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

The Second Sunday
After Pentecost

23 June 2019
The Worship of God
The Second Sunday After Pentecost
23 June 2019 at Ten 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

Love has always been a contested and fragile power, vulnerable to multiple forms of misunderstanding and abuse. For too long, too many Christians have acted as if by simply reading scripture and adopting the name “Christian” they have been inoculated with the equivalent of a “love gene,” thinking that they now understand love and that love will immediately flow from them. The history of the church and most people’s experience of other Christians show this to be false. Christianity is best understood as a training ground in the ways of love. That is what Jesus began and what he wants the church to continue to do.

- Norman Wirzba

“Without forgiveness and love, you will live with resentment, bitterness, malice, and strife which result in more pain. You can never love without forgiving. Forgiveness deepens your ability to love and frees you from pain. You cannot love if you cannot forgive.”

- Kemi Sogunle

The Ringing of the Angelus Bell

The Prelude

“Prelude in A Minor”
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Call to Worship

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

Childcare is available for children ages birth through five years – please see a greeter for more information. Parents, please sign in with the provider on the rug. Worship kits for children are available in the Narthex.

*The Opening Sentences

Leader: In the midst of a world where people are abused and oppressed,
People: Come worship a God who calls for compassion and justice.
Leader: In the midst of a world filled with wars and rumor of war,
People: Come worship a God who desires nothing less than peace for the world.
Leader: In the midst of a world where love is not freely shown and forgiveness is hard to find,
People: Come worship a God whose grace and love know no end.

*The Procession and Opening of the Bible

“God, Whose Love Is Reigning O’er Us”

LAUDA ANIMA

*The Prayer of Invocation

*Please rise in body or in spirit.
The Kyrie Eleison

God whose love exceeds all comprehension,
with joy we come to the wellspring of your mercy.
From you, Holy Lord, nothing is hidden.
At dawn you see us rise; at dusk you watch our repose.
You know our ways.
And in your compassion, you extend to us your grace.

Tenderly guide us beyond the errors of yesterday
so that we may walk in newness of life.
Teach us to forgive ourselves as you have forgiven us.
Grant to us the peace of your Christ,
and sustain our souls with the comfort of your Spirit.
It is in you, O God, that we claim our forgiveness. Amen.

The Assurance of Pardon

*The Canticle (Glory to God in the highest.)

Preschool children will leave with their teachers and may be picked up in Room 107 after Sermon TalkBack. Children in grades 1 - 5 are invited for a time of Children's Worship and may be picked up on the lectern side in the back of the Sanctuary after worship.

The Welcome of Our Guests

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.

Rev. Carrie Veal
The Gospel Reading – Luke 7:36-50 (NRSV)  
Greg Mayer

One of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee’s house and took his place at the table. And a woman in the city, who was a sinner, having learned that he was eating in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster jar of ointment. She stood behind him at his feet, weeping, and began to bathe his feet with her tears and to dry them with her hair. Then she continued kissing his feet and anointing them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, “If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner.” Jesus spoke up and said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.”

“Teacher,” he replied, “speak.”

“A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?” Simon answered, “I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt.” And Jesus said to him, “You have judged rightly.” Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little.”

Then he said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?” And he said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you; go in peace.”

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.

*The Sermon Hymn  
“A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar”  
See page 8

The Sermon  
“Jarred by Love”  
Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell

The Time for Silent Reflection

THE CONGREGATION Responds to God’s Word

The Church at Prayer  
Rev. Carrie Veal

The Lord’s Prayer  
Our God, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy 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 Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.
The Offertory

Mobile giving is available through the Church Life app or via text – see page 7. Gifts of loose cash in June will benefit Women in Transition (WIT) at the YWCA which provides affordable transitional housing and intensive support services for single, unaccompanied women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The Anthem

“Be Thou My Vision”

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
Be thou my best thought in the day and the night,
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord,
Be thou my great parent, and I thy true child,
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,
Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;
Be thou my soul’s shelter, be thou my strong tower,
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
Be thou my inheritance now and always,
Be thou and thou only the first in my heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, thou heaven’s bright Sun,
O grant me its joys after victory is won,
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

– Irish, 8th Century C.E.

