The Worship of God
at Myers Park Baptist Church
Charlotte, North Carolina

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Festival of Lessons and Carols

16 December 2018
The Worship of God
The Fourth Sunday of Advent
The Festival of Lessons and Carols

16 December 2018 at Eleven o’clock in the morning

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.

The Silent Meditation

In each heart lies a Bethlehem,
   an inn where we must ultimately answer
whether there is room or not.
When we are Bethlehem-bound
   we experience our own advent in his.
When we are Bethlehem-bound
   we can no longer look the other way
       conveniently not seeing stars
         not hearing angel voices.
We can no longer excuse ourselves by busily
   tending our sheep or our kingdoms.

This Advent let’s go to Bethlehem
   and see this thing that the Lord has made known to us.
In the midst of shopping sprees
   let’s ponder in our hearts the Gift of Gifts.
Through the tinsel
   let’s look for the gold of the Christmas Star.
In the excitement and confusion, in the merry chaos,
   let’s listen for the brush of angels’ wings.
This Advent, let’s go to Bethlehem
   and find our kneeling places.

“In Search of our Kneeling Places”
from Kneeling in Bethlehem, Ann Weems

The Ringing of the Angelus Bell

The Prelude
   “Pastorale”      George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

The Call to Worship and Passing of the Peace
   Leader: The Lord be with you.
   People: And also with you.

The Bidding Prayer

Childcare is available for children ages birth through five years – please see a greeter for more information. Worship kits for children are available in the Narthex.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.
**The Opening Sentences**

Leader: O come, let us adore him—
People: whose coming was announced by the prophets.
Leader: O come, let us adore him—
People: whose message was proclaimed by the angels.
Leader: O come, let us adore him—
People: whose glory was hailed by the shepherds.
All: O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

**The Procession and Opening of the Bible**

“Once in Royal David’s City”  
**Irby**

Solo: Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for a bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

Camryn Jones, soloist

Choir only:  
He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Saviour holy.

Congregation (singing):  
For he is our childhood pattern, day by day like us he grew,  
he was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,  
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

**The Lighting of the Candle of Love**  
**Wesley Campbell and Katie Fowler**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made, the time to hear the story of salvation,  
to listen for the rustle of angels’ wings, and to run to the manger to see a newborn baby.  
Listen, those who have ears to hear. Look, those who have eyes to see.  
Behold the dawning of amazing grace!

People: O God, give us the humbleness of the shepherds  
who had ears to hear and eyes to see, in the cold December darkness,  
the coming of light and the Advent of Love!

(Lighting the Candle of Love.)

Singing:  

4. Love is a candle whose light makes a circle, where ev’ry face is the face of a friend.  
Widen the circle by sharing and giving: God’s holy dare: love ev’rywhere.
The First Lesson  
*Adam and Eve in the garden.*  
**Genesis 3:6, 8-13**  
**Leader:** The story of God for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.  
Langley Barfield, reader

The Anthem  
“*Adam lay ybounden*”  
**Boris Ord (1897-1961)**  
Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond; four thousand winter thought he not too long.  
And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, as clerkés vinden written in their book.  
Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been, ne had never our lady abeen heaven-é queen.  
Blessed be the time that apple taken was, therefore we moun singin, Deo gracias!

The Second Lesson  
*God promises to Abraham that through his family, all the nations of the earth will be blessed.*  
**Genesis 12:1-5**  
**Leader:** The story of God for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.  
Steven Krusinski, reader

*The Carol  
“*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*”  
**Number 69**  
**Stuttgart**  
(Stanzas 1 and 2)

The Third Lesson  
*The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.*  
**Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**  
**Leader:** The story of God for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.  
Abby Smith, reader

The Anthem  
“*Unto us a Child is Born*”  
**Kenneth T. Kosche (b. 1947)**  
Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and the government will be upon his shoulder.  
And he will be called wonderful counselor, mighty God,  
everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

The Fourth Lesson  
*The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.*  
**Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9**  
**Leader:** The story of God for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.  
Joe Trenning, reader

The Anthem  
“*Creation Will Be at Peace*”  
**Anna Laura Page (b. 1943)**  
In the holy mountain of the Lord all war and strife will cease;  
in the holy mountain of the Lord creation will be at peace.  
The wolf will lie down with the lamb, the cow and bear will feed,  
their young will play together; a little child will lead.  
The leopard and goat will graze, the lion will feed on straw.  
They will war no more; a child will lead them all.

