OPEN TO ALL

MYERS PARK
BAPTIST
CHURCH

Inclusivity | Spirituality | Community | Justice

The Worship of God

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2019 | 6:00p
THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

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.

Gluten-free communion wafers are available in the Narthex and at each Communion station.

The Silent Meditation

In our lives we are familiar with disturbing sounds, unprovoked rages and savage dreams, and often there is little to say, particularly for people who have tedious jobs, who pack our food on production lines, who deliver our parcels or clean up our streets. But occasionally, we may experience those the moments when the veil is drawn back from our eyes and we see the great wonder of our being. We cannot explain that mysterious surge of sweet joy that lasts for only a moment before we return to our humdrum lives, but it is often an unforgettable and incomprehensible moment of pure grace. These strange moments remind us that God is always around us and in us, and our part is to prepare an opening for God who may be seen or unseen, but who wants to irradiate us and will only be constrained by our own refusal.

—Linda Richardson

The child we seek
doesn't need our gold.
On love, on love alone
he will build his kingdom.
His pierced hand will hold no scepter;
his haloed head will wear no crown.
His might will not be built
on your toil.

Swifter than lightning
he will soon walk among us;
he will bring us new life,
and receive our death.
And the keys to his city
belong to the poor.

—Gian Carlo Menotti
from Amahl and the Night Visitors

The Music of Christmas (5:30p)

“Largo,” Chamber Concerto in D, RV 93  
Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)  
John Richardson, organ

Impromptu, Op. 142, No. 2
Franz Schubert (1797-1828)  
Matthew Ganong, piano

“Quia respexit,” Magnificat, BWV 243  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)  
Bethany Wherry, soprano; John Richardson, piano

Aria for flute and piano
Jacques Ibert (1890-1962)  
Liselyn Adams, flute; Janice Bradner, piano

“Aria,” Sonata duodecima
Giovanni Battista Martini (1706-1784)  
John Richardson, organ

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)  
Matthew Ganong, piano

Pastorale
Domenico Zipoli (1688-1726)  
John Richardson, organ

Ding Dong, Merrily on High  
arr. Douglas Brooks-Davies  
Liselyn Adams, flute; Janice Bradner, piano
The Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

The Introit
Chancel Choir
Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest! And on earth peace, goodwill to all.

*The Procession and Opening of the Bible
Chancel Choir

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

*The Procession and Opening of the Bible
Chancel Choir

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” MENDELSSOHN

*Lighting of the Christ Candle
Maria and Elaine Goode
with Odhrán

Leader: A trumpet blares through the silent night!
A new song heralds the coming light!

People: Let us sing the new song,
let us turn to the light,
let us build a new earth,
let us celebrate new life!

Leader: Let the sea’s deep rumble make the sky tremble!
Let the field’s high chanting make the clouds dance!

All: Let us sing the new song,
let us turn to the light,
let us build a new earth,
let us celebrate new life!

(Lighting the Christ Candle.)

People: (singing)
GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.

THE PEOPLE CONFESS AND RECEIVE FORGIVENESS

*Passing of the Peace

Welcome of Our Guests
Mia M. McClain

If you are our guest today, please text “guest” to 474747 or fill out a guest card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate during worship as your gift to us.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED AND HEARD

Greg Mayer

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.
In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”

So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Sermon Carol  
Number 110  
ANTIOCH

“Joy to the World”

Christmas Meditation  
Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell

“Where Will You Stand?”

Solo  
Buddy Green (Contemporary)

“Mary Did You Know”

Mary did you know, that your ancient words would still leap off our pages?  
The truth will teach, the drum will sound, healing for the pain.

Mary did you know, that your spirit song would echo through the ages?  
The poor will rise, the rich will fall. Hope will live again.

Did you know that your holy cry would be subversive word,  
Mary did you know, that we hear your voice for the healing of the nations?

that the tyrants would be trembling when they know your truth is heard?  
Mary did you know, your unsettling cry can help renew creation?

Did you know that your lullaby would stir your own Child’s passion?  
Do you know, that we need your faith, the confidence of you,

Mary did you know, that your song inspires the work of liberation?  
May the God that you believe in, be so true.