The Chancel Choir
John Rutter (b. 1945)

*The Presentation of Gifts

As the Deacons move down the center aisle, the congregation is asked to stand. This presentation to God enacts our self-offering and gratitude to God.

*The Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures, here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;

*The Prayer of Dedication

Austin Maynor

THE COMMUNITY IS SENT INTO THE WORLD FOR MINISTRY

*The Procession into the World and Closing of the Bible

Number 329

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

BEECHER

The Benediction

Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell

The Postlude

“Fugue in A Minor”

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Following worship, all are invited to Sermon TalkBack in Heaton Hall.
Preschool children may be picked up in Room 107 after Sermon TalkBack. Children in grades 1 - 5 may be picked up on the lectern side in the back of the Sanctuary. Childcare is available during Sermon TalkBack in Room 107.

Leading worship today with Rev. W. Benjamin Boswell, Senior Minister, are Rev. Carrie Veal, Minister of Children and Community Life, Austin Maynor, Pastoral Intern, and Greg Mayer, member of the congregation.

The Chancel Choir leads worship through music with Dr. Matt Caine, Minister of Music and Worship, and John Richardson, Organist.

The acolytes are Lauren Wood and Jake Wood.

The sound technician is Van Wilson. The webcast technician is Spencer Rackley.

Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by John Geer in honor of Carolyn F. Geer, his mother, and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Fitzgerald and Mr. and Mrs. R.P. Geer, his grandparents, and John B. Geer, his father.
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
A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar

1 A prophet-woman broke a jar, by Love’s divine appointment.

2 A faithful woman left a tomb by Love’s divine command.

3 Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth, for centuries were hidden,
   un-sung, un-written, and un-heard, de-valuing, the friends we need, to serve and lead, their
   sid-ing and anointing. A prophet-woman broke a jar,
   rising from sub-mission. A faithful woman left a tomb,
   ridded and for-bidden, the Spirit’s breath, the Spirit’s fire,
   powers and gifts unchain ing. The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls,
   the sneers of scorn defy ing. With rare perfume she with res ur rec tion gospel.

4 The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls, by Love’s divine or-
   point ing. With rare perfume she filled the room, pre-
   mis sion. She saw; she heard; she preached the Word, a-
   hid den, un-sung, un-written, and un-heard, de-
   cay ing. With rare perfume she with res ur rec tion gos pel.
   She saw; she heard; she on free and slave descendent, can tumble our di -
   on wom-en, men, and chil-dren, the friends we need, to

This text seeks to reverse the neglected witness of biblical women by celebrating the woman who washed Jesus’ feet (unnamed in Matthew 26:6–13/Mark 14:3–9/Luke 7:36–50; Mary of Bethany in John 12:1–8) and Mary Magdalene (John 20:1–18; Matthew 28:1–10/Mark 16:1–7/Luke 24:10).

TEXT: Brian Wren, 1991
MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1869, alt.
Text © 1993 Hope Publishing Company
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

SUNDAY JUNE 30 2019

Mia M. McClain Preaching
FARMING FAITH

Sunday, June 30, 2019
The Third Sunday After Pentecost
Mia M. McClain Preaching | "Farming Faith" | Luke 9:51-62

10:00a | Worship | Sanctuary
11:00a | Sermon TalkBack | Heaton Hall

FEATURES

Awakening Shalom Podcast Series: Identity Crisis
Who are we? How are we communicating who we are? What does it mean to be Baptist? Do denominations even matter anymore? What’s in a name?

We are excited to roll out Identity Crisis: a 4-part podcast series exploring the ever-evolving identity of Myers Park Baptist Church and the "Church" at large. As a people on a journey of faith at the cutting-edge of movements embracing justice, inclusivity and greater diversity, we will examine our identity as we enter into deeper conversations about church clarity and religious branding in the 21st century. This series is led by Rev. Ben Boswell, Senior Minister and Mia M. McClain, Associate Minister. Listen to episode 3 on iTunes or the Church website.