The Fifth Lesson  
*The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary.*  
**Luke 1:26-35, 38**  
**Leader:** The story of God for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.  
Ryan Merritt, reader
**The Carol**  
“My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout”  
See page 10.  
*Star of the County Down*

**The Anthem**  
“Deposuit Potentes”  
The Lord has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly.

**The Sixth Lesson**  
*St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*  
**Leader:** The story of God for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.

Tammie Lesesne, reader

**The Seventh Lesson**  
The shepherds go to the manger.  
**Leader:** The story of God for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.

Michael Johnson, reader

**The Eighth Lesson**  
The Magi are led by the star to Jesus.  
**Leader:** The story of God for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.

Marcy McClanahan, reader
*The Carol
“What Child is This”

(Stanzas 1 and 3)

*Greensleeves

The Anthem
“Bogoroditse Devo #6” from Vespers
Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
for thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

The Ninth Lesson
St. John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.
Leader: The story of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Reverend Ben Boswell, reader

The Offering
Mobile giving is available – see page 9.
Gifts of loose cash in December benefit Med Assist, a nonprofit pharmacy program
providing access to life-saving prescription medications, patient support, advocacy and
related services to poor, vulnerable, and uninsured North Carolina residents.

The Anthem at the Offering
“The Word was God”
In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God.
The same was in the beginning with God.

All things were made that have been made.
Nothing was made, he has not made.

THE CONGREGATION RESPONDS TO GOD’S WORD

*The Doxology and Presentation of Gifts
As the Deacons bring the offering forward, the congregation is asked to stand.
This presentation enacts our self-offering and gratitude to God.

“O come, all ye faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the King of Angels:
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above;
glory to God, Glory in the highest:
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv’n;
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
*The Prayer of Dedication

THE COMMUNITY IS SENT INTO THE WORLD FOR MINISTRY

*The Procession into the World and Closing of the Bible

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Number 96

Gloria

The Benediction

The Postlude

“Sleepers, Wake!”

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Following worship, all are invited to a farewell reception for Chrissy Tatum Williamson.

Following worship, 3's and 4's may be picked up in Room 107;
TK- Kindergartners may be picked up in Room 108.

Leading worship today with The Reverend W. Benjamin Boswell, Senior Minister, are Langley Barfield, Steven Krusinski, Abby Smith, Joe Trenning, Ryan Merritt, Tammie Lesesne, Michael Johnson, and Marcy McClanahan, Members of the Congregation.

The Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, Chapel Choir and Carol Choir lead worship through music with Charlotte C. Judge, Associate Director of Music, Frances L. Morrison, Minister of Music, John Richardson, Organist, Emily Urbanek, Pianist, and Camryn Jones, Soloist.

The acolytes are Ian Hull, Addie Hull and Wyndham Merrill.

The sound technician is Eric Roberts. The webcast technician is Seph Rackley.
Myers Park Baptist Church Choirs

The Carol Choir
Charlotte C. Judge, Director; Anna-Catherine Fowler, Assistant Director; Emily Urbanek, Accompanist; Sharon Doar, Cindy Green, Susan Hill-Gilbert, Anna Judge, Megan Merritt, Assistants
Liam Cochran          Rowan Hardy          Jack Maltrich          Lucy Mae Pearsall
Claire Corley         CeCe Largen          Paige McNeill         Mia Williamson
Louisa Corrin         Mallory Largen       Hollis O’Brien        Grant Wright
Graham Hardy

The Chapel Choir
Charlotte C. Judge, Director; Anna-Catherine Fowler, Assistant Director; Emily Urbanek, Accompanist; Sharon Doar, Cindy Green, Susan Hill-Gilbert, Anna Judge, Megan Merritt, Assistants
Langley Barfield      Christopher Dougherty  Mary Harris           Kinlaw Largen
Anna Bray             Rhett Hardy          Grace Johnson         Tucker Pearsall
Bridget Dougherty     Harper Harris         Camryn Jones