Mary did you know, that your Jubilee is hope within the heart of all who dream of justice, who yearn for it to start?  
–Lyrics by Jennifer Henry, inspired by the popular song of the same name

Mia M. McClain, Mezzo Soprano

Church at Prayer  
Rev. Joseph D. Aldrich
Christmas Offering

*Mobile giving* is available – see page 8.

*All gifts* this evening will benefit the MPBC Sunshine Fund (The Church Benevolence Fund).

Offertory Anthem  

**“Before the Marvel of This Night”**

Before the marvel of this night adoring, fold your wings and bow;  
Then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow.  
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease:  
Sing peace, sing gift of peace!

Awake the sleeping world with song, this is the day the Lord has made.  
Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed.  
Give earth a glimpse of heavenly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss:  
Sing bliss, sing endless bliss!

The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,  
Now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night.  
Into one song compress the love that rules our universe above:  
Sing love, sing God is love!

*Doxology*  

See him in the manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Prayer of Dedication  

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

Gluten free Communion wafers are available in the Narthex and at each Communion station.  
You are invited to come forward to receive Communion. Two central stations will serve the center aisle.  
Side aisles will each be served at the front of your aisle. The balcony will be served in the balcony.  
Before returning to your seat, please deposit empty juice cups in one of the baskets.  
If you prefer to receive Communion at your seat, please indicate by raising your hand so you may be served.

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer  

Our God 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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup
Music at Communion

“O Holy Night”  Adolphe Adam (1803-1856)

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,  Truly he taught us to love one another;
it is the night of our dear Savior's birth;  his law is love and his gospel is peace;
long lay the world in sin and error pining  chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother,
'til he appeared and the soul felt his worth.  and in his name all oppression shall cease.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  let all within us praise his holy name!
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!  Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!  O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Bethany Wherry, soprano  Chancel Choir

This Christmas Night  Malcolm Williamson (1931-2003)

How sweet and clear above the sounds of war the clamorous bells are pealing their delight!
The angels sing of glory, as they soar among the man-made stars, this Christmas night.
And, once again, with spices and with gold, three kings are riding through the sparkling snow
to this poor lodging in the bitter cold where Mary kneels within the lantern glow
to watch her baby lying in the hay, and think about the wonder of His birth;
And as he sleeps to hold his hands and pray for peace to come upon this troubled earth.

Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, O God,
that you have come to us through Jesus the Christ,
both in the midst of time and history,
and in the timeless presence of Christ’s spirit
as we receive the gifts of bread and wine.
Send us out into the world rejoicing,
enabled to share your love with all people we meet;
through the grace of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

The Hebrew Scripture – Isaiah 9:2-7 (NRSV adapted)  Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a
land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. You have multiplied the
nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the
harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and
the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on
the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments
rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his
shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting
Protector, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall
be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and
uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and
forevermore.

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.

Lighting of the Candles
*Carol with Candlelight*

“Silent night, holy night!”

STILLE NACHT

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
round yon Virgin mother and child, holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing: Alleluia.
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born. Christ the Savior is born.

THE COMMUNITY IS SENT INTO THE WORLD FOR MINISTRY

*Christmas Benediction*  
Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell

The congregation extinguishes their candles.  
The greeters will receive your candles as you leave.

Postlude  
“Magnificat: Gloria”  
Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

Leading worship this evening with Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell, Senior Minister,  
are Rev. Joseph D. Aldrich, Associate Minister,  
Mia M. McClain, Associate Minister,  
Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman, Church Administrator,  
and Greg Mayer, Member of the Congregation.

The Chancel Choir leads worship through music with  
Dr. Matt Caine, Minister of Music and Worship,  
Charlotte C. Judge, Associate Director of Music,  
John Richardson, Organist,  
Matthew Ganong, Pianist,  
Mia M. McClain, Associate Minister,  
and Bethany Wherry, Soprano.

The acolytes are Annie Odom, William Campbell and Elliott Campbell.

The sound technician is Eric Roberts. The webcast technician is Seph Rackley.