Rock and Roll Worship in the Round
Sunday, July 7 | 10:00a | Heaton Hall
We will welcome back Randy Franklin and the Sardines for this service which will include some favorite folk-rock tunes from the Woodstock era, such as "For What It's Worth" by Buffalo Springfield, "Get Together" by the Youngbloods, "Carry on" by Crosby, Stills & Nash. As we embrace the Woodstock themes of peace, love, and
music, all are invited to come as they are in whatever informal attire they desire. We
hope to see you there.

Volunteer for Freedom School at Pinewood Elementary
This year, the dates are June 17 - July 25. There are a variety of ways to
serve: Harambee reader, DEAR/Lunch buddy reader, field trip chaperone,
supply shopper, or activity leader, to name a few. Stop by the table on
the Patio before and after worship or in Heaton Hall Foyer after Sermon
TalkBack and sign up to be part of Freedom School 2019, or sign-up here or on the Church
website. Questions? Contact Karen Taylor at fitztaylor@aol.com or Laura Handler
at laura.hoeing@gmail.com for more information.

Interested in seeing the hype of Freedom School live? Come with Mia, Karen, and Laura to visit
Pinewood on Wednesday, June 26. Either meet at MPBC at 8:00a or at Pinewood at 8:30a to meet
this year's interns and scholars, join in Harambee, and get a glimpse of IRC (integrates reading
curriculum). Email Laura Handler at laura.hoeing@gmail.com for questions or to RSVP.

Virtual Book Group Coming in July
This summer, join us as we dive into On the Mystery: Discerning Divinity in
Process by Catherine Keller, PhD, our 2019 J21 Scholar. Beginning July 10,
we will meet through Zoom, an online platform, in preparation for Dr.
Keller's arrival in October. Jump into the conversation when you can from
wherever you are! You can purchase copies of the book on
Smile.amazon.com (choose Myers Park Baptist Church as your charitable
organization - see below for more information about this.) or in Heaton
Hall Foyer after worship for $20. If you have any questions, email Mia McClain at
mmclclain@myersparkbaptist.org. Registration is available through myMPBC.

Week 1 | July 10 | 6:00p | Chapters 1 and 2

Week 2 | July 17 | 6:00p | Chapters 3 and 4
Let there be . . . | A Conversation on the creative diversity of the divine and our empowering role
in creation.

Week 3 | July 24 | 6:00p | Chapters 5 and 6
Love and Justice | A Conversation on how we relate to one another-creature and earth, alike.

Week 4 | July 31 | 6:00p | Chapters 7 and 8
Mystery in the Flesh | A Conversation on Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and stepping into the mystery.

Meditation With the Pastor
Wednesdays Throughout the Summer | 11:30a - Noon |
Library
Rev. Ben Boswell guides a weekly meditation on Wednesdays
throughout the summer. This dedicated time begins with a word, poem,
or insight pertaining to mindfulness, followed by peace, quiet, calm,
clarity, and quite possibly a transformed life. Inhale, Exhale. Our lives rest
in the balance of these simple actions. Come catch your breath with us.

VBS and Community Outreach Camp | July 9 - 11
This summer, children will experience Faith in Action! Children ages 3 - completed 2nd grade will participate in VBS with music, crafts, games, and a Bible story. Each day they will learn about an outreach program in our community. Children who have completed 3rd - 5th grades will participate in Community Outreach VBS. Beginning on our campus, they will hear a Bible story and then go to the local outreach organization to learn about the services they provide. Children will participate in a project alongside those who work and volunteer there. Visit our website to find out more and register.

Volunteers Needed!
Volunteer Training | Sunday, June 30 | 8:45 - 9:45a | Cornwall Conference Center

Our Vacation Bible School is right around the corner! To those who have already signed up to volunteer, thank you so much! We still need some volunteers for our onsite participants (second grade and younger) and our older off-site participants (third - fifth grades). We also have supplies to purchase and other pieces of the VBS puzzle to put together. If you are able to serve in any way, visit the Church website or call Rev. Carrie Veal (704.334.7232 x 118).

Record Breaking Cereal for the City Drive!
WOW! Thanks to your generosity, we had our biggest Cereal for the City Drive collection ever! We donated 3,308 boxes of cereal to food pantries around the city. We are grateful to all who dropped off boxes and/or donated money. Thank you also to Bob Bishop for delivering them to the food banks and pantries. If we continue to work together, we can help to alleviate hunger and assist families in keeping food on their tables. Well done, MPBC!