The Youth Choir
Charlotte C. Judge, Director; John Richardson, Accompanist; Koren Cranford, Todd Geer and Nash Long, Assistants
Adam Cranford         Rowan Hinson          Sarah Long           Abby Smith
Audrey James Currin   Addie Hull           Wyndham Merrill      Kendall Smith
Ellie Dabbs           Ian Hull             Megan Merritt        Eleanor Teague
Whit Dabbs            Anna Judge           Annie Odom           Jessie Wilson
Conor Dougherty       Hannah Long          Lindsey Skardon

The Chancel Choir
Fran Morrison, Director; John Richardson, Accompanist

Sopranos
Jane Brock
Dottie Burnside
Debbie Moore Clark
D Evans
Jill Freeland
Cindy Green
Carolyn Holmes
Jane Huddle
Gloria Hunter
Elizabeth Ignasher
Charlotte Judge
MaryAnn Largen
Ann McDermott
Kathryn Mahan
Barbara Mishoe
Ashley Norton
Betsy Rowan
Jane Seawell
Emily Urbanek

Altos
Janice Bradner
Bobbie Campbell
Rebecca Chandler
Susan Crane
Debbi Grosch
Holly Henderson
Patsy Kinsey
Dana Mitchell
Cathy Morelli
Martha Odom
Edith Patton
Sarah Rankin
Carol Reid Frickie
Nancy Rider
Deb Steiner

Tenors
David English
Todd Geer
Bryan Holt
Jerry Hoogenakker
Ted Phillips
Don Seawell
Nickolus Stewart

Basses
Mark Andersen
George Buck
Ron Green
Tom Holmes
Patrick Hughes
Robert Jones
Ron Knight
Nash Long
Bill Miller
Bill Pearce
Derrick Reeves
Ernie Rider
Michael Rukstelis
Jerry Warmath
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.

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
My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout
Canticle of the Turning

1. My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the
   God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the
   You fixed your sight on your servant’s plight, and my
   weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my

2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you
   work great things in me, and your mercy will last from the
   Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to
   those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put

3. From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a
   stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your
   justice tears every tyrant from his throne.
   The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the

4. Though the nations rage from age to age, we re-
   mem-ber who holds us fast: God’s mercy must de-
   live us from the conqueror’s crushing grasp.
   This saving word that our forebears heard is the
   there are tables spread; every promise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

By employing an energetic Irish folk song for its melody, this ballad-like paraphrase of the Magnificat, Mary’s
good and her relative Elizabeth (Luke 1:46–55), recaptures both the wonder and the faith of
the young woman who first recognized what God was doing.

TEXT: Rory Cooney, 1990
MUSIC: Irish melody; arr. Rory Cooney, 1990

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN
Irregular
Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-725324
name be blesto. Could the world be a-bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a-bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a-bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn-ing the world a-round.

Refrain
My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the
fires of your jus-tice burn. Wipe a-way all tears, for the
dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

The Season of Advent and Christmas 2018

Sunday, December 16 – Advent IV – Love
Festival of Lessons and Carols | 11:00a Worship in the Sanctuary
Farewell Reception for Rev. Chrissy Tatum Williamson | Noon in Heaton Hall
Taizé Service to Mark the Changing of the Seasons | 5:00-6:00p in the Chapel

Wednesday, December 19
Service of Lament and Loss with Communion | 6:30pm in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 23
Christmas Family Worship | 11:00a in the Sanctuary

Monday, December 24 – Christmas Eve
The Music of Christmas with Organ, Harp and Flute | 5:30pm in the Sanctuary
Candlelight Worship with Communion | 6:00p in the Sanctuary
Nativity Tableau with Communion | 7:30-8:00p “drop in” in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 30
Jazz in the Round | 11:00a in Heaton Hall

Sunday, January 6, 2019
Epiphany Sunday Worship with Communion | 11:00a in the Sanctuary
Welcome. We’re glad you’re here.