The poinsettias on the altar are given to the glory of God  
by the W. Frank Dowd, Jr. family and the Roddey Dowd, Sr. family in loving memory of  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Frank Dowd, Sally Carson Dowd, W. Frank Dowd Jr. (III) and Roddey Dowd, Sr.
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 the Narthex.

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 73256.
- In the message of the text, enter 1900Q, a space, and the amount you want to give (i.e., 1900Q 100).
- The system will return a message to you; click on the link provided and follow instructions.
- You will then receive a receipt to confirm your gift was received. It is that simple!
- Next time, since your setup is already done – just text “1900Q, a space, then amount you wish to give” to 73256.

Questions? Contact Rev. Leigh Anne Hagerman, Church Administrator, at 704.334.7232 x116 or lhagerman@myersparkbaptist.org
Welcome. We're glad you're here.

If you are our guest, we'd love to hear a little about you!

- text “guest!” to 474747 OR
- fill out a guest card located in the pew rack. Simply return the
guest card in the offering plates during worship as your gift to us.
If you would like to learn more, stop by the Welcome Table in the
Narthex after worship to speak with one of us.

WEEKLY NEWS
December 30, 2019 - January 5, 2020

FEARLESS GENEROSITY
FINISH STRONG

MPBC is a bold, dynamic church striving to make a difference in the lives of our members and our community. But we can't do it alone. We need your help in keeping our tradition going strong. From nurturing our littlest ones to know that God loves them, to helping our youth discover their gifts and navigate a difficult world, to helping our adults deal with the transitions and complexities of life ... we are here to make ourselves, our community, and our world better. The financial gifts we offer to God through Myers Park Baptist are what makes our impact so far-reaching. Every gift makes a difference. To ensure we finish the year strong, fulfill our financial commitments, and ensure a strong start to 2020, consider how you can help - by fulfilling your pledge, and perhaps increasing your generosity as we look toward the close of the year. It's not too late to make a stock gift, finish your 2019 financial commitment, or prepay one for 2020 in time to get a 2019 tax deduction. Checks must be postmarked December 31 and received in the Finance Office by January 10. Stock gifts must be communicated to our office by December 30. To make a stock gift, call us at 704.334.7234 or make a gift via credit card through our website.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMASTIDE
Jazz Worship in the Round
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2019
11:00a in Heaton Hall
(Faith Formation classes will not meet)

We hope you will join us for this casual service in Heaton Hall. Mia McClain will preach "The Year of the Dragon" based on Revelation 12. Our favorite jazz ensemble will provide festive music.

LET'S MAKE HISTORY
TOGETHER FOR MPBC!
Everyone can take part in spreading our message.

We need your help to spread the word about our new marketing campaign. Our goal is to start a conversation about our church's identity that reframes how people think about
what it means to be a Baptist, a church, and a religious community in Myers Park. Our members and friends will always be our best advertisers and marketers. Statistics show that even in our highly technological world, word of mouth remains the most powerful tool for church growth. Please support our new campaign by sharing the messages from our Facebook page on your own social media. Bring a friend with you to church. Join us in spreading the excitement about our church with the community and help us make history.

**ROOM IN THE INN**

**Be Part of This Heartwarming Outreach Opportunity**

**EVERY MONDAY & SATURDAY**
**DECEMBER 2 - MARCH 30**

Every Monday and Saturday night, December through March, we host 14 of our homeless neighbors: men, women, children and/or families. Volunteers set up and make beds, drive the church van with our neighbors to and from the Urban Ministry Center, make/serve/share an evening meal, serve as overnight hosts, make sack lunches and provide hospitality for those who have no place to call home. Learn more and volunteer through our website.

**Advent or Apocalypse?**

**A MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH PODCAST SERIES**

**What is Advent?**
What do the colors of the candles mean?  
Why are the scriptures in the lectionary so daunting?  
Aren’t we supposed be talking about the birth of Jesus?

Join Rev. Ben Boswell, Mia McClain, and Rev. Carrie Veal as they explore this sacred time of Advent amidst the commercialized Christmas chaos. They'll be putting pop culture references in conversation with the revelatory lectionary passages that hint at a different kind of hope free from the fetters of end-of-the-year sales and obsessive gift-giving. In this dialogue, they hope to carve out a truer meaning of Christmas at what feels like the end of the world. All 3 episodes of this series plus a bonus episode are available on our website and iTunes.