COMMUNITY SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

Hang Out with the Pastor
Monday, July 1 | 5:00p | The Common Market South End

We get together 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. The remaining summer dates are July 1 and August 5.

Sermon TalkBack is Also Online!
We continue our tradition of Sermon TalkBack following worship. We are excited to also offer online TalkBack. Rev. Ben Boswell will field questions from both those present in Heaton Hall and those who will be able to tune in online and send in their questions through the MPBC Facebook page. Our goal is to provide TalkBack to everyone who wishes to participate, even if they can't be onsite. So, join the conversations this summer!
Stay Engaged This Summer - Join Us At The Ballgame!
This is a fun opportunity to get together and enjoy a night out supporting the Charlotte Knights. Come for one or both games July 12 and 26. Start time is 7:00p. Tickets are $19 each and include a $2 gift card for food or beverage. Please RSVP through myMPBC or by contacting Caroline Manning (cmanning@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 115). Tickets can be picked up in the Church office.

Booty on the Lawn
Friday, July 26 | 6:00 - 9:00p | Cornwall Center Front Lawn and Parking Lot
This 3-hour event will commemorate the opening of Charlotte's annual 24-Hours of Booty for 2019 (starts at 7:00p on Friday). It will showcase the Cornwall Center and invite members of the community to watch the race from our lawn. There will be activities for all ages such as: children's obstacle course, yoga on the lawn, music with DJ, wellness vendors, food trucks, face painting, spin class/bikes on the lawn, and Cornwall promotional items. Questions? Contact the Cornwall Center at 704.927.0774 or visit www.cornwellcenter.org.

Summer Sunday Morning Yoga
On Sunday mornings, a Yoga 1, 2 class will be offered at 9:00a in the Cornwall Center's Group Exercise Studio. This gentler, slower paced practice makes it more accessible for people of all sizes, ages, and fitness levels. It assists with stress management and restoration of the mind, body, and soul while creating an atmosphere of safety and comfort that fosters self-esteem and body awareness. Childcare is available in Room 107.

Summer Choir - All Are Welcome!
Summer is a great time for anyone who would like to give choir a try without making a commitment and for any who would love to sing throughout the year but are unable to do so to join us! Questions? Contact Matt Caine (mcaine@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 158).
Here is our schedule:
Summer Rehearsals: Thursdays, July 11, and August 8 | 7:00 - 8:00p | Berry Hall
Sunday Worship: Rehearsal at 9:00a | Service at 10:00a | Sanctuary
The choir will not sing on Sundays, July 7 or August 4.

Children's Ministry Parent Social
Sunday, June 30 | 5:00 - 7:00p | Home of Tara and Richard Harris
Parents are invited to a social to meet our newest staff members, Mia McClain and Matt Caine. Please bring a beverage to share. Childcare will be provided at the Church at a cost of $10/family. RSVP through myMPBC or by contacting Caroline Manning (cmanning@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 115) in the Church Office.

**O’Connor Method String Camp Returns to MPBC**
**July 29 - August 2 (Orientation July 28)**
Mark and Maggie O’Connor are bringing their string camp back to MPBC this summer. It is a delightful week of watching music emerge from all ages. Camp and registration information is available on the Church website. There are jam sessions at the end of each day. Come and listen in. If you would like to volunteer to assist with Sunday registration or greeting/shepherd parents and students for the first few days as they become familiar with our campus, sign-up through the Church website.

**Stephen Ministry Is Here For You**
Are you feeling stressed, lonely or depressed? Do you need support? We are here to help. Contact Rev. Ben Boswell.