If you are our guest, we’d love to hear from you! Please share with us a little about who you are:

- 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 about us, stop by the Welcome Table in the Narthex after worship to speak with one of our members or ministers.

---

**WEEKLY NEWS**

**December 17-23, 2018**

**Service of Lament and Loss**

**Wednesday, December 19 | 6:30 - 7:30p | Sanctuary**

For those who are experiencing grief, the challenge of days with less sunlight, or hurting for our world, this season that is full of laughter can be hard. As a Church we are called to walk together, celebrating the highs, but also sitting with sorrow. At our annual Service of Lament and Loss you are given sacred space to sit with your pain and grief. You are also invited and encouraged to sit with your sister or brother in Christ with their pain and grief. Join us for this holy time.

---

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**Sunday, December 23**

**Christmas Family Service | 11:00a | Sanctuary**

This service allows children from 1 to 92 to experience the magic of Christmas. Children can participate by placing figurines in the creche and they will be singing before the Christmas story is read. The Youth Instrumental Ensemble will play the prelude beginning at 10:50a. There will be familiar carols, the voices of children singing, candle lighting, and the service will end with all singing “Silent Night.”

**Monday, December 24**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

**Prelude begins at 5:30 and Worship at 6:00p | Sanctuary**

This beautiful service offers beloved carols, along with music by organ, harp, flute, Chancel Choir, and soloist Todd Geer singing "O Holy Night." Rev. Ben Boswell will preach "The Embodiment of Love." And we will celebrate Communion. The service will end in candlelight as we all sing "Silent Night."

**Monday, December 24**

**Nativity Tableau | 7:30 - 8:00p | Sanctuary**

On Christmas Eve we will celebrate and say farewell to the long tradition of our Nativity Tableau. As part of the celebration, we will offer a professional family photograph of all Church families and community families who have made attendance at the Tableau a Christmas Eve tradition. Photographs will be taken by John Bambach, in the Chapel from 7:30 - 8:00p. Families will receive their photograph through email so that you may duplicate in whatever size and quantity you wish. Families will also receive an updated Christmas Eve Nativity Tableau booklet listing participating Holy Families over the past sixty-five years.

---

**FEATURES**

**Christmas Breakfast**

**Sunday, December 23 | 9:30-10:45a | Heaton Hall**

As we prepare for celebrating Christmas with friends and family, let’s start with breakfast in our Church family. Join us in Heaton Hall before worship. Do you have a dish you would love to share? You can sign up here: [www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4cc56f365f49-december2](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e4cc56f365f49-december2).

**Our Stephen Ministry Is Here for You**

During the holidays, the stress of the season can bring back memories that are not always pleasant. Memories of many types of losses can cause diverse emotions, from sadness to anger. Unfortunately, our emotions sometimes take us places we do not want to go as we feel we are not in control of our
At times like this, a listening, nonjudgmental ear may be exactly what you need. Consider being matched with a Stephen Minister. We have 12 newly trained Stephen Ministers ready to help. If this sounds like something you might consider, please contact Joe Aldrich at jaldrich@myersparkbaptist.org or 704.334.7232 x 113.

Stewardship | Empower Church | Finish Strong
Ministry happens with your financial generosity. To make an impact, please visit www.myersparkbaptist.org/online-giving.

Advent Podcast Series | Incarnate
Are you looking for an Advent podcast episode that covers everything from Descartes to the Zombie Apocalypse? If so, this episode is for you! Listen in as Chrissy and Ben talk through chapters 2 and 3 dealing with false dualism and (authentic and seasonally appropriate) incarnation. Listen to Episode 2 on iTunes or our website.

New Adult Faith Formation Class: Faith Development
Begins Sunday, January 6 | 9:45-10:45a | Room 250
This class is for those who want the opportunity to examine their personal faith system in community with others. The five-month discussion class will explore these main areas: 1) Developing a Personal Theology: which explores such questions as: Do you believe in God? What is the nature of a human’s relationship to God? Who was Jesus? What is God’s sense of power and control in the world? Why is there evil? What is grace? 2) How Can the Bible be a Faith Resource? 3) The Spiritual Life: What is the value of silence and meditation? Why is corporate worship important? What can I expect to happen when I pray? How do I develop a faith journal? and 4) Missions: How do I act on my faith? The class is facilitated by Jon and Teddi Benson with some individual sessions led by the ministerial staff. For more information contact Jon Benson at jonathanbenson6@gmail.com.

