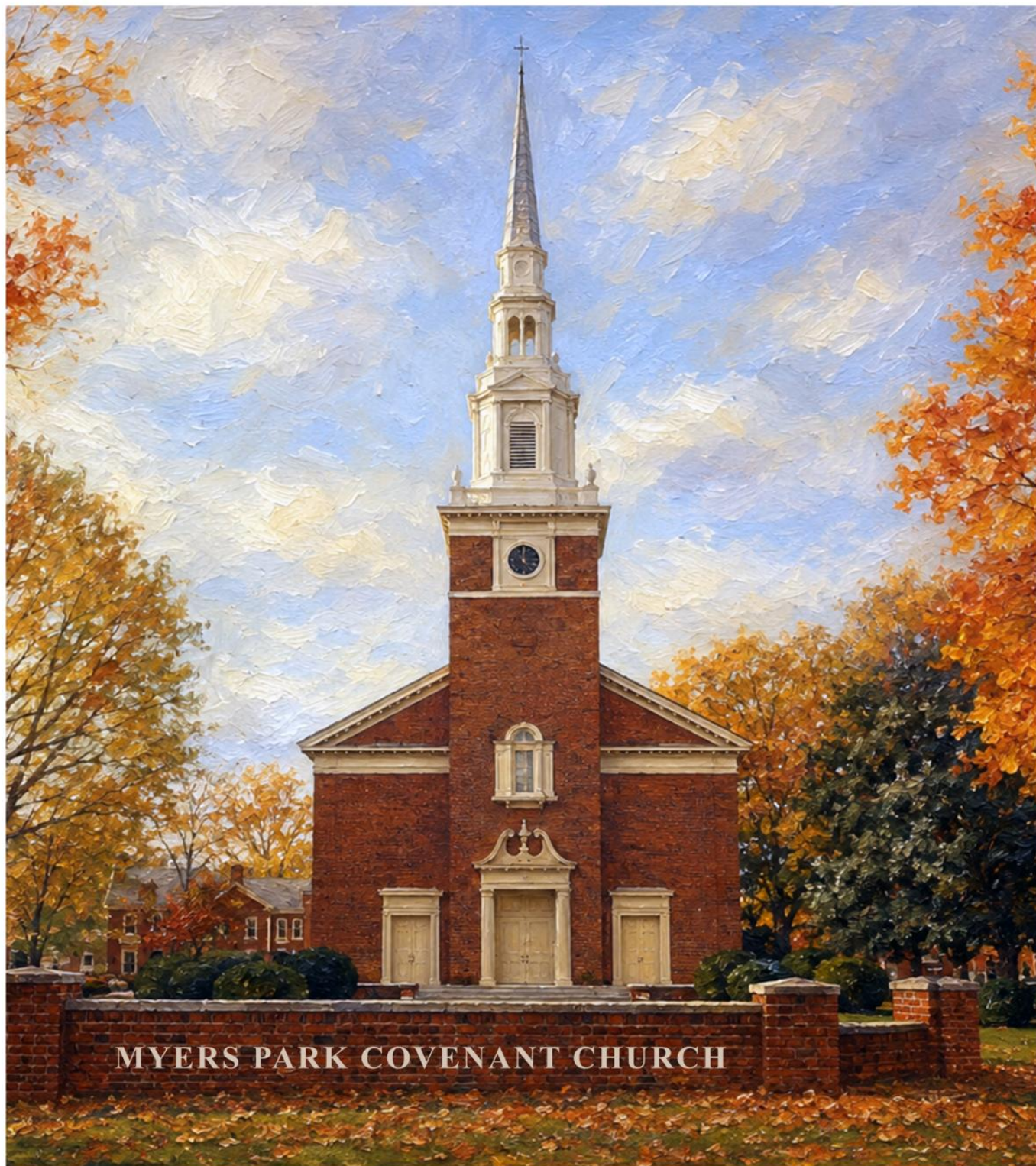




THE WORSHIP OF GOD

THE TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 18, 2026

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.**

Prelude

Chaconne in e minor

Dietrich Buxtehude

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

Call to Worship

Marina Luckhoo

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

People: Sing to the LORD; bless God’s holy name; tell of God’s salvation from day to day.

Leader: For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; for the LORD made heaven and earth.

People: Worship the LORD, stand in awe of God’s gifts of life and love, all the earth.

Leader: Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar and all that fills it.

People: Praise the LORD for God’s steadfast love endures forever.

[adapted from Psalm 96]

Invocation

*Opening Hymn | No. 47

“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH

Attr. Ignaz Franz; Trans Clarence Walworth

Welcome

Tim Moore

If you are our guest today, please scan the QR code below.



*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

*Sing

“I’m glad I’m Yours Lord”

Traditional Haitian Creole

**I’m glad I’m yours Lord, so glad I’m yours.
I’m glad your mercies have followed me
I’m glad you found me and set me free
I’m glad I’m yours Lord, so glad I’m yours**

The Prayer of Confession

Marina Luckhoo

**Almighty God, by whose power the world came to be, hear our prayer,
for we have misunderstood and misused power.**

**We confess that all too often we have used our power
to silence those with whom we disagree,
and to exclude those we fear.**

**Forgive us for seeing power as a weapon to be used against enemies
rather than as a tool to create justice for all.**

**Forgive us for the times when we give away our power too cheaply;
when we stand idly by in the face of injustice,
or when we silence our voices instead of speaking truth.**

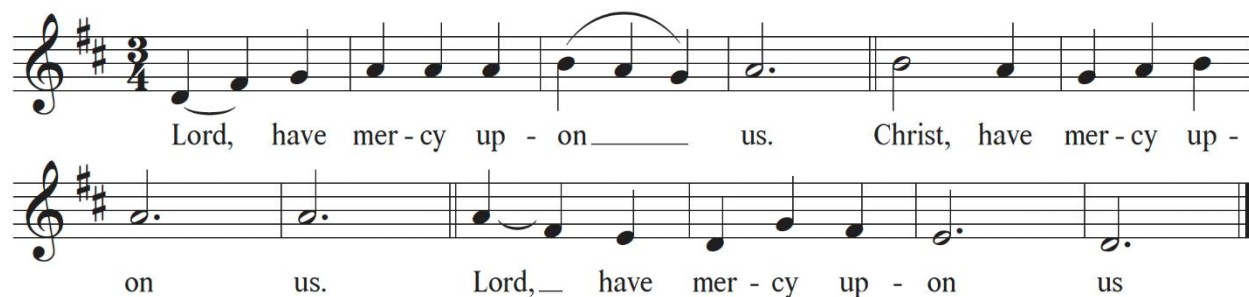
**Show us how to use our power in ways that connect people, lift up
those who are down and honor the pathway of Jesus.**

Help us to live what we believe. In Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen

[adapted from *Be Thou Present*, by Peggy Haymes]

The Silent Confession

The Kyrie Eleison



The Assurance of Pardon

"If we confess our sins, [the one] who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." [1 John 1:9]

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 22:15–22 (NRSVU)

Michaela Donovan

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

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

"Is It Lawful to Pay Taxes?"

Still, we also hear your teaching: "Give to God what God is due."
May no ruler — overreaching — try to take the place of you.
May we listen to your message, may we honor what is yours;
May we, living in your image, seek your kingdom that endures.

BEACH SPRING
Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

Sermon

"We Have a Greater Allegiance"

Tim Moore

A Moment to Reflect

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.**

Ministry Moment and Invitation to Offering

Dale Mullennix, Stewardship Committee

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



Offertory

"Laß mein Herz die Münze sein" from Cantata BWV 163 "Nur jedem das Seine" (To each his own),

Laß mein Herz die Münze sein

Salomon Franck; Johann Sebastian Bach

Let my heart be the coin

die ich dir, mein Jesu, steure!

that I pay you!

Ist sie gleich nicht allzu rein,

If it is at first far from pure,

Ach, so komm doch und erneure,

ah, then come and renew,

Herr, den schönen Glanz bei ihr!

Lord, its fine gleam!

Komm, arbeite, schmelz und präge,

Come, work on it, melt it and stamp it,

dass dein Ebenbild bei mir

so that your image in me,

ganz erneuert glänzen möge!

completely renewed, may shine forth!

Zachary Hugo, baritone; Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ;

Jeremy Lamb, Sarah Markle, Marlene Ballena, cellos

***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**

Dane Jordan

***Closing Hymn | see pg. 7 | stanzas 1, 4, 5, and 6**

HENDON

"Take My Life, And Let It Be"

Frances Ridley Havergal

***Responding to the Word**

Tim Moore

***Benediction**

Postlude

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Paul Manz

Dr. Matthew Manwarren, organ

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



OUR MINISTERS

Rev. Dane Jordan, Interim Minister of Youth | djordan@mpcovenant.org

Rev. Dr. Marina Luckhoo, Associate Minister | mluckhoo@mpcovenant.org

Rev. Dr. Tim Moore, Interim Senior Minister | tmoore@mpcovenant.org

David Tang, Interim Minister of Music and Worship | dtang@mpcovenant.org



Audio/Video Team : Wes Cobb, Joe Kuhlmann,
Hannah Combs, Eric Roberts, and Jesmark Garcia.



We welcome today's guest musicians:

Marlene Ballena

Jeremy Lamb

Sarah Markle

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



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@mpcovenant.org



MYERS PARK
COVENANT
CHURCH

PROGRESSIVE FAITH  WORKING FOR JUSTICE

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

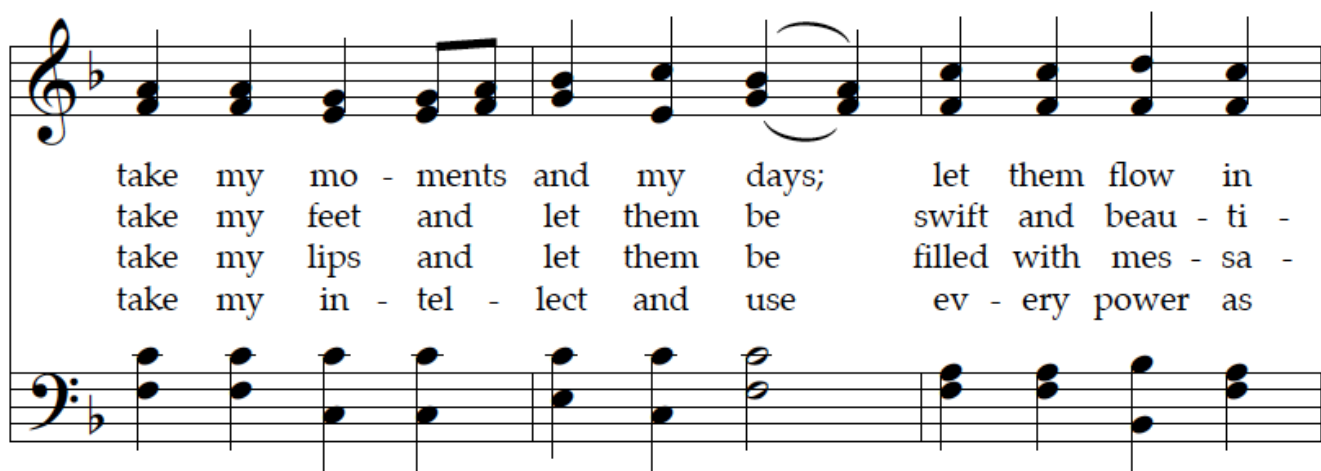
The mark is inspired by the compass star in Heaton Hall. The entwined compass rose and circle represent directional points that evoke guidance and vision. The four points play two roles: creating an abstract cross and calling out the four pillars of Myers Park Covenant Church: spirituality, inclusivity,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

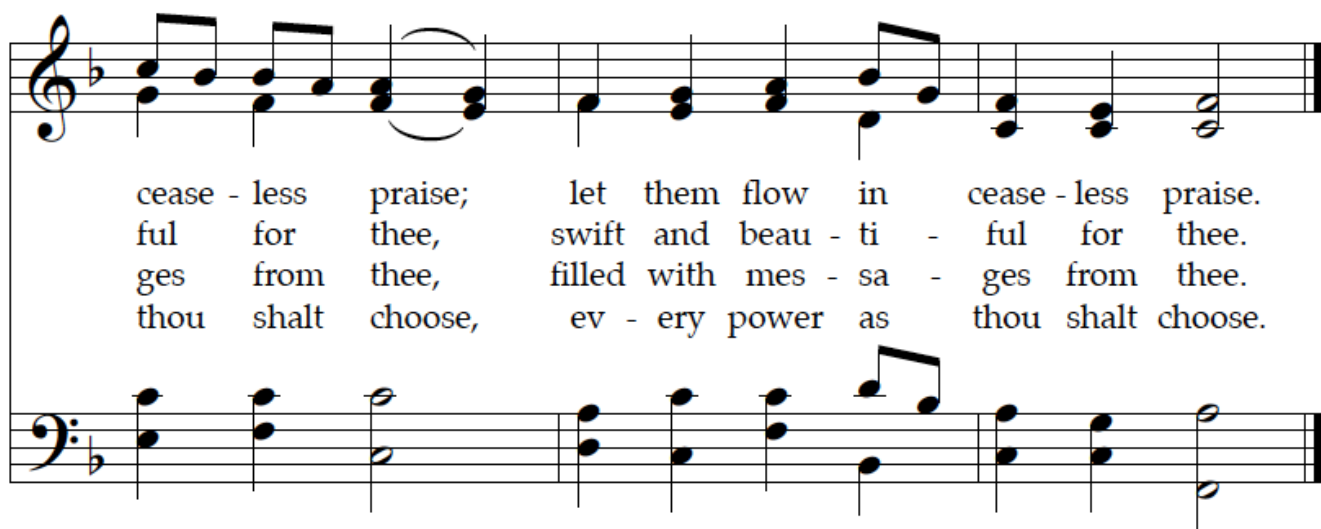
Take My Life



1 Take my life and let it be con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al-ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with-hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as



cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.
 thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
 it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own;
 it shall be thy royal throne,
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself and I will be
 ever, only, all for thee,
 ever, only, all for thee.

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, Oct 21	11:30am Just Breathe Meditation Online 5pm Wednesday Supper Connections with Grey Seal Puppets Heaton Hall
THU, Oct 22	7pm Choir Rehearsal Berry Hall
FRI, Oct 23	9am Greenway Biking Group If interested email frickepj@aol.com

COMING SOON

SUN, Oct 25	9am – 12pm Childcare (Birth – 5 years) Cornwell Center Childcare Room 9am Faith and Community Coffee Hour Parlor 10am Worship Sanctuary 11:15am Spiritual Growth for all ages Adults: Conversations About Jesus and Christian Fellowship Series with Stephen Shoemaker Jesus Stories and Our Ceremony of Love – Heaton Hall Youth (Grades 6–12) Youth Hall Children (Grades K–5) Godly Play Room 211 4:30 pm Youth Fellowship Youth Hall
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SAVE THESE DATES

SUN, Nov 1	All Saints' Sunday
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