**BENEFIT MPBC WHILE YOU SHOP ONLINE**

Amazon smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

All you Amazon shoppers can help raise money for MPBC simply by shopping through Amazon Smile instead. It is exactly the same shopping experience. The only difference is that the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to MPBC! It's that easy! Here is the link to the MPBC charity https://smile.amazon.com/ch/56-0529959.
10 - POUND CHALLENGE

Jan 6 - Mar 31
Need motivation to lose weight?
We are in this together!

Everyone who loses 10-lbs will have their $10 registration fee refunded. If success is not achieved by all participants, those who do lose 10-lbs will split the total registration amount collected for the challenge. Weigh-ins will be done at the Cornwall Front Desk. Weigh-in dates are:

First | January 6-8
Mid-Program | February 19-20 (optional)
Final | March 30-31

Join the fun and get off to a health-focused start for the new year! Please register and pay at the Cornwall Center Front Desk.

HERE'S A LOOK AT WHAT IS COMING

Navigating Series and Joining

Want to know more about MPBC?
Join our next series:

DATES
Sundays | January 12, 19, 26,
Joining Sunday | February 2
TIME
9:45 - 10:45a
PLACE
Parlor

LOOKING AHEAD AT GUEST PREACHERS IN 2020

Dr. Jonathan Walton | January 12
Author, preacher, professor, and incoming Dean of Wake Forest Divinity School.

Dr. Amy Meverden | January 26
Professor of biblical Hebrew and Greek, and New Testament studies at Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York.

Dr. Jim Wallis | February 9
New York Times bestselling author, founder of Sojourners, public theologian, renowned speaker, and regular international commentator on ethics and public life.

Sonya Rene Taylor | February 23
Poet, author, activist and Founder and Radical Executive Officer of The Body is Not an Apology

Dr. Norman Wirzba | April 19
Author, ecologist and the Gilbert T. Rowe Distinguished Professor of Christian Theology, at Duke Divinity School.

Mid-Day Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays | Jan 8 & 22, Feb 5 & 29, Mar 4 & 18, Apr 1, 15 & 29, May 13 & 27 | 1-2:30p | Parlor

Music, laughter and snow? This January, youth in grades 6-12 will retreat to the Kanuga Conference Center in the North Carolina mountains for a fun weekend of community building as we share and learn together. We will have small and large group sessions with plenty of free time throughout. All youth are encouraged to attend. Scholarships are available if needed. Contact Allen Davis for more details. The cost is $200 | discount available if you sign up for the Church-Wide Retreat, as well. Register through our website.

When we went on our retreat in 2018, we were unsure what we should expect. And then any and all expectations were exceeded. Why? Because of those who were there! We were able to break away from our lives. We were able to watch children play, sit with adults and talk, and so much more. Some went hiking; some took a nap; some went into town to explore. Whatever you wanted to do, you could!

As we are putting this year’s retreat together, we have a team who will be working together to make the 2020 retreat an even better experience. And we would love to hear from you! Let us know about activities you would like. Share an idea for our community play night. Offer your gift of music or worship leading. Maybe you want to give towards our scholarship fund. Whatever it might be, let us know. You can email Rev. Carrie Veal and she will pass along whatever you have to share. Registration is available through our website and we hope you will sign up soon!

Retreat Team: Janet Miller, Rex and Anne Jones, Wendy Strickland, Elizabeth Hunter, Tucker Pearsall, Artemis Elias, and Carrie Veal

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES
Each Christmas, Missionary Roundtable supports agencies that need help in providing members of our community with fundamental items. This year they collected books and games for Greater Enrichment Program, an after-school program that touches over 500 children in kindergarten through 5th grade. They also collected food and household supplies for Gracious Hands, a ministry that supports homeless women and children by providing them a place to live while building life skills and finding stable employment, leading to stable housing.