New Adult Faith Formation Class: Doorways
Begins Sunday, January 6 | 9:45-10:45a | Shalom Conference Room
This group will go through doors, not into a place, not with right answers, but doorways for you to find a path that you want to investigate and come to know as your personal faith. It starts with exploring your sense - the sense of others on this exploration with you - of the nature of God, then of the person of Jesus, including the writings and concepts of current theologians. Eventually, we will look at how you continue your “pathway” and where it might be leading you. Many Sundays we will face the truly unexpected and it will give us new space and freedom to see even Christianity in a new way. This class will be led by Beth Walters.

Midweek Meditation with the Pastor
Wednesdays | January 9, 16, 23, 30, February 6, and 13 | 11:30a | Library
Inhale, exhale. Our lives rest in the balance of these two simple words. Even more, the act of breathing is filled with sacred significance. Come catch your breath at the all-campus Midweek Meditation launching Wednesdays in January from 11:30 until noon in the Library. Guided by the Rev. Ben Boswell with support from Lisa Cashion and Julie Marr of SoulStudio, this dedicated time will begin with a word, poem, or insight pertaining to mindfulness followed by peace, quiet, calm, clarity, and quite possibly, a transformed life. Register through myMPBC or by contacting Carol Cedar in the Church Office (ccedar@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 100).
Awakening the Body Series | The Perfect Body  
Wednesday, January 9 | 6:30-8:00p | Heaton Hall  
How many of us made some kind of resolution this year to lose weight, to eat healthier, or to exercise? In this season of body-based resolutions and newfound commitments, we will learn about all of the external forces at work in our lives that put pressure on us to have bodies that look and function a certain way. From media to sexual and gender normativity, there are so many expectations on all of our bodies, it’s hard to keep up! At this gathering we’ll name some of those stress-inducing forces in our lives and learn some spiritual practices that might help us cope under the societal pressure of perfection. Bethany Johnson will lead our discussion.

COMMUNITY

Navigating MPBC  
Beginning January 27, 2019  
If you are a guest who would like to learn more about our Church or are interested in membership, Navigating is the class for you. Contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org | 704-334-7332 x118) to learn more.

CHILDREN

Children Prepare to Sing in Family Christmas Service  
On December 23, children ages 3-years-old through 1st grades will sing in worship. Charlotte Judge and Anna-Catherine Fowler have visited their Faith Formation classes on Sunday mornings to teach them the song "Dance and Sing." In addition to our Faith Formation and Children's Choir friends, we will include children from Through-The-Week School. Charlotte has been working with the TTWS children throughout December. If you would like more information, please contact Charlotte at cjjudge@myersparkbaptist.org.

Through-The-Week School 2019-2020 Registration  
Opens Monday, January 7  
Come play with us at Through-The-Week School for the 2019-2020 school year! Registration opens for ages 1-5 on January 7. To find out more about TTWS and to register, visit www.throughtheweekpreschool.com. Questions? Contact Belinda Geuss at bgeuss@myersparkbaptist.org.

Music Together Registration  
Winter Session Runs January 9 - March 9  
Wednesdays, 4:00p & 5:00p | Saturdays, 10:00a & 11:00a  
Did you know that all children are musical? This is the essential Music Together® class for children from birth through age four. Each 45-minute class follows the recommendations of the latest child development research. Classes welcome a variety of ages to foster natural, family-style learning. As a member of MPBC, you receive a 50% discount on tuition for classes (at the MPBC location only). Tuition includes 9 weeks of classes, a CD, a beautifully illustrated family songbook, and access to the songs through the Hello, Everybody app. Questions? Contact Lucy Chapman at lucybelle22@gmail.com. Registration available on our website.