**Shopping on Amazon Can Benefit MPBC!**
If you are like a lot of us, you frequently shop on Amazon.com. Now, by shopping through Amazon’s charity site, a donation will be made directly to support ministries at Myers Park Baptist. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to our Church. How do you start? Start at smile.amazon.com and do a search on charitable organizations to find us.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**Sneak Peek at What’s Coming This Fall**
Mark your calendar for these events

**Celebrating PRIDE**
The month of June was chosen for LGBTQ+ PRIDE month to commemorate the Stonewall riots, which occurred at the end of June 1969 in New York City. As a result, many PRIDE events are held during this month to recognize the impact the LGBTQ+ community has had in the world. PRIDE festivals and parades continue over the next few months allowing participants to attend the events in various cities around the country. Charlotte’s PRIDE event will take place August 17-18. All are invited and encouraged to join us again this year as we participate by hosting a booth and marching in the parade. Stay tuned for details.
Awakening to Environmental Injustice | Launching September 22

Reconciling with the earth, Reconciling with each other, Reconciling with God

"The Lord God took Adam-made from the ground-and put him in the garden of Eden to serve, work, and worship the earth." Genesis 2:15

We are a faith community that stretches beyond these walls - beyond the lush campus grounds and the oak trees of all heights and girth that so graciously remind us of the diversity of God's creativity. We are a people on a journey, and this fall, we eagerly invite you to join me on a voyage through an exploration of environmental injustices in our city, state, country, and beyond. From August 2019 to May 2020, we aim to explore how the mismanagement of natural and human-made resources are in direct relation to racism, class-ism, and disembodiment - how the misuse of our planet stems from a lack of seeing ourselves, our neighbors, and the earth as divine - sacred - holy. Throughout our journey, we hope we can come to a point of collective reckoning as we re-imagine our role as keepers of the earth while reconciling our relationship with all of the inhabitants thereof. We look forward to the voyage and trust that the still-speaking God will reveal fresh insight along the way.

Fall Faith Formation for Our Children

We are recruiting for the fall already! We want to make sure we have a great team assembled and that you are trained, comfortable, and ready to go on Start-Up Sunday, September 8! Each Sunday we need 10 volunteers to make our Faith Formation classes go smoothly. As we kick off a new year, we would like to encourage you to pair with a friend and teach one Sunday a month - just one! Your lesson and supplies are provided. To learn more or to sign up, please contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org | 704.334.7232 x 118).

SAFE Seminar Rescheduled
(Sexual Awareness and Family Empowerment)
September 27 - 28

We have rescheduled and the new dates will be Friday, September 27 and Saturday, September 28. Please mark your calendars and save these dates for this important church-wide event.

And Then This Winter . . .
An Intergenerational Family Retreat
February 28 - March 2
We will be heading to the mountains for a weekend of sabbath and fellowship. We are excited to welcome Dana Trent as our retreat leader again this year. Mark the dates **Friday, February 28 - Sunday, March 2** on your calendars and stay tuned - many details to come!

**CHILDREN**

**Children's Summer Worship**

This summer all three of our interns will lead children's worship on a rotation basis. Since a child's faith formation is paramount to any church, we want to give the interns as much exposure as possible. We will follow our usual worship liturgy with the children hearing different voices and experiencing different styles of leadership. Be sure to offer encouragement to our interns who are learning while teaching!

On June 30, we continue with the Earth Series. We'll be singing "La Paz de la Tierra/The Peace of the Earth." We'll read the book *Heal the Earth* by Julian Lennon and work through the scriptures. Genesis 9:9-17 and Mark 1:29-31. Questions? Contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org | 704-334-7232 x 118) or Jennifer (jjiennings@myersparkbaptist.org | 704-334-7232 x 610).

**Rituals and Relationships**

School, work, sports, vacations, and more - our lives are full, and we are constantly moving. Taking time to talk can become challenging. Rituals and Relationships is designed to help families make space for this important time together. The topic for the week of June 24 will be "friendship part 2." This session of Rituals and Relationships will be emailed to you, posted on the Children's Ministry Facebook Page, and the Children's Ministry website page. For more information, please contact Rev. Carrie Veal (cveal@myersparkbaptist.org | 704-334-7232 x 118).

**YOUTH**

**Summer Youth Gatherings**

This summer, we have fun opportunities to get together. MPBC youth are going to meet on Wednesday, July 10 for a pizza party. Please watch your inbox for an email with details from Allen Davis. If you have any questions, please email him at adavis@myersparkbaptist.org.

**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 on the church website - search for myMPBC - Member Directory).
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.