This group is welcoming new members. They meet the second Monday of each month at 10:30 in the Parlor. Please contact Jill Kinney Weaver or Gretchen Allen gretnet@gmail.com

Our Columbarium has been at full capacity for several years. In our desire to be able to offer our church community a final resting place, the Board of Deacons recently approved a construction project which will expand our Columbarium by 204 niches, or spaces. We expect construction to begin in the spring, but would like to offer the opportunity to purchase a niche now to reserve a spot. The cost is $2,500 per niche. One niche can hold the cremains of two persons. To reserve a spot, please call or email Leigh Anne Hagerman (704.334.7232 x 116 | lhagerman@myersparkbaptist.org).

Monday, January 6 | 5:00p | The Common Market South End
Our monthly hang outs will continue into the new year. We gather on the first Monday of each month at 5:00p at The Common Market in South End at 235 W. Tremont Avenue. All are invited to this casual time of fellowship! Bring the family, bring your appetite, or just come and hang out. There is something for everyone. We hope to see you there.

All of us at MPBC, Cornwell Center and TTWS wish you a Healthy & Happy New Year
Holiday Closings

- The Church Office will close at noon on Tuesday, December 31 and will be closed Wednesday, January 1, 2020.
- The Cornwell Center will close at 5:00p on Tuesday, December 31 and will be closed Wednesday, January 1, 2020.
- Through-The-Week School will be closed through Friday, January 3, 2020.

Grief Support Groups

Following the death of a family member or friend, grief is something we cannot escape. When the loss sinks in, we do not know what to do. Grief affects every part of us, and we all grieve in different ways at different times. Though there is not simply one way to deal with our grief, being a part of a caring group of people who are also experiencing grief can help us realize we are not alone. If you are interested in being a part of a Grief Support Group, please contact Rev. Joe Aldrich. Meeting dates and times to be determined.

Looking for Our Schedule of Activities and Meetings?
An always-current calendar is available on our website and on the ChurchLife App. You can find out how to get the app by searching “Member Directory” on our website.
Access our online calendar

RECURRING OPPORTUNITIES

WEDNESDAYS

Our Wednesday programs and dinners will resume January 8, 2020.

Community Wednesdays
Start the new year off with Community Wednesdays! We have something for everyone.
5:00  Children’s Choir for ages TK - 5th grades
5:00  Awakening Bible Study with Mia McClain
5:00  Coffee Chat with Carrie Veal
5:00  Childcare for ages 3 and younger
6:00  Dinner for everyone

Unveiling Empire: A Study of The Revelation to John | An Awakening Bible Study |
Starting January 8 | 5:00p
Who wrote the Book of Revelation and when? Is it about the end of the world? What’s with all the dragons and sea monsters?
Your knowledge of the Book of Revelation may come from the early 90s rapture-focused series Left Behind, or films like Armageddon and I Am Legend. You may not have flipped through the book in a long time, if ever! Well, come dive into this fascinating apocalyptic letter penned by John of Patmos! Learn about the history, the context, and how John’s imagery might speak to our current ecological, political, and economical crisis. You won’t want to miss this! Wednesdays from 5-6p.
Dinner
Wednesday nights have been so amazing and we want to keep it that way! We will be offering meals from Creative Catering, Tin Kitchen and more. In order to provide these delicious offerings we will need to increase the cost of our adult meals to $10.00/person. Kids are still $5 and there is a family max of $30. We encourage you to sign up for a month at time to be sure you name is on the list. Visit the church’s website to learn more! Registration is available now through myMPBC.

SUNDAYS

Faith Formation Classes will resume January 5, 2020.
Adults | 9:45 - 10:45a | Education Building | Questions? Contact Mia McClain
Youth | 9:45 - 10:45a | Youth Hall | Contact Allen Davis
Children | 9:45 - 10:45a | Preschool and Elementary Hallways | Contact Rev. Carrie Veal

Children's Sunday Worship (Grades 1-5)
11:00a Sanctuary | pick-up after worship - Transept | Contact Rev. Carrie Veal

Youth Choir will resume January 5. Contact Charlotte Judge.

SUNDAY SERVICES AND SERMONS
Did you miss a worship service or would you like to experience one again? Our services and sermons are available 24/7 on our website. Watch them or listen on the go. Sermons are also available on iTunes. We are updating our website to make accessing audio and video files easier. So, check back often. Go to services and sermons now.
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. 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

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