Parent Workshop: Children and Anxiety  
Thursday, January 10 | 7:00-9:00p | Cornwall Conference Center  
Dr. Michele Mannering will lead a parenting workshop discussing how anxiety and stress manifest in the behavior of young children. She will help parents gauge the spectrum of childhood worry and offer strategies to manage anxiety at home. This workshop, sponsored by Through-The-Week School and the Children's
Ministry will give parents the chance to learn and connect. Childcare will be provided at no cost. To learn more and to sign up, please contact Rev. Carrie Veal.

YOUTH

Apply for MPBC Scholarships Beginning January 1!
Giving scholarship funds to students at MPBC is one way that we are living into our calling as a community of God. It is our hope that through these gifts we are able to share with our college students while remaining connected, involved, and invested in their lives as they discover more fully who God has created them to be in this world. Descriptions of the following scholarships can be found at www.myersparkbaptist.org/forms: The Weathers Scholarship Fund and the Howard Webb Family Fund and Scholarship given by a long-time member in honor of Betty Jo Hamrick. Applications can be found online or by emailing Allen at adavis@myersparkbaptist.org. Applications are due by April 1.

CELEBRATING TODAY | ENSURING OUR FUTURE

2018 Donations
As the year comes to a close, please note the following deadlines for donations: cash received by noon on December 31 will be credited on 2018 contribution statements; checks postmarked by December 31, 2018 and received by January 5, 2019 will be credited on 2018 contribution statements; and stock gifts received by our advisor by 3:00p on December 31 will be credited in 2018.

SEASONAL OPPORTUNITIES (details available on our website)

Room In The Inn
Every Saturday December-March we open our doors to our neighbors who are homeless. Volunteer for RITI on our website.

Oatmeal and Staples Food Drive
We are collecting through January 15 in support of Charlotte’s homeless shelters and hurricane relief. Make a monetary donation on our website.

Music Ministry

Choirs For All Ages
Adult Chancel Choir meets Thursdays, 7:00-9:00p and Sundays at 10:15a. Contact Fran Morrison.
Youth Choir meets Sundays, 5:00-6:00p. Contact Charlotte Judge.
Children’s Choirs meet Wednesdays, 5:00-6:45p. Contact Charlotte Judge.
Coffee Chat for parents meets in the Parlor on Wednesdays while children are in choir. Contact Carrie Veal.
Youth Instrumental Ensemble meets Sundays, 6:00-7:00p. Contact Charlotte Judge.

New Classes Starting January 6
Start the new year by joining a faith formation class. Full list of classes on our website.
We have two new classes (details above):
Faith Development - For those who want to examine their personal faith system. Led by Jon and Teddi Benson.
Doorways - Focusing on opening doors to pathways to finding faith. Led by Beth Walters.

For children birth - twelfth grade. With trained paid staff and volunteers, we want every child to know that they are prepared for and cared for each time they are on our campus.

Faith Formation Classes meet Sundays, 9:45-10:45a. Contact Carrie Veal (children) or Allen Davis (youth).
Children’s Worship on Sundays, 11:15a-noon. Children leave from worship to go to the Sanctuary Basement Room 3. Contact Carrie Veal.
Youth Fellowship meets Sundays, 3:30-5:00p in the Youth Hall. Contact Allen Davis.

SCHEDULE

Looking for Our Schedule of Activities and Meetings?
An always-current calendar is available on our website, through myMPBC, and on the ChurchLife App (find out how to get the app here).
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.

MYERS PARK BAPTIST CHURCH
FOREVER FORWARD + 75 YEARS

1900 Queens Road | Charlotte, NC 28207 | 704.334.7232
www.myersparkbaptist.org

@MPBaptist

OUR MINISTERS

Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell | Senior Minister | bboswell@myersparkbaptist.org
Frances L. Morrison | Minister of Music | fmorrison@myersparkbaptist.org
Rev. Joseph D. Aldrich | Associate Minister | jaldrich@myersparkbaptist.org
Rev. Chrissy Tatum Williamson | Associate Minister | cwilliamson@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 Cornwell Center | phandon@cornwellcenter.org
Belinda Geuss | Director of Through-The-Week School | bgeuss@myersparkbaptist.org

Printed on recycled paper  CCLI License #1864926