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.

Prelude
“Away in a Manger” CRADLE SONG

Call to Worship
Rev. Mia M. McClain

Opening Song
“Light at the Stable” Steven Rhymer, Elizabeth Rhymer

Welcome of Our Guests
Rev. Carrie Veal

If you are our guest today, please text “guest” to 474747 so we may offer you our gratitude for joining us today.

Hebrew Scripture Reading – Genesis 16:7-16 (NRSV adapted) Rev. Joseph D. Aldrich

The angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the way to Shur. And he said, “Hagar, servant-girl of Sarai, where have you come from and where are you going?” She said, “I am running away from my mistress Sarai.” The angel of the Lord said to her, “Return to your mistress, and submit to her.” The angel of the Lord also said to her, “I will so greatly multiply your offspring that they cannot be counted for multitude.” And the angel of the Lord said to her, “Now you have conceived and shall bear a son; you shall call him Ishmael, for the Lord has given heed to your affliction. He shall be a wild ass of a man, with his hand against everyone, and everyone’s hand against him; and he shall live at odds with all his kin.”

So she named the Lord who spoke to her, “You are El-roi”; for she said, “Have I really seen God and remained alive?” Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it lies between Kadesh and Bered. Hagar bore Abram a son; and Abram named his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

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.

Song
“Who Do You Think” Don Reid, Harold Reid

Sharing Our Gifts

Gifts to “Loose Plate Offering” will benefit the Ministry of Outreach partners.
Song
“Mary, Did You Know?”
Buddy Greene

Sermon
“The Woman at the Well”
Rev. Mia M. McClain

Song
“It Wasn’t His Child”
Skip Ewing

Church at Prayer
Rev. Joseph D. Aldrich

Song
“Beautiful Star of Bethlehem”
BEAUTIFUL STAR

Benediction
Rev. Mia M. McClain

Leading worship today with Rev. Mia M. McClain, Associate Minister, are Rev. Carrie Veal, Minister of Children and Community Life, and Rev. Joseph D. Aldrich, Associate Minister.

Leading worship through music are Dr. Matt Caine, Minister of Music and Worship, and Darin and Brooke Aldridge and Friends.

 решил быстрее задать вопрос на фото
THEOLOGY OF WORSHIP

Why do we worship?
Worship at Myers Park Baptist is the gathering of a diverse, intergenerational, ecumenical community of faith, celebrating God’s active and timeless presence in the world. In worship, God re-forms our hearts, minds and bodies, and ignites our imaginations with sacred stories—stories that invite us to question, explore mystery, express joy and grief, and deepen our faith. We worship to learn how to develop caring, empowering relationships with each other, and to stay centered in God as the world swirls around us. We worship to be inspired and prepared to exemplify the compassion and justice of Jesus in our church family and in the world. Through worship, God frees and transforms us in heart, mind and body, so we can make a difference within ourselves, in our relationships and in our community.

How do we worship?
Focusing on God, worship at Myers Park Baptist unfolds consistently with the Isaiah 6 scriptural model: praise, confession, pardon, calling to respond, commitment and sending out. All our worship services are built on this ancient structural form, regardless of worship style, venue or theme. Communal practices within worship — radical hospitality, confession and assurance of pardon, passing the peace, silence and listening, spirited hymn singing, presentations of gifts, and active participation in Communion—transform worshipers into newness with God and one another. Themes for services, based on lectionary scriptures, annually portray the narrative arc of God’s redeeming love for humankind.

HOW TO JOIN MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

Becoming a member of Myers Park Baptist is as easy as filling out a Joining Card. To receive a card or learn more, stop by the Welcome Table in Heaton Hall Foyer.

MOBILE GIVING

You can now text your contributions and offerings to MPBC! It is secure, simple, and efficient:
• Start a new text message to phone number 77977.
• In the message of the text, enter giveMPBC (not case-sensitive).
• The system will return a message to you; click on the link provided and follow the instructions.
• You will then receive a receipt to confirm your gift was received. It is that simple!

Questions? Contact Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman, Church Administrator, at 704.334.7232 x116 or lhagerman@myersparkbaptist.org
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 God’s 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 to nurture this Church as a community of faith and as an instrument for reconciliation in this 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. Dr. W. Benjamin Boswell  
Senior Minister | bboswell@myersparkbaptist.org

Dr. Matt Caine  
Minister of Music and Worship | mcaine@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Joseph D. Aldrich  
Associate Minister | jaldrich@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Mia M. McClain  
Associate Minister | mmclain@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman  
Church Administrator | lhagerman@myersparkbaptist.org

Rev. Carrie Veal  
Minister of Children and Community Life | cveal@myersparkbaptist.org

John Richardson  
Organist | jrichardson@myersparkbaptist.org

Charlotte C. Judge  
Associate Director of Music | cjudge@myersparkbaptist.org

Allen Davis  
Director of Youth Ministry | adavis@myersparkbaptist.org

Pamela Handon  
Director of the Cornwall Center | phandon@cornwellcenter.org

Belinda Geuss  
Director of Through-The-Week School | bgeuss@myersparkbaptist.